2-7-2012

The Prospector, February 7, 2012

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By Henry Arrambide

Since it first opened in 2001, the demand for living at Miner Village has been high. Charlie Gibbens, director of Residence Life, said the facility has been experiencing 103 percent occupancy every time a student athlete tests positive in a random drug test, they are counseled to further educate student athletes about the harms of drug abuse rather than just discipline them.

"Most people recognize that socially this is a problem. What we try and do is we have education classes," Stall said. "We bring in speakers to talk about alcohol and drug abuse. We randomly test all the time and if we find someone, we put them through the three-test deal."

Richard Adauto, executive vice president of legal affairs and oversight, said the seminars athletes held might include law-enforcement agents, past drug addicts and even former athletes who have had a drug addiction.

"I think they do a very good job of trying to educate student athletes of the pitfalls of getting hooked on this stuff," Adauto said. "Stull also said that the three-step process is based on other schools' models and that in special circumstances, they may forgo the first or second steps based on the situation."

"This may be the reason why freshman guard Ryah Lacy and freshman forward Christhauna Parker were immediately suspended two days after the alleged event. "If all of a sudden something happens like in the dorm, it's a different situation. Obviously, if there is an arrest it's a different situation," Stall said.

"Right now, we are at the preliminary stages. We have the architect firm hired. We are in the process of hiring the construction manager. We're at the beginning of the process, which is coming up with a program," Gibbens said. "What the architect firm calls the program is what the functionality of the building is; what it's going to look like, what the amenities are inside, where it's located, things like that. We're at the very preliminary stages of that."

Gibbens also said the architect firm is in the process of identifying a location around campus for the new housing. Part of the early process is for them to come up with three or four possible locations that university officials will then sit down and decide upon. Until then, they can not decide what is going to go into the actual building.

"We, right now, have shared information with the firm about what we like and what works really well with the students in regards to Miner Heights and Miner Village," Gibbens said. "Part of their responsibility is to go out and research national trends of what's going on in various student housing operations and what the benefits are to students so that we can make this state-of-the-art housing."

According to Gibbens, one of the things the architect firm is responsible for is coming onto campus and conducting stakeholder meetings where students will have an opportunity to voice what they want in the new facilities.
Cultural history takes the back seat

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

February marks Black History Month, which also means another race where we focus on one race for a short amount of time instead of celebrating it at all times. If you don’t understand what I am saying, just look a couple of states over to see how they have filtered one culture out of their education system.

On Jan. 10, the Tucson Unified School District in Arizona banned seven books (although a press release said they were not banned, just put in storage) that contained Chicano history, following the suspension of the district’s Mexican-American Studies (MAM) program. However, the reason for the suspension is ludicrous and really makes me wonder just how diverse our country truly has become.

In accordance with a new Arizona state law, ARS 15-112, which “focuses on prohibited courses and classes,” the release said that the program broke four state laws. The law was passed because the classes allegedly “promote the overthrow of the United States government; promote resentment toward a race or class of people; designed primarily for pupils of a particular ethnic group; advocate ethnic solidarity instead of the treatment of pupils as individuals.”

Anyone that is familiar with Chicano history knows that the treatment of Mexicans and Mexican-Americans was similar to the resentment African-Americans had in the mid-1900s in regards to segregation and discriminatory behavior.

With that said, the reason the program is being banned, in other words, is that it promotes propaganda and makes the white race look bad.

If that’s the case, then why are these other races not made the white man look bad and unite each ethnicity for their races not make the white man look bad.

Is this really the way we celebrate other cultures in school? It sure seems like multicultural education is being hampered, call me crazy, but at my high school in El Paso, I was not taught about Chicano history.

When the civil rights movement was taught during my two history classes in high school, only African-American civil rights movement of the 60s and 70s was taught. As a matter of fact, in my case, I was not even taught about Cesar Chavez until my second year in college when I took a Mexican-American history course.

Does this seem very diverse? Does this seem like multicultural education? Of course not, but even in our current society, we don’t seem to be celebrating it all the time.

The TUSD should be commended for starting the program, something I’ve always wanted in Texas, as I was not taught the subject in high school. In college, I filled out a survey, and was told about Chicano history.

My professor brought up a fact I had no choice but to laugh at, saying that in elementary school, it’s usually customary to have an around-the-world week that celebrates all countries. I celebrated that in fourth grade, and in the ninth grade where we ate spaghetti to celebrate Italy, tacos to celebrate Mexico and white rice to celebrate China.

Is this really the way we celebrate other cultures in school? It sure seems that is the case, as that was my experience in school as a child.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Hispanics compose 29.6 percent of the population of Arizona, which is seven times greater than African-Americans and less than half of the white population.

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Does this seem very diverse? Does this seem like multicultural education? Of course not, but this is the America we live in: one where textbooks are banned, programs are shut down and pizza is served to celebrate it all the time.
I ask, as evidenced by The Prospector’s recent poll, why do UTEP students support Ron Paul? In the last issue, with the student interviews, why did students respond favoring Ron Paul? The question was who should be the nominee, NOT who do you think will win? Many students said that Ron Paul was going to win, because he is very strong advertising. What does that have to do with the question who SHOULD be the nominee?

As far as favoring Ron Paul in general, why is there so much support at UTEP for him? As a side note, as Ron Paul being someone who likes to talk about downsizing government and cutting spending, the Washington Post stated that “Paul charged taxpayers nearly $52,000 on the more expensive first class flight tickets, or $27,621 more than the average Continental airfare for the flights between Washington and Houston, according to the AP’s review of his congressional expenses and Houston, according to the AP’s review of his congressional expenses and average airfares compiled by the Department of Transportation.”

Now to be fair, his staff said he prefers first class because a congressman’s schedule changes so much and the cheaper tickets don’t allow for rescheduling but it turns out, according to the article, that “few schedule changes were necessary.” So it would still make sense for him to cancel a few flights and save over $20,000, no? Also he wants to give students easier access to a university, lets make it harder in the SHORT TERM, and hope that in the FUTURE, universities and the states take pity on the young and un-college educated.

 Vote Ron Paul 2012! If you don’t want loans, grants, or workstudy. F.S. I applaud the Prospector for the courage to bring up the issue of athletics and education and how it relates to UTEP - Reyes Espinosa, senior double major in theatre performance and philosophy

Why so much support for Ron Paul at UTEP?

But its ok for those in college that still support him. As Penn from Penn and Teller said on Big Think, I will defend your right to say whatever you want to say, but I will then say you’re wrong and then give reasons why I think you are wrong, I’m paraphrasing.

Ron Paul will do, I suppose, it’s only the future of every college student, whatever. Some have to suffer for the whole to thrive, I guess.

In short this is how I interpret Mr. Paul words: Instead of finding a way to give students easier access to a college and technical schools are struggling, and my parents hardly have the money to put on the table? Why so much support for Ron Paul at UTEP?

So it’s not even a fair system when it works. But obviously it doesn’t work for some and the other’s.

Why so much support for Ron Paul at UTEP?
AIDS, mental illness and addictions. Damien Schumann photos shine a light on people affected by tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, mental illness and addiction through pictures and stories.

The exhibit opened Jan. 17 at the Centennial Museum and portrays stories of people affected by tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, mental illness and addiction through powerful photographs. The exhibit resides in and around a small friendly house surrounded by “tenadoras” and was built to welcome people into a lifestyle house true to the conditions to degrade proactive artwork, “Schumann said, “I don’t particularly like stories or content (in) which people read and know about but don’t take action upon, because if that’s the case then what’s the point in knowing something?”

Schumann’s hitchhiking travels and artistic skills took him across Africa in attempt “to put a face to emerging Africa,” eventually leading him into humanitarian work and then resulting in the “Nuestra Casa” exhibit which now reemerges on UTEP’s campus for the first time with added technology and letters of support from across the world. The Nuestra Casa Initiative was first exhibited outside the Undergraduate Learning Center in 2009, but has evolved into Nuestra Casa and will remain on campus until the end of 2012. The Nuestra Casa Initiative traveled all across Mexico for a year, first used as an advocacy tool then as a social mobilization tool, transforming itself from the Nuestra Casa Initiative to Nuestra Casa which will be on campus for a year. Bill Wood, director of the Centennial Museum, called the exhibit a great contribution to UTEP and the community closer to understanding people who need help, “said Diego Davila, a sophomore digital media production major who also assisted on the “Nuestra Casa” project by helping the staff and professors sell themes.

For Yessica Torres, sophomore education major, some of the photographs were very tough to look at. “It sucks you know because we don’t live through those sort of things like that, and seeing other people you don’t really know what to do to help,” Torres said.

The “Nuestra Casa” exhibit illuminates the lives of the people affected, and brings the El Paso community closer to understanding the reality of disease and poverty.

“This is to show that this isn’t just something for El Paso but that people from all around the world that are being affected by TB” Davila said. Eva Moya, assistant professor of social work, also works with Positive Border Conditions.

Eva Moya, assistant professor of social work, also works with Positive Border Conditions.

The “Nuestra Casa” exhibition brings to the forefront the fact that disease and poverty are not only an issue in other parts of the world, but it also is an issue here in our border community.

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- Contest is open to UTEP students only.
- Winner will be notified on Friday, February 10, 2012.
- Text used on the card must be intended for general audience.
- Please include your name and phone number in the e-mail.

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SPONSORED BY UTEP FOOD SERVICES AND THE PROSPECTOR
WASHINGTON – Republicans and Democrats showed support this week for the president's plan to cut the cost of higher education. However, the lawmakers could not agree about how the plan should be put into practice.

The Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions held a hearing Feb. 3 to listen to a panel of speakers discuss college affordability. This comes a little more than a week after President Barack Obama gave his State of the Union address, when he put colleges on notice to keep the cost of higher education from rising.

Leading off discussion at the hearing was Martha Kanter, undersecretary of the US Department of Education. She highlighted Obama's goal of having the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by 2020.

The president's plan to tackle rising college costs includes increasing the money awarded to Pell Grant recipients, making loans more affordable and providing incentives for states to make commitments to higher education.

Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., questioned Kanter about the present, not what the administration is looking for in the future.

"We've always got goals in the future that we're going to work with," Mikulski said. "The time is now. I believe in the power in now." Mikulski pressed Kanter to talk to the committee about legislation.

Kanter said she had lots of ideas and proposals, which include the state tool kit for college completion that was introduced in March 2011. Kanter said the administration is looking forward to finding the best way to propose legislation on college affordability, but she did not elaborate.

There is a wide range of support at every level for cutting the cost of college. On Jan. 31, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, which represents more than 1,000 nonprofit, independent colleges, gathered to discuss strategies and concerns about the president's plans.

"Sometimes, pressure on tuition puts pressure on large classes. It results in pressure to take online courses," said Bernard Fryshman, executive vice president of the Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools. "These are all things that are not helpful to students who need help. What happens is the tuition might be kept low, and at the same time students don't do as well as they could do."

Many of the college officials shared Fryshman's opinion and said legislation has to cut the cost of higher education without cutting quality.

Patricia McGuire, president of Trinity Washington University, has dealt with these issues at her school. During her tenure, she has taken Trinity from the brink of failure to an accredited university that reaches out to minority women.

"It is just impossible to say reduce college cost, which is the expense side of the ledger, and increase the number of low-income students," McGuire said. "We have to come to a happy middle on the actual price tag involved with broad access."

One of Obama's proposals is to keep the interest rate for student loans at 3.4 percent, instead of letting it rise to 6.8 percent, which it will do in July unless Congress acts. He wants to continue the Race to the Top plan, which gives grants to school districts for innovative proposals. Together, these programs will cost an estimated $4.5 billion.

With the president set to release his 2013 budget Feb. 13, Kanter said Obama is firm on funding higher education and having a proposal that would not cost taxpayers more money.

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see COSTS on page 6
Different than the way they do it, Hamm said. “It’s not similar or professional the way they do it, took him about 10 minutes. He said the process once. He said that he was notified 24 hours in advance. That’s how it is across the nation. We do testing to deter and educate our athletes and to help them,” Hamm said. “The NCAA expects us to do our job and if they come in and test somebody positive, they’re going to be a lot more strict.”

Shane Hamm, senior track and field sprinter, said that of the four years they’re going to be a lot more strict. “I come in and test somebody positive, we can become knowledgeable, if you know someone who has the disease, make them aware,” Hamm said. Schumann said in an age over-stimulated by media, constant images of anguish and tribulations, the NCAA do keep tabs on it and it’s very professional, very discreet.”

Hamm said he’s never heard of anyone coming up positive during his tenure at UTEP. “At UTEP we have a pretty good record of negative tests as far as street drugs and performance enhancers,” Hamm said. “In our sport (track and field), performance enhancers are a big thing, but not here. Everybody here’s clean.”

Stull said different circumstances exist if the athlete is arrested or if someone other than UTEP tests them for drugs and it is positive. According to the NCAA regulations, no matter what the circumstances are, if someone tests positive outside a non-NCAA athletics organization, that athlete still has to notify the director of his or her athletic program. Additionally, that person must permit the NCAA to test them for the banned drug. After that test, the punishment for an athlete who tests positive is that they “will lose all remaining eligibility during the season in which they (test) positive and an additional season of competition.”

UTEP President Diana Natalicio said that drugs on campus are an issue that the university takes seriously. “I think we do need to have a strong presence of the library, “ said Brian Te- "I mean, if you’re going to sit here and do the research and be here, you’re going to need to have the library open.”

According to UTEP Athletics, the tests to. With the NCAA test, students are notified one to two days in advance. “That’s totally random. It’s very professional the way they do it,” Hamm said. “It’s not similar or the way they do it in professional competition. The costs of page 5

The Senate committee questioned Kanter on what would happen if states did not hold up their part of the bargain to keep costs down. “We can’t, as we know, restrict tuition increases. That’s not the role of government,” Kanter said. “But we want to look to the states and provide innovation funding so they can look at the policies that will stabilize tuition in the long term.”

Kanter said the administration hopes to invest in colleges that provide good value and to take funds away from schools that do not. “We’re going to have an administration will assess value by examining cost, service and outcomes. Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., emphasized the country’s need to spend more money on education and infrastructure, rather than wars and military bases overseas. He said the country spent $120 billion in Afghanistan last year.

“What would a third of that buy in terms of affordability in colleges across America?” Merkley said. “We must make choices as a nation. We are systematically undermining our investment in research and intellectual infrastructure. We are weakening this nation.”

Amber Watts may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

The Nuestra Casa exhibit is showing at the UTEP Centennial Museum until the end of 2012.

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one person’s old-fashion may be another’s vintage

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MUSIC NEWS:
PEARL JAM’S EDDIE VEDDER ANNOUNCED A SOLO SHOW APRIL 17 AT THE PLAZA THEATER.

February 7, 2012
entertainment

editor
Krystal Oblinger, 747-7442

Photo by Krystal Oblinger
Going back in time with ‘Pachuco Zoot’

BY ANDRES RODRIGUEZ
The Prospector

Beginning Feb. 10, the UTEP Department of Theater will present “Pachuco Zoot: A Tale of Identity,” an exploration of Pachuco culture through dance.

Encompassing the culture of the 1920s Mexican-American Pachuco, the production will include four pieces, said Emily Morgan, choreographer and assistant professor of theater and dance.

Those pieces are “Pachuco Zoot” choreographed by Lisa Smith, professor of dance and theater, and “Swing Sketches” choreographed by Morgan, and “Rush” choreographed by guest artist Dana Shakelford.

The idea for the production was conceived close to a year ago, Smith said, who considers herself an El Pasoan after living in the city for 24 years. She was interested in the city’s history and guided by Chicano studies director Dennis Bixler-Marquez, began researching the Pachuco culture.

“I’m not from here originally and I’m not Hispanic but this was an idea I wanted to do for a long time I just never felt authentic enough,” Smith said.

Along with others, she researched Edmundo Martinez Trinidad “Don Tomi,” a jazz musician who, after moving from El Paso to Los Angeles, was discovered and went on to sell a million copies of his song “Pachuco Boogie.” His music, later inducted into the Smithsonian Institute, will be used in the show.

“This was sort of the beginning of Latin Boogie coming from an El Paso native,” Smith said. “I thought this was really exciting for my students to understand, this coming from their background.”

Smith said it was important for the audience and performers to make a regional connection to the material. Pachuco culture is believed to be rooted in the El Paso/Juárez region since the early 1920s, later to be popularized in Los Angeles.

“When we first started rehearsing this piece I asked my students to go home to talk to their families, their parents, their grandparents to see what they remember about this era,” Smith said. “I wanted something authentic about the era, to display an authentic look at our beginnings here in El Paso.”

The production will be dance-based, although traditional Pachuco dialogue, Calo, is also included.

“I have been collaborating with a great poet, Juan Contreras and he’s done the dialogue for a couple of pieces between two old Pachucos kind of looking back historically at this beginning of the culture,” Smith said. “A young man represents the birth of this culture and they’re talking about looking back at him from a perspective of modern day Chicano.”

A year in the making, the production held auditions last September and has been getting ready since.

“The preparation process is lots of rehearsals,” Morgan said. “Unlike a play where there’s a script; the choreographer with the dancers are getting everything from scratch.”

Sarah Escobedo, assistant stage manager, lighting designer and dancer, said she’s learned about the culture through the preparation.

“We really listened to the music to get a sense of the time period, style and the language of Calo,” said Escobedo, a junior dance major. “We also learned about the culture, the icons during that time, what the young men and women were going through and how it spread to the Southwest.”

Icons of Mexican and Mexican-American cinema such as Pedro Infante, Tin Tan and Dolores del Rio were used as muses that represented and influenced the culture, according to Smith.

Although informative, Smith said she isn’t writing a dissertation through dance and music she and Escobedo hope the audience will appreciate it as an entertaining show.

“I hope the audience will not only appreciate the artistry and beauty of the entire show, but also learn something about dance and what we dedicate ourselves to do here in the Dance Department at UTEP,” Escobedo said. “I hope that this dance will spark memories, create an awareness of another important time period of our culture and city, and that the audience will enjoy the music and movement that brings this story to life.”

Smith said that the production is at an attempt to summarize and conveying the sense of the Pachuco culture.

“These were kids who, I imagine didn’t fit in anywhere. They were no longer part of Mexico, they weren’t quite assimilated into US culture but they were here. How did they make their lives meaningful,” Smith said. “That’s how we look at it. How did this come about? How did these kids arrive at the Pachuco myth?”

*Pachuco Zoot* features hand-made costumes based on the era. The Zoot Suit was originally seen as a rebellious movement because the clothing used a lot of material.

“I believe once someone makes the decision to get a Facebook account they understand the consequences of doing so,” said Amanda Hildebrand, media advertising major. “I think it all comes down to choice. If you don’t want people in your business then you should avoid posting it on Facebook or the Internet for that matter. Once you do so, I think you relinquish your own rights to privacy.”

Concerned users may simply click on the “subscriptions” tab in the left side of their profile, below “friends,” and quickly disable the subscription option. In these screens, users can also view friend and non-friend subscribers.

Further publicizing a person’s lifestyle, Facebook’s open graph protocol and “timeline” outline are designed to allow apps to be installed within a user’s profile. Instead of having a wall bombarded by an assortment of updates, from reading a book to baking a cake, these actions will be displayed and categorized through their respective apps. While recently announced apps include Rotten Tomatoes (entertainment), Kobo (books), Zynga (games) and eBay, numerous third-party companies are expected to launch Facebook apps in the upcoming months.

As Facebook continues to grow and fuse with thousands of online services, users must remember to tweak appropriate privacy settings in order to comfortably share themselves with their closest friends and furthest strangers.

Although Facebook offers various security measures, from profile privatization and status accessibility, enhancements such as the “Subscribe” button can lead to unwanted spectators. If not disabled by the user, other Facebook users can subscribe and receive notifications on an individual’s public updates — even if they are not friends.

“While Facebook continues to grow and fuse with thousands of online services, users must remember to tweak appropriate privacy settings in order to comfortably share themselves with their closest friends and furthest strangers.”

*Jerry Aldez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.*

**Face**

**book**

*Following users every move*

BY JERRY ALDEZ
The Prospector

Facebook has become an integral component of everydayAccording to official Facebook statistics, it currently caters to 800 million active users more than 50 percent login every single day.

“More than 50 percent login every single day, sharing comical videos through YouTube, streaming the hottest tracks through Spotify or indicating film preferences through Netflix, users are increasingly displaying their range of interests with their Facebook circles.

“I think it’s a great outlet to let others know what you are really about,” said Rebecca Jasquez, theater arts major. “I feel the content I share on my wall or forward to others serves as an extension of my personality. I am often surprised by the great material my friends allow me to discover. Beyond networking, it is a filter for entertainment.”

Beyond self-expression, Facebook profiles are often utilized by employers to review possible candidates. “A profile picture could certainly be considered as one of the first impressions of a potential employer and influence their perspective,” said George Barton, director of University Career Center.

Nick Zwireg, coordinator of the Experimental Learning Program mentioned recent articles indicating that from 45 to 50 percent of employers are using social media to screen candidates.

“All articles agree that a significant percentage of those have removed a candidate from consideration based on what they have found,” he said.

For those desiring professionalism in Facebook, Zwireg suggested they decide on their privacy level and set their accounts accordingly. “Upload a profile picture that conveys you in a positive light. If you choose not to make your profile private, immediately stop posting pictures or comments that could be controversial,” Zwireg said.

Aside from future bosses, Facebook can be an unapologetic window to an individual’s personal life. From interested members of opposite sex to the occasional lurker, students must exercise caution when revealing themselves to the rest of the internet.

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*Jerry Aldez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.*
Men’s Basketball

Center of attention
Young posts battle for starting role

BY FRANKIE ROBREGUE
The Prospector

After losing four starters from last season, head coach Tim Floyd was uncertain as to who would be in his starting lineup at the beginning of the season.

Returning one center and one forward, Floyd brought in three new post players for an inexperienced post presence. One position that especially seemed to be up for grabs was the center position with three players at 6-foot-9 inch or taller.

At the start of the season, senior forward Cedrick Lang and sophomore center John Bohannon were both in the starting lineup when the Miners faced off against Loyola-Marymount on Nov. 16. Bohannon took over the starting center position after McCulley, the returning starter, sat out with an injury.

Bohannon and Lang’s relationship was strengthened through the competition, according to both players. Bohannon said he was happy to see the younger Lang take the starting position every now and then as it showed he was making quick strides with the team.

"It’s my young blood. I tried to take him under my wing to show him things that I learned my freshman year," Bohannon said. "I am all about the team here. If we are winning and he is in there that is fine with me as long as we are winning. I have nothing but love for my teammates so if someone is doing better than me or just doing well, I am going to support them.

"The two drive one another to a heightened level of play through support and encouragement."

Lang has been there for Bohannon when he needed it most. Lang started in the first four games and Bohannon in three of those and both started together in three of those contests. Over the next eight games after McCulley returned, Lang and Bohannon split the starting role, with both getting the nod four times each. Since then, Lang has started just once, Jan. 14 at home against SMU.

Regardless of the injury, Lang is one of two players to play in every game so far this season along with junior guard Jacques Streeter. Lang was averaging 7.4 points, 4.9 rebounds and was shooting a team-best 65.5 percent from the field. Since the injury, however, his numbers have decreased to 6.8 points and 4.7 rebounds and a 65.6 field goal percentage.

Bohannon has since secured the starting position and has become one of UTEP’s most dominant players this season. He ranks third on the team in scoring and first in rebounding, averaging 10.8 points, 7.3 rebounds per game and is currently third in Conference-USA with a 60.4 field goal percentage.

Bohannon has stepped in the interior as two of his teammates, junior forward Malcolm Moore and freshman center Hooper Vint, were injured. Moore suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament and Vint missed more than half the games so far with back problems.

Both were season-ending injuries. Bohannon is on a hot streak as he has posted five double-doubles in the last 10 games.

A little competition for the starting position often results in some push and pull as these two have demonstrated.

"We try to push each other every day, but right now I am not practicing. That is what you want to do as a teammate is push each other to be better," Lang said. "I just try to encourage him through the sidelines. We are close as it is, we are all pretty close as teammates."

Frankie Rodriguez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Player comparisons

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<th>John Bohannon</th>
<th>Cedrick Lang</th>
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FOREIGN LEGENDS:
MEN’S BASKETBALL: THE 1992 SWEET 16 TEAM WILL BE HONORED AT HALFTIME DURING THE FEB. 11 CONTEST AGAINST TULANE.

February 7, 2012

sports editor
William Vega, 747-7445
In a game featuring nine lead changes, six ties and the largest lead being eight points, it came down to one last shot to determine a winner between UTEP and UAB Feb. 4 at the Don Haskins Center.

Down by one with nine seconds left, sophomore guard Michael Perez missed the game-winning 3-pointer at the buzzer, resulting in the Miners’ first Conference-USA home loss of the season Feb. 4 to UAB, 61-60.

“Any loss hurts, but losing like this is tough and it hurts. It is a learning experience so we got to take what we learn from this and keep going forward,” sophomore center John Bohannon said. “I am 20-years old and I have been playing this game long enough to know that every roll is not going to go your way and the ball is not going to bounce your way every time.”

UTEP was able to take the lead with 14 minutes left in the second half for the first time since the beginning of the first half. The Miners also went on a 13-4 run to lead 40-35 midway through the second half.

“You are not going to have a perfect game every night. Everybody is going to struggle some nights. Even Michael Jordan struggled some nights,” senior forward Gab McCulley said. “It is on the defensive end; you got to get stops and keep the opposing team from scoring. I think we did that late in the second half and most of the second half, but we just couldn’t put two halves together on the defensive end.”

Although the Miners finished the first half with a 46.4 percent shooting percentage, they found themselves trailing the Blazers 31-27. One of the reasons they fell behind is due to the same problem UTEP has been dealing with since last season: rebounding. The Miners were outrebounded by UAB in the first half 21-13, including 10-4 on the offensive glass.

“Of the caliber teams we have lost to, we have beaten better teams. We just got to start getting wins under our belt,” Bohannon said. “We could see improvement and I think we are getting better but now we got to transfer it to the win column.”

UTEP was dominant in the paint through most of the game with 30 points coming from the interior. Bohannon led the way with a game-high 22 points and eight rebounds. Freshman forward Julian Washburn was the only other player to score in double figures with 16 points.

“I like the improvement that Bohannon is making on the interior,” head coach Tim Floyd said. “I like the improvement that Julian Washburn is making right now as both a defender and a scorer. He is limiting his turnovers and giving us a chance on both ends of the court.”

UTEP’s bench provided 26 points compared to UTEP’s two points off the bench. Sophomore guard Jordan Swing was 5-of-8 from the perimeter and provided the spark the Blazers needed with 19 points off the bench.

“We had too much of Jordan Swing offensively who had not played their previous games due to a broken hand and stepped in and obviously made big shots,” Floyd said. “We were exposed a little bit on the defensive end late in the game. We had too much of Cameron Moore defensively. He changed a lot of shots and blocked a lot as well. On the boards, he is averaging 11 boards and he got his 11 boards.”

After a heartbreaking loss like this, the lone senior kept his team composed.

“I tell these guys to keep their head up,” McCulley said. “The last couple of games were tough games, one point game, overtime games and we are a young team. We have to get through it. We are in a slump right now but once we get that one win, we will be fine.”

UTEP will host Tulsa Feb. 8 at the Don Haskins Center in a rematch of a game they lost Jan. 11 at Tulsa 59-48.

“We have Tulsa on our next one, a team that beat us on the road. There is not much difference between the team that we just played (UAB) and the Tulsa group we are going to see in here on Wednesday,” Floyd said.

Frankie Rodriíguez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
The Prospector
February 7, 2012

BY DANIEL ORNELAS
El Paso native and senior thrower Matt Dudley has his goals set beyond an NCAA title. Instead, he wants to follow in his father’s footsteps and earn a trip to the 2012 Summer Olympics in London.

Matt’s father, Steve Dudley, once qualified for the Olympics in the discus throw, the same event Matt has excelled in this year. “My optimal goal really is I want to try and make it to the Olympics and hit the qualifying marks I need to make it to the Olympics for discus,” Dudley said. “That’s always been my goal...I’m getting closer and closer and I’ve had some walls and some stumbles and falls along the way, but as long as you keep on pursuing and persevering, that’s how you know you’re going to get there.”

Dudley, a graduate of Parkland High School is already one of the best throwers in Conference-USA, earning first place in his first meet of the season Jan. 14 at Boise, Idaho. He’s looking to improve for the indoor conference championships Feb. 25-26 in Birmingham, Alabama.

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Head coach Mika Laaksonen said Dudley has the potential to win his events at the conference championships and that is one step closer to his goals. Dudley emphasizes being consistent with his technique and not peaking too early.

Laaksonen is not worried about him peaking in the short indoor season, but said Dudley has to improve in his technique.

“Essentially, they’re my rivals. I transferred from Houston. They didn’t release me, I had to sit out because they wouldn’t release me so in a sense it’s like not getting back at them but it’s a rivalry,” Dudley said. “Houston is our biggest rival as well. You have to perform at your optimum level especially going against your rival. I can’t wait to get to that point because I know it’s going to be good, healthy competition.”

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For the second time in three days, the Miners (1-4) trailed 1-0 after doubles play & found themselves down 3-0, but did not go down quietly to the Falcons. Junior Daruhy abdramanov and sophomore Rebecca Calvillo and Marie Lellond all posted victories to pull the home side even at three. Senior Carolina DeLaca then stepped up in the deciding match, but fell to Tiffany Tran in a three-set match, 2-6, 7-6, 7-6. Action commenced with doubles play, where Air Force won that competition 2-1. DeLaca/Lellond derailed junior Christine Molina/ Tran, 8-5, at the No. 3 spot. Air Force struck back, though, with triumphs at the other courts to secure the point. 

Junior Hannah Dake/Freshman Natasha Rasin-McCabe vs. East Abdramanov/sophomore Gabs Vaquer, 8-5, in the No. 2 spot, while junior Melissa Abin cb/Continuing Tabla Smoke drowned junior Martina Tereckova/sophomore Rebecca Calvillo, 8-2. The Miners regrouped once singles play started, with a 3-4 victory over DeLaca cruising past Molina, 6-4, 6-4, at the No. 2 singles. Lellond routed Rizvi, 6-1, 6-4, at No. 6 while Abdramanov took care of business in a three-set thriller, 6-2, 6-7, 6-5 at No. 5 singles. Air Force escaped with the team triumph, though, as a result of outcomes on the other courts. Cecilia Tran and Tereckova, 7-6, retired, at No. 1 singles. Vaquerz ran into a buzz saw in the form of Smoke at No. 4 singles, falling 6-1, 6-1, 6-1. Tran rallied past DeLaca.

The setback is the second straight for the 4-3 variety for the Miners. UTEP also fell to Northern Arizona 6-3 at home the previous week.