INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE ALWAYS PAYS THE BEST INTEREST

– BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

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ILUSTRATION BY DIEGO BURCIAGA / The Prospector
Four amazing years at UTEP

BY JOE TORRES
The Prospector

It has been four amazing years at UTEP and I have enjoyed every minute of it. I graduated in May 2013 and I will be the first in my immediate family to have a college degree. I feel very blessed by the Lord and by the people who care about me and have supported my decisions.

When I transferred from NMSU to UTEP I came to find a place to become happier and smarter. During my time at UTEP I found, fell in love, and got engaged with my beautiful fiancé Victoria. I became a proud member of Omega Delta Phi Fraternity and I have strengthened my character and skills.

Thank you so much for all the support and for always being my better half. You give me so much love, motivation and strength to be the best person I can be. Without you, I don’t know if I would be the same person. For coming into my life Victoria and putting up with me throughout all the stressful times I have endured at UTEP I can’t wait to be your husband.

In fall 2009, I made one of the greatest decisions ever and that was to pledge for Omega Delta Phi Fraternity. Inc. The brotherhood is just an amazing thing to be a part of. Thank you Adrian for leading me to these great group of individuals. I immediately came out of my shell when I crossed. This opened up so many opportunities for me to serve the community, become a better person and just hang out with the brothers who will be at my wedding and at my funeral. Thank you Craig and Jaime for the opportunity. Thank you ODPhi for allowing me to be an alumnus member.

When I began school at NMSU, I was a computer science major. That was a mistake. That career choice wasn’t for me. I switched schools and switched my major as well. I became a graphic design major at UTEP and I am happy I made it.

Graphic design is so awesome and allows me to be creative; sometimes I wish I would have felt like work at all. Thanks to all my professors for your help in developing my skills.

I’ve also had to deal with tragedy during my time at UTEP with the loss of my amazing cousin Adrian Bernal. He is one of the main reasons for the type of person I am. He was the greatest role model and I’ve always strived to be at least half the man he was. He was my best friend, my fraternity brother and my cousin. I love you and miss you.

Also, thanks to Vero and the Pros- tor staff for giving me a chance to be creative. I’ve enjoyed working here and meeting an amazing, friendly staff.

Lastly, thank you to my beautiful mom Letty, my dad Jose, my sisters Jocelyn, Annette, and Corrissa for your love and support throughout my life. I love you all very much. Also, thanks Paulina for being a second mom to me and loving me like your own son. Love you. Thanks Uncle Dar- ren and Aunt Bernie for being my best friends and treating me like a son. You both are a miracle to have and I love you like my own mother and father.

Finally, I DID IT! But the journey has just begun. Thanks UTEP for all the memories.

Joe Torres may NOT be reached at propsector@utep.edu.

Dear Seniors:

As we approach the end of the aca- demic year, many celebrations have begun to acknowledge your accom- plishments as the Class of 2013. As we celebrate this time, it is important to remember that in order for us to be a great group of graduates in the UTEP community that we are able to recognize the hard work of the students, faculty and staff who made this possible. Therefore, please take a moment to give your love and support to the people who have been with you throughout your time at UTEP.

I know you will be successful in whatever you decide to go on to do and you will go on to do amazing things as well.

Sincerely,

An engineer’s dream graduation... OMG! This is the best day ever...

Congs Kids...

The Prospector (UTEP 448-020) is published by the Student Publications Board, 105 E. Union, 100 W. University Ave., El Paso, TX 79968. During Fall & Spring semesters the Prospector is delivered twice weekly. During Fall & Spring Breaks the Prospector is delivered twice weekly. During the summer session, Tuesday and Thursday issues are delivered to students. Periodic postage paid at El Paso, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Prospector, 105 E. Union, El Paso, Texas 79968-0622.

The Prospector is the student newspaper of the University of Texas at El Paso. All students, faculty and staff are eligible to submit letters to the editor. All letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, street address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable.

Letters and phone number will be used for verification only.

Write to 105 E. Union, a newspaper Prospector, call 747-4747 or fax to 747-9803.

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One journey ends, another begins

By Paul Reynoso
The Prospector

Before coming to The Prospector this spring semester, my experience as a writer and reporter was limited to the classes that I had taken at UTEP. However, I knew if I wanted to make it in the outside world, I had to get started somewhere soon and The Prospector was at the top of the list. Because of my passion and knowledge about sports, my goal was to become a sports writer. Kathleen Flores, director of Student Publications, gave me the opportunity to write for the paper as a sports intern and it turned out to be an awesome ride.

Writing for The Prospector was something I always wanted to do before finishing school and to greatly improve my resume. Another factor that played in my decision to write for The Prospector was knowing that UTEP faculty and students will have the chance to read my stories each week. From there on, everything else fell into place and I soon began my journey as a journalist at The Prospector.

Even though my stint at The Prospector was a short one, the experience of being part of it was unique and eye-opening. I was able to gain much more insight into how fellow UTEP students go through the process of making contacts, getting interviews and all the perks that come with being a journalist.

For the many coaches, players and students that I talked to this semester, I felt I made a strong connection with them as a sports reporter during my interviews. They were very open to my questions and I was able to comfortably transcribe their quotes during editing. At times the process of getting the interviews wasn’t easy for me. There were times that the contacts I needed fell through, but I quickly learned to adjust to the problems.

Some of the things that I will take from my experience at The Prospector are working with the staff and the guidance they gave me in becoming a good reporter and writer. Sports editor Kristopher Rivera was instrumental in helping me get started, especially when it came time to editing and showing me some of the different things that I could improve on for my stories.

The experience also allowed me to get a closer look at some of the UTEP facilities, such as the Foster Stevens Basketball Center, which I would never had as a regular fan. The other things that stood out to me from being a Prospector writer were the observations I took in from some of the men’s and women’s basketball team practices. I watched how intense these practices could be, something that very few people get to see.

As I prepare to graduate, I will look back at my time at The Prospector as an experience that I will never forget and will use it as a stepping stone to build a future as a sports writer and multimedia journalist. Whether my next endeavor is, whether it is at the El Paso Times or another media outlet, I will always use my experience at The Prospector as guidance to a successful career. I hope that other future UTEP journalism majors will do the same and make The Prospector a part of their college experience.

Paul Reynoso may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
The Top Ten Seniors award identifies 10 graduating students who have excelled not only academically, but also through their remarkable leadership and community service, all while maintaining a high grade-point average throughout their undergraduate careers at UTEP. The UTEP Alumni Association presented the award to UTEP's most promising future alumni at the Honors Convocation, which took place April 21.

"The Top Ten Seniors awards are one of the highlights of the academic year for the UTEP Alumni Association as we recognize exemplary students for their hard work and success at UTEP," said Richard Daniel, associate vice president for University Advancement and Special Projects. "Each year, we have the difficult task of selecting from such a highly competitive pool of applicants knowing that these students are ready to create success in the next phase of their lives as alumni."

One of the nine making the cut and receiving this award is Juan C. Lopez Jr., senior mechanical engineering major, who strived to make education his priority when he came to the United States at the age of 16 in search of better opportunities.

As a graduating senior and NASA engineer, Lopez will continue to make connections with UTEP students and develop opportunities for them to reach their full potential, by mentoring and creating awareness of opportunities beyond college.

Another awardee, Juan Munoz, senior electrical engineering major, said he faced a challenge that most students go through at the beginning of each academic year—tuition expenses.

"Paying my tuition was one of the biggest issues I had during my first year at UTEP; I almost decided not to enroll in school since my acceptance to the PASE Program was not being approved due to my low income," Munoz said. "However, after several meetings and talks with directors or different departments, my previous Presidential Scholarship was changed to UTEP's Excellence Presidential Scholarship, due to my good standing and my persistence on attending college."

Munoz persevered and did everything he could to stay in school such as taking buses to cross the border every day during his first two and a half years of school, he said.

"This didn't stop me from my goal, which was to work hard in order to earn my degree. Crossing the border and walking long distances was the major challenge I had, especially during the winter seasons," Munoz said. "However, UTEP provided me with a lot of opportunities and with my involvement and effort I was sent for my first internship to Melbourne, Australia, helping me earn experience as a professional."

Munoz will continue with his master's degree at UTEP after his graduation, while also participating in an exchange program in Brazil. Scholar Stephanie Moreno, senior cellular and molecular biochemistry major, said that although the journey hasn't been an easy one, she cherishes the relationships she has made over the past four years.

"My professors have helped me develop academically and personally and have helped prepare me for my future," Moreno said.

After graduation, Moreno will pursue medical school and she will continue on her path of performing research.

"I hope to integrate the two by treating patients, as well as developing treatments through research," Moreno said.

Hoping to get a teaching position upon graduation, under the concentration of middle school mathematics or science, Shannon Murphy, senior interdisciplinary studies major, said she is incredibly excited to start teaching full-time.

"I was changed to UTEP’s Excellence Presidential Scholarship, due to my good standing and my persistence on attending college."
Graduates nominated to be featured at commencement

BY LORAIN WATTERS

Commencement marks an exciting time for graduates, especially for those who are chosen to be highlighted during the ceremony.

According to UTEP President Diana Natalicio, nominating graduates to be highlighted during the ceremony has been going on quite some time, and it was personalized so people would feel that there is not just 1,000 graduates in black hats, but people with real stories.

"Through this, we try to convey that UTEP has a powerful impact on transforming people's lives and transforming the quality of life in this region," Natalicio said. "The audience hears these stories and we try to showcase these experiences—a sampler of student experiences at UTEP—to help people see that UTEP students are very special!"

Graduate nominees are first recommended by the dean of their college. The dean will then send these recommendations to University Communications, providing a brief description of the student. Between three to five student stories are selected for each of the three commencement ceremonies.

"We try to get some balance of students who started here out of high school or transfer students from a community college, or even coming back to school from the work force or military," Natalicio said. "We try and look for students who have been highly successful with their academic performance, service commitment or some unusual experience they might have had."

In spring 2012, Aaron Martinez, multimedia journalism major, was selected as a graduate nominee and highlighted during Natalicio's speech.

"I was a construction worker when I finished high school, I didn't think about college," Martinez said. "I tried joining the military, but I was denied because I have epilepsy. I had found out later that my sister enrolled me at UTEP without me knowing because she had really wanted me to go to school."

Martinez is about to complete his Master of Science degree in journalism from Columbia University this summer.

"It was a big deal for my family; that someone that big at the university mentioned me," he said.

Martinez is about to complete his Master of Science degree in journalism from Columbia University this summer.

"It's awesome, I wasn't expecting it—I didn't even know it existed," Arzate said. "I told my mom, but I told her not to make it a big deal yet. I still have to go through the process and see if I am picked at graduation."

Along with keeping up his academic performance, Arzate is also participating in a contest to be a Local Hero, which is part of the Life Moving Forward contest that is a part of National Mobility Awareness Month. He is competing against over 1,000 people nationwide for a van that will allow him more mobile access, since he uses a wheel chair. Online voting ends May 10 and the winner of the contest will be announced May 31.

"The first phase is falling in the top 5 percent, so it's not about who has the most votes. The second phase will have the judges pick three recipients, based on the criteria that they ask for and the story," Arzate said. "They emphasize a lot about the hero part, and I hope that when they do go back and see all of the stories, they realize that I am about to graduate and that I have done a lot in the community.

Arzate began at UTEP in fall 2008 and joined EXCEL, a program for freshmen students that is a part of Student Government Association. He also pledged for Lambda Chi Alpha, a social fraternity.

"During my summer orientation, they had a contest where you would get the most signatures from the orientation leaders. I got all of the signatures and my former boss gave me a helmet and told me that it symbolized me being an orientation leader," he said. "I applied in the fall and the next summer I was an orientation leader. That became a stepping stone for me and I got orientation leader of the year. When I became an orientation leader, it really helped me define my strengths—helping freshman with advice, registration, being a mentor with them. You are the first face they see so it was a really cool experience."

Arzate later became a peer advisor, ran for senator-at-large for two consecutive years and ran for SGA president.

Emmanuel Arzate (right) and his mother, Aurora Arzate (left), are very proud of the nomination Emmanuel received for graduation.
Centennial construction underway

A section of University Avenue will close to vehicular traffic permanently on May 20, marking a major phase in the construction for the centennial transformation of the UTEP campus.

With University Avenue, the construction on Wiggins Road will finish in May and preliminary work on Schuster Avenue will begin, a project that will take about two years, according to Keith Erekson, executive director of the centennial celebration.

"University Avenue will (close) down for thru-traffic and will only open to emergency vehicles," Erekson said. "That space will be turned into a walking trail—or path—and an emergency vehicle could go on it, if needed."

"The Psychology Building and Fox Fine Arts (Center) will have a park space that will wrap around Old Main and into Lunch Grove," Erekson said. "It will be all one continuous space."

Internal parking lots will be closed for thru-traffic and will only open to emergency vehicles," Erekson said. "That space will be turned into a walking trail—or path—and an emergency vehicle could go on it, if needed."

Construction will also occur on Sunbowl Drive over the summer, widening the middle section from two to four lanes.

"(It) might be a little slow down here, but no impact in terms of road closures or detours," Erekson said.

Upon completion of the Centennial Plaza, Minerpaloza will be the first event to take place at the plaza, along with UTEP's 100th birthday event to take place Sept. 23, 2014.

"In October of 2014, there will be an outdoor musical performance, in which students are preparing for now with international performers," Erekson said. "This is called Opera Bhutan and it will premiere first in Bhutan before making its western viewing here."

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According to Catherine McCorry-Andalis, associate vice president of student life, campus activities have continued without any problems despite the amount of construction taking place.

"The transformation of inner campus will be the first phase of a cultural change at UTEP," McCorry-Andalis said. "No longer having vehicles drive through campus will be a change, but a positive one."

As a Miner Ambassador, Rodrigo Rodriguez, senior electrical engineering major, said he has been able to see the changes happening on campus and said it's a pleasant view.

"The construction has affected me much like everybody else in making some of the walks around campus a little more difficult," Rodriguez said. "There aren't going to be any more parking garages."

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Drivers to deliver flower arrangements only for May 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. Make up to $70 per trip!

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**SUNDAY CENTER FINE ARTS FAMILY DAY**

Saturday, May 18th

10 am - 2 pm

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The University of Texas at El Paso
congratulates the
Class of 2013
Congratulations from

Office of the President

University Relations

Office of International Programs
The Prospector’s 2013 spring staff

This year's Student Government Association elections resulted in a change in leadership.

Current Liberal Arts senator, Paulina Lopez, was elected SGA president. Although her term does not begin until June 1, Lopez, junior organizational communication major, has already begun working on changes to the SGA.

Some major changes will involve committees within SGA, which Lopez said is based on structures from other universities. Lopez' plans show three standing committees and six ad hoc committees—formed to tackle a specific task—including EXCEL, Committee for Campus Quality, Special Events, Student Affairs, Outreach, and Student Organizations.

Lopez said with all her changes to the committees she wants to create a strategic plan to give more structure because the SGA constitution does not have ad hoc committees.

"The strategic plan is creating a more sustainable plan, not only for one year, but for it to be continuous," Lopez said. "For SGA presidents, even though the term is one year, they won't actually have to start from scratch, but they would have something reliable and also to get continuity between administrations."

Formerly called Academic Affairs Committee, Lopez said she renamed the group Student Affairs to have a broader focus on students. The committee will organize midnight breakfast, Miner Heroes and strive to get more programs at UTEP.

Lopez removed the My SGA and Traffic ad hoc committees, but transferred some of their responsibilities to other committees. My SGA was in charge of Orange Fridays, tailgates and Miner Pride, while the traffic committee dealt with Miner Metro and bicycles on campus. Lopez said that because the campus is closing, SGA was no longer going to have to deal with traffic issues, however any small issues will be redirected to COOG, which encompasses campus quality and includes the green initiative.

My SGA and Traffic were replaced by the Outreach and Student Organizations committees, which will be in contact with each other and resemble models from UT Austin's student government. Outreach will serve as a two-way communication line for students and SGA, incorporating newsletters, marketing efforts and social media.

Lopez said Student Organizations will be a council that will gather all of the leadership from student organizations to summarize the voices of many students.

"We want to have all the senators-at-large to be attending student organizations' meetings so they can see something from SGA present at their meetings and that they actually care and if they have any problems or any concerns, they can talk to that person," Lopez said. "We had our orientation on Saturday. We told the (senators) about the new committees and they're really excited."

Junior mechanical engineering major Karla Becerra is the new collegiate senator. This is Becerra's first time holding a position for SGA.

"I feel like I'll complement the position as much as the position will complement me as well," Becerra said. "I never knew how much hard work and dedication it would be, and I'm more than willing to work really hard this upcoming year."

Student Organizations will also partner with the Campus Activities Board to help students register their organizations, which Lopez said will make the process easier, fostering more activity. Newly elected Vice President of Internal Affairs, Ruben Chavez, sophomore pre-business major, said Student Organizations will also provide resources to organizations, but will focus on communication between students and SGA.

"It's about the university as a whole. It's not just about...how we help them out, but if they can come and tell us how SGA can be improved for the future, that would be awesome," Chavez said. "This year SGA is going to change and it's going to change for good. We have so many plans in mind, but toward our committees and ad hoc committees. Unfortunately, we have to get rid of some committees to improve others."

Sophomore political science major, Tanner Milroy, ran as an independent candidate for vice president of external affairs, but was not elected. Milroy said he has spoken to the incoming vice presidents and has confidence in them, but is not as certain about Lopez.

"I had really high hopes and I don't doubt her abilities, some things came up during elections, but election season, most people lose their minds as we'll see, but her ability is there," Milroy said.

Aside from her changes to the ad hoc committees, Lopez said she wants to partner with the College of Business Administration's Mike Loya Center for Innovation and Commerce and use SGA's $40,000 in savings as scholarship money for good.

"We don't want to just to give away money, but for students to be able to participate in some kind of competition or research project through SGA. It would improve the students' research capabilities," Lopez said. "Also, it would be beneficial to UTEP because we're shooting for tier one. It can also bring investment from outside El Paso."

Lopez said she also wants to have an arts centennial festival in the spring, similar to Minerpalooza.

"We can have two big celebrations, making the university a nicer environment," Lopez said. "That would be celebrating the centennial, showcasing student talent and bringing the alumni in, other people in...We want to bring arts alive."

Becerra said she will work with Lopez' plans, but also wants to maintain the ideas she campaigned for Becerra saw SGA on page A15
Hold on all doctoral program proposals

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has imposed a policy that penalizes state universities that do not meet the state average in graduation rates. UTEP is currently one of the universities that is being penalized and therefore cannot submit any new doctoral program proposals until graduation rates are calculated next fiscal year.

Diana Natalicio, president of UTEP, said that the way the system works is flawed and needs to be restructured.

"The THECB has established some very complex eligibility criteria for doctoral program proposals submissions," she said. "They relate to undergraduates and we are one of the institutions that is affected by these criteria. So we have begun a process of challenging some of the assumptions and the data associated with the criteria."

Natalicio said she believes that undergraduate rates should not be related to doctoral-level studies.

"What does one have to with the other, we don't know of any evidence like that, so we ask what is the purpose of this criteria," Natalicio said. "We are also concerned with the way the criteria is calculated."

According to Natalicio, reaching the requirement of graduation rates appears to be a moving target because it is based on the average of all the other state institutions per year.

"We happen to believe that these criteria are not a good predictor of the success of a university's capacity to have a doctoral education," she said.

Based on the criteria that say the THECB, if a student were to start at UTEP and transfer to UT, neither school would get credit because they did not start and finish at the same school.

"The only way you can get counted in a graduation rate anywhere in the country is to start and finish at the same school, if you don't do that you fall out—you are either a dropout or you are not counted at all. If you start here as a full-time and you transfer and graduate at Arlington, you are counted as a dropout here and you are never counted over there, which is a very stupid system, why don't they just track students—I mean we are tracked in everything else—you graduate eventually and everyone ought to appear, instead of saying, 'oh no, you didn't graduate from the same university so, boom, you don't get a good graduation rate,'" Natalicio said.

"The hold that the THECB has placed on UTEP has affected all of the colleges since UTEP," Patricia Witherspoon, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said that there are currently two doctoral proposals within the college that are lined up waiting to be approved.

The first is a collaboration between the political science department and the sociology department. It is a Ph.D. program in transnational studies. The program has been updated constantly since it has been waiting for approval for more than a year.

"This is an important issue because when I was dean of the graduate school here at UTEP, I served on the graduate education advisory committee and when they were thinking of putting these rules, some of us spoke up and said that we were attending to our undergraduates and we were requiring that the faculty have to graduate from the same university so, boom, you don't get a good graduation rate," Witherspoon said.

"Hopefully they will be able to figure it out, but it's a moving target. It's very difficult and this whole process is very frustrating and we are trying to increase (graduation rates), " Schoephoerster said.

Natalicio, who is constantly advocating for change in the Texas higher education structure, said she will not give up in trying to change the system.

"I think graduation rates are so misunderstood, people who are for them may not fully understand them," Natalicio said. "I don't know whether it's political, but I feel that I can make people understand the problem."

Witherspoon also said that they are frustrated with the whole ordeal and hopes to get the doctoral proposals approved.

"It seems that it will go through, hopefully it will be able to figure it out, but it's a moving target. It's very difficult and this whole process is very frustrating and we are trying to increase (graduation rates)," Schoephoerster said.

"In each college we are working on ways to increase the number of people graduating," Witherspoon said. "In liberal arts we are initiating a new student success initiative, and that's to help everybody move forward with workshops and email communications."

"The university as a whole is moving forward with a new system of emails and voicemail that provide students with reminders of deadlines and tips on registration, according to Witherspoon. Witherpoon also said that they are trying to hire new advisers that can help more students, as well as trying to implement more courses at more available times to help students move forward with their degree plans.

Natalicio said she is also confidant that with the new, implemented programs, the rates would go up.

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"I'm very tenacious, I don't like when something misleads the public, and this misleads the public," Natalicio said. "It should be fixed and we'll work on it."

The graph above shows the undergraduate degrees awarded and the graduation rate at UTEP.
Graduation

Traditions behind commencement ceremony

BY SABRINA NUÑEZ

The Prospector

UTEP’s three commencement ceremonies, which will take place on May 18, follow a tradition that has been developed since the early 1980s. According to Frank Montes de Oca, assistant director for the Office of University Relations, it began with the help of a professor in the theater department, Charles Etheridge, who formulated the commencement ceremony that is used today. He also implemented traditions from other institutions in and out of the UT System.

One tradition involves students carrying the university and college banners. Erika Castalio, senior education major, was selected to carry the banner for the College of Education. Students are nominated to carry the banner by professors who see they have excelled academically and have served their local and campus communities, among other qualities.

“It’s an honor, it’s very humbling to have been chosen to carry the banner,” Castalio said. “I had to start all over because my first time in college, I was studying business administration and I decided to change everything around. I took Maymesters, wintermesters and summer classes.”

Castalio’s cousin Paulina Almanza, senior English and American literature major, is carrying the banner for the College of Liberal Arts.

“I have my family, I have my children and totally different lives, yet we were able to achieve our dreams and succeed in what we’re doing,” Castalio said. “You’re never too old to achieve your dream, to acquire what you really want in life. I wanted to be a teacher and here I am about to become a teacher and when I came back to college after raising my two teenage sons, one who comes to UTEP as I am, I am working on it about a semester at a time,” Montes de Oca said.

The commencement’s budget is $50,000 to manage all three ceremonies. Each spring ceremony lasts around two hours and includes more than 2,500 candidates participating throughout the day. The ceremony will be live-streamed with cameras already in place to record and broadcast the ceremony to those within the Don Haskins Center, according to Montes de Oca. See CEREMONY on page 615.

FILE PHOTO / The Prospector

Simplystated

There will be an Open House about the upcoming inner campus closure/Centennial Plaza construction. The session is open to the campus community — students, faculty and staff.

The Open House will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 10 at the Union Building East, Acacia (102A) room.

The UTEP community can ask questions about the campus construction, access routes, walking detours, parking, etc. Representatives with Parking and Transportation Services, Center for Accommodations and Support Services, Planning and Construction, UTEP Police, Facilities Services, Special Events and Student Affairs will be available to answer questions. Maps will allow those who stop by to see the new routes they’ll take to class next semester.
Question of the week

What salary do you expect to earn?

Photos by Veronica Enriquez and Michelle Franco

NOTE: The following starting salaries were gathered from payscale.com and are an averaged estimate based on major and entry level salary in the United States.

BRETT CARRERA
Senior electrical engineering major
Salary expectation: "If I can find a job I expect to earn between $72,000 - $85,000."
Starting salary for electrical engineers: $63,400

KIMBERLY KIM
Junior kinesiology major
Salary expectation: "$80,000."
Starting salary: $54,100

JASMINE DELAFUENTE
Sophomore nursing major
Salary expectation: "At least $25.00/hour ($48,000 a year)."
Starting salary for nurses: $54,100

OSCAR OCHOTERENA
Junior kinesiology major
Salary expectation: "I want to be a physical education teacher, $47,000."
Starting salary for kinesiology: $54,100

NATALIA LUNA
Sophomore health and biochemistry major
Salary expectation: "I want to be a surgeon, so it’s in the $100,000, although I still have to pay off my loans."
Starting salary for biochemistry: $43,200

JOEL QUIÑONES
Sophomore chemistry major
Salary expectation: "I expect to start with a salary of $50,000 once I graduate."
Starting salary for chemistry: $44,700

ADRIAN JAMES
Junior communications major
Salary expectation: "I’m waiting that once I graduate I will start with $15,000."
Starting salary: $38,900

IAN HAMILTON
Sophomore communication major
Salary expectation: "I will like to start with $40,000, but you just never know."
Starting salary: $38,900

ISHMAEL HARRISON
Sophomore history major
Salary expectation: "Viewing today’s economy I can only hope to start with a salary of no less than $30,000 as a teacher."
Starting salary: $39,000

JASMIN DELAFUENTE
Sophomore nursing major
Salary expectation: "At least $25.00/hour ($48,000 a year)."
Starting salary for nurses: $54,100

ALAN GARCIA
Junior electrical engineering major
Salary expectation: "Well, I’m awesome, so I’m hoping for around $50,000. Money ain’t no thing."
Starting salary: $63,400

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eventually, it can be done," Arzate said. "Now that I am a senior about to graduate, when I talk to my friends who are younger than me, I am constantly emphasizing to them to become involved, gain experience, network—everything that I have learned, I try to pass it on," he said. "Everything that has worked for me, I want it to work for them."

After graduation, Arzate has an internship waiting for him at Beaumont Army Medical Center, where he will be doing accounting work for the next four months. He is also in the application process for pursuing a Master of Business Administration at UTEP.

"I am going to do both simultaneously, it's going to be a lot of work, but it can be done," Arzate said. Eventually, Arzate would like to have his own business that will help people with disabilities attain adaptive aids, such as crutches or wheelchairs.

"As a user, whatever problems that I see that can be fixed, implement them in the new products, such as wheelchairs," he said. "There are a lot of things that can be improved with them, and if everything goes well, maybe one day I will go into robotics as well."

For Arzate's mother, Aurora Arzate, her son's journey to success has been both easy and hard as she has watched her little boy grow into a young man.

"It's not because I'm his mom, but he is a great young man. Everyone always congratulates me, but I tell them it's not me, it's his personality," Aurora Arzate said. "He has been always like that, even since he was little. When he wants to do something, he does it and he goes to the next thing."

With Emmanuel Arzate's nomination, Aurora Arzate is surprised but also happy to know that her son's efforts have paid off.

"I admire Emmanuel for all that he has done throughout the years, not only in college but throughout his life," Aurora Arzate said. "Now, as a young man, I am so proud. I feel happy. The ups and downs, it is worth it, to get to this point."

Going across the stage in a black gown on the Don Haskins and receiving his diploma will be just another step as Arzate prepares for his next journey in life, he said.

"People (can't) limit themselves, anything we set our minds to can be done," he said. "Pushing yourself to carry out your dreams and goals, that's my biggest advice and what I try to tell everybody."

"I am so proud. Everyone has done throughout the years, not only in college but throughout his life," Aurora Arzate said. "Now, as a young man, I am so proud. I feel happy. The ups and downs, it is worth it, to get to this point."

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"I am a little bit jealous."

Sabrina Nuñez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
My one reason?
To provide hope for people in need.
You only need one reason to donate plasma.

Find out how becoming a plasma donor can make a difference for patients and help you earn extra money.

As a new donor, you can earn up to $100 this week. Donate today at:

Talecris Plasma Resources
3515 Alameda Drive       (915) 351-0920
4710 Alabama Street      (915) 532-5923
720 Texas Avenue         (915) 532-5322
8802 Alameda Avenue      (915) 859-6855
grifolsplasma.com

In addition to meeting the donation criteria, you must provide a valid photo I.D., proof of your current address and your Social Security or immigration card to donate. Must be 18 years of age or older to donate.
Let's admit it, money does not grow on trees. Instead of treating a bunch of people to dinner or renting a hall for your party, consider having a potluck at your favorite local park. Bring some tables and chairs, gather your close friends and family, assign each person to bring a certain dish, think of some fun games to play and spend time with those that matter most. Limit your guest list so you do not take over the whole park and so your invitees do not have to worry about preparing food for an army. Make sure to check and follow the rules of the park so you can avoid some unwanted drama and please respect the park. Do not leave trash behind or end up vandalizing it in some way. Just because you are having a good time does not mean you should forget to respect those around you.

Assuming you will be graduating this spring, another fun option to celebrate your graduation is to take a trip to the outskirts of town and enjoy some fun in the sun. Located in Anthony, Texas, Wet-N-Wild Waterworld has something for everyone. Get there early, reserve a bunch of tables, bring some barbecue supplies and take advantage of one of our nearby amusement parks. Although it can get a bit pricey for your guests, there are many ways they can save a few bucks when buying their tickets. If you give them enough time to prepare they should have no excuse to not show up. No better way to take advantage of the warm weather, cool water and close friends and family.

For those of you lucky enough to have a money tree in your backyard, maybe a trip out of town is the best way to celebrate all your hard work. A trip to Austin or San Antonio is always a good time but you just graduated! Venture out into the world! Phoenix, Las Vegas, San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New Orleans, Orlando, New York, Chicago, Seattle, Hawaii and anywhere else that is a foreign place to you are calling your name and waiting for you to enjoy the scenery and attractions that they all have to offer. If you are really planning on escaping, go out of the country. School is over and unless you have other priorities, London, Paris, Rome, Japan, Australia and other places where they don’t speak English can be an adventure of a lifetime that you will never forget. Whether you travel with your family, a few friends, or go all by yourself, anywhere out of El Paso will open your eyes to the world after college and give you experiences that will prepare you for the rest of your life.

UPCOMING SHOWS

MAY 7: Vinne Ferra
MAY 8: Ra Ra Riot
MAY 10: Jay Texas, Zechs Marquise
MAY 11: DJ Shadow

PGY 115

entertainment

PAGE B1

May 7, 2013

Lorain Watters 747-7442

The stress of finals is almost over and now it is time to get ready for the big graduation celebration. Although celebrating with your friends and loved ones is important, nothing is more typical than having an expensive dinner at your favorite restaurant or having to entertain people you haven’t seen since your childhood in your backyard. Both of those are great ways to celebrate your special day, but if you are looking for a more unique way to celebrate your graduation you may want to keep reading.

PARKS AT EL PASO

– MEMORIAL – 1701 COPIA ST.
– RIO BOSQUE – 10716 SOCORRO ROAD.
– SKYLINE YOUTH – 5050 YVETTE AVE.
– TOM LEA LOWER – 1203 SCHUSTER AVE.
– VALLEY CREEK – 651 GOMEZ ROAD.
– BLACKIE CHERISH – 9143 ESCOBAR DR/1100 N ZARAGOZA
– EASTWOOD V – 3110 PARKWOOD ST.

PICNIC AT THE PARK

Let’s admit it, money does not grow on trees. Instead of treating a bunch of people to dinner or renting a hall for your party, consider having a potluck at your favorite local park. Bring some tables and chairs, gather your close friends and family, assign each person to bring a certain dish, think of some fun games to play and spend time with those that matter most. Limit your guest list so you do not take over the whole park and so your invitees do not have to worry about preparing food for an army. Make sure to check and follow the rules of the park so you can avoid some unwanted drama and please respect the park. Do not leave trash behind or end up vandalizing it in some way. Just because you are having a good time does not mean you should forget to respect those around you.

GETTING WET

OTHER ENTERTAINMENT ZONES

– WET-N-WILD WATERWORLD – 8804 S. DESERT BLVD. ANTHONY, TX.
– OASIS LANES – 1660 N. ZARAGOZA ROAD. EL PASO, TX.
– PUTT PUTT GOLF & GAMES – 8836 MONTANA AVE. EL PASO, TX.
– WESTERN PLAYLAND – 12 FUTURITY DRIVE SUNLAND PARK NM.
– CARLSBAD Caverns – 727 CARLSBAD CAVERN HWY. CARLSBAD NM.
– RUIDOSO VILLAGE PARKS & RES. – 801 RESORT DRIVE RUIDOSO, NM.

For those of you lucky enough to have a money tree in your backyard, maybe a trip out of town is the best way to celebrate all your hard work. A trip to Austin or San Antonio is always a good time but you just graduated! Venture out into the world! Phoenix, Las Vegas, San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New Orleans, Orlando, New York, Chicago, Seattle, Hawaii and anywhere else that is a foreign place to you are calling your name and waiting for you to enjoy the scenery and attractions that they all have to offer. If you are really planning on escaping, go out of the country. School is over and unless you have other priorities, London, Paris, Rome, Japan, Australia and other places where they don’t speak English can be an adventure of a lifetime that you will never forget. Whether you travel with your family, a few friends, or go all by yourself, anywhere out of El Paso will open your eyes to the world after college and give you experiences that will prepare you for the rest of your life.

PLACES TO TRAVEL

ACCORDING TO TRIPADVISOR.COM

NEW YORK, NEW YORK
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
HONOLULU, HAWAII
PORTLAND, OREGON
KAILUA-KONA, HAWAII

As you can see, there are many solutions to the problem of graduation parties. Whether you choose to celebrate at home or go out of town, you can still have a great time with your friends and loved ones. Just remember to have fun and enjoy the moment, but also be prepared to create lasting memories. Good luck and happy graduation!
2013 Spring Commencement

Don Haskins Center - The University of Texas at El Paso

Commencement Ceremony Times:

9 a.m. Morning Commencement
College of Liberal Arts

2 p.m. Afternoon Commencement
College of Business Administration, College of Education

7 p.m. Evening Commencement
College of Engineering, College of Science, College of Health Sciences, School of Nursing

All ceremonies include graduate and cooperative programs corresponding to these colleges.

THE DAY OF COMMENCEMENT

1. In order to experience an enjoyable Commencement ceremony, please arrive at Memorial Gym at least an hour prior to the ceremony. Check-in will begin inside of Auxiliary Gym (room 120) at the following times:
   • For 9 a.m. Ceremony: 8 a.m. (doors open at 7:30 a.m.)*
   • For 2 p.m. Ceremony: 1 p.m. (doors open at 12:30 p.m.)*
   • For 7 p.m. Ceremony: 6 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.)*
   *Please ensure that you have checked-in and picked up your reader card during these times.

2. Arrive early and have a photo taken in Memorial Gym prior to the ceremony.

3. Please leave all personal items (backpacks, cell phones, purses, coats, etc.) at home or in your automobile. These items (along with beach balls, balloons, confetti, noise makers, silly string, etc.) will not be allowed in the Don Haskins Center.

4. Though your family and friends are an important part of commencement, child care services will not be provided, and children may not accompany graduates during the commencement ceremony. Please make appropriate plans for the care of your children.

5. Wear regalia and comfortable shoes, and out of courtesy for your fellow graduates, please remain for the duration of the ceremony.

For parking recommendations, tips for families and friends and other information: www.utep.edu/commencement

Congratulations to all the graduates!

Office of University Relations • www.utep.edu/universityrelations

PAGE B2 ENTERTAINMENT

THE PROSPECTOR

May 7, 2013

Emerging venue for local talent

BY OSCAR GARZA

The Prospector

The new art venue The Bear Space Collective, which opened at the beginning of March, is hoping to offer the El Paso community a new experience as a creative space for events, art shows and a store that will provide local products to consumers.

The space is located at 501 Texas Ave. and one of the most recent events hosted was a Sci Fi/Horror Event on April 12, where the public was able to engage in a series of activities including a series of films, video games, vendor exhibits and cosplay opportunities.

Jazmin Gannon, co-owner of the Bear Space Collective and NMSU alumna in agricultural biology, was attracted to the El Paso cultural scene after graduation.

“We collectively thought of the Bear Space Collective, which is a pun,” Gannon said. “We have a space, its bare and empty because we want it to be filled with the ideas of people in our community and the pun helps us have cute logo options.”

Gannon said the space is available for everyone and the variety of shows they have are designed to be for as many people possible.

“Our main goal is to get all the local people that have ever wanted their own space to count on the Bear Space Collective as their venue,” Gannon said. “We can instead co-create in this one space. We want to see children be welcomed with places with live music and art and have a space for all art forms with an outdoor component in the city.”

Adam Armstrong, UTEP English literature master’s student, who has played at the space with his band Bitch Faced, said that the venue has an intimate, almost “house party” atmosphere that he really enjoyed.

“They have just been kind of utilizing the space for projects that they’re interested in, which I think is great, we need more of these types of collectives,” Armstrong said. “What’s interesting about the space is that they’re using it for so many different things and that they’ve kind of opened it up to all ages and they made it very friendly, it feels like you’re just hanging out.”

Armstrong said that the art, including bands, that have been featured at the space are very unique, but also something local that people can appreciate. For Armstrong, this is one of the reasons why it has stayed open.

“What was cool about it was that we had maybe a dozen people watching us, but they were so close to us and they were so into the music that they were moving around, the people that were watching us didn’t leave the room,” Armstrong said. “It’s like little kids that still have their imagination and are just playing; it’s like every time I go there it’s like being at some one’s birthday party.”

Gannon said that art and music bring peace to the world without language and hopes that the events at the space do that and open the door to celebrate culture.

“I would love to see the birth of new collectives with our support, other groups of people with their own vision putting their ideas into action,” Gannon said.

Oscar Garza may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Emerging venue for local talent

Movie Review

‘Iron Man 3’ brings Marvel’s Phase Two off to great start

BY OSCAR GARZA

The Prospector

Last year, Joss Whedon’s acclaimed “The Avengers” brought to life a tri-umphant success to Marvel’s Phase One project. This year, Phase Two begins with a compelling and thrilling Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) story, co-written and directed with great style by Shane Black (“Kiss Kiss Bang Bang” and “8 Mile”).

The third chapter of the Iron Man trilogy starts a few months after the events of “The Avengers” and promisingly finds Stark dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder, doubting if he really is able to be the same level as the different beings he has encountered.

The film begins with a fun flash-back, where we learn of Stark’s past demons, which have come back to haunt him, primarily Aldrich Killian (Guy Pearce), and technological breakthrough of Extremis, which could lead into the next step of human evolution. The return of Dr. Maya Hansen (Rebecca Hall) brings connections about Stark’s early involvement with Extremis. All that is danger is further amplified when terrorist attacks, led by the mysterious Mandarin (Ben Kingsley), target the homeland and the Stark legacy.

One of the things that makes this third chapter (loosely based on the Warren Ellis story arc Extremis) so successful is mainly due to Black’s focus on the character of Tony and the impact that he has had in the world. Black, along with co-writer Drew Pearce, approached this as a back-to-basics storyline and has Tony rely on his ingenuity, smart and resourceful intelligence to deal with these psychological and threatening problems.

The fact that the Stark mansion is destroyed (in a spectacular action set piece) forces Tony to not only pair up with unlikely allies, a 10-year-old boy sidekick, but also to do what he is best at, build things. Everyone needs a hobby after all.

“Iron Man 3” not only gives us a richly compelling arc for the character of Tony Stark, but also provides high stakes for its main character, the supporting players and the world around Tony. With both Killian and the Mandarin up to no good, this film gives us some truly great villainous characters, who present a formidable threat to Stark, like Iron Monger or Whiplash.

Black’s style and wit is all over this chapter as he gives Tony some truly memorable dialogue, a sign of his excellent work with action films like “Lethal Weapon” and “Kiss Kiss Bang Bang.” However, he also adds some depth to the film.

He is clearly interested in exploring Stark’s character, as well as the implications of science in corporations, political messages through media, power dynamics and fixing what one did wrong in previous lives, all adding to a considerable level of storytelling.

The whole cast is excellent. Downey Jr. in possibly his best performance as Stark brings a different persona and lets us see how much the impact of the Battle of New York really affected him. Gwyneth Paltrow, as Pepper Potts is terrific and their dynamic is always so well played.

Don Cheadle as Jim Rhdoes gets a much better written part and he

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Don Cheadle as Jim Rhdoes gets a much better written part and he
Review

‘Evita’ on UTEP’s stage, successful rendition of Broadway’s play

By Aaron Montes

The Prospector

Out of total darkness, the cast mournfully shouted, “Evita! Eva! Eva!” The stage and the characters resembled death and sadness. Then Che, the cynical narrator, broke the trance. With his entrance, Tim Rice’s and Andrew Lloyd Webber’s production was underway.

“Evita,” the well-known Broadway musical was brought to life by a vibrant and majestic Eva Peron, played by UTEP alumna, Josey Mitchell, and supported by a captivating Che, played by Joe Estala, and a less vibrant Juan Peron, played by Jaime Barba.

The production, directed by Gregory Taylor, certainly had character and authenticity compared to the different renditions of the production, such as the film starring Madonna and Antonio Banderas. This rendition offered historical and captivating elements.

As costume designer, Barba captured the style of the times and showed the difference between working class, military and wealthy effectively with the clothing.

The choreography by Lisa Lopez was engaging, original and relative to each scene. Lopez’ choreography displayed a classy and interpretive method of engagement.

The play followed Che and his derivative commentary about Eva, from a young and regular citizen of Argentina in the ’30s and ’40s to her stardom as the most influential woman in Argentina.

Che was energetic, questioning what he witnessed, had a strong voice and found his place alongside the lead role. Che provided a contrasting view to Eva as he gave the audience a critical point of view, while characters saw her as a hero and cheered her name. By using “Goodnight and Thank You” and “The Art of the Possible,” these renditions used a comical sensibility to explain things that are usually obscene to watch, such as prostitution and murder.

“On the Balcony of the Casa Rosada,” “Don’t Cry For Me Argentina” and the Oscar-winning song “You Must Love Me,” were expressed with a deep and emotional attitude using strong vocals and much more body language. This allowed Mitchell, as Eva, the opportunity to steal away the audience’s hearts and opinions from Che’s cynical comments.

Mitchell (Eva), made her introduction into the scene during “Eva, Beware of the City,” displaying a strong voice and excellent stage presence. Her development from a young woman to an older Evita transitioned seamlessly into a wiser character with each song.

By the second act, Mitchell was no longer Eva, but Evita. Her entrance into “On the Balcony of Casa Rosada” was captivating. Her dress resembled a gown embedded with diamonds and for 10 minutes, she delivered a moving and impassioned speech that would establish Eva Perons’s role as the most powerful woman in Latin America.

Estala’s voice worked well, in harmony with Mitchells, Barbas and the rest of the cast.

Juan Peron, depicted by Barba, found his intro in “The Art of the Possible,” but did not make a splash until the song “I’d Be Surprisingly Good For You.” Barba showed strength in singing, but did not show much expression on stage. His warm voice easily carried throughout the theatre, but his body language did not depict a man with ambition or drive.

This production certainly magnified the great details of this well-respected play. Story development coincided with each element of the cast and crew in a constructive manner. The cast provided a balance and a positive addition to each scene. The play leaves a memorable impression and a warm one at that.

The play will be performed until May 12 in the UTEP Dinner Theatre, with dinner performances at 7 p.m. and matinee showings at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the UTEP Ticket Center, 747-5234 and all Ticket master outlets.

Joseph Banderas, as Juan Peron, sings for the crowd at the UTEP Dinner Theatre.

Aaron Garza may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Congratulations to the winners of

1st place
Michelle Jimenez

2nd place
David Rey

3rd place
Ruby Parga

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Top left) Josey Mitchell, as Eva Peron, begins to sing “Eva and Magaldi” as her entrance onto stage. (Top right) Towards the end of Eva’s broadcast, she was moved to the hospital due to her illness, concluding the play. (Middle) While Eva is giving money to citizens, Che, played by Joe Estela, sings “And the Money Kept Rolling In (And Out)” in the background. (Bottom left) In the second act, Eva sings on the balcony of Casa Rosada, addressing the people of Argentina that she is there for them and is their voice. (Bottom right) Eva and Juan Peron, played by Jaime Barba, sing “The Dice Are Rollin’/A New Argentina” as they talk to the citizens about change and revolution.
CONGRATS CLASS OF 2013!
Thanks to my family for always being there for me. This accomplishment is because of you!

I love you,

Alana

Dad

Could not be more proud of you! For everything you have accomplished throughout this process.

Love,

Luis

- Can't Believe !!
- It's over !!

Thank you for your support. I would have done it without you.

Luis

Quiero que los grandes momentos de Dios los alabemos con alegría, y los pequeños momentos los aprecien y compren.

Claudia

I would like to thank my family, friends, co-workers, and my boyfriend for all of their support, love and encouragement.

Thank you to my family and friends for all your love and support.

Luis

Thank you for your support.

Claudia

With God, all things are possible.

-Daniel Call

It has been an amazing journey of life at UTP. My goal was accomplished just being a student leader and making the Student Leadership Center expansion happen. This is an amazing feat to do for the UTEP community.

Raul J. Sanchez

Go Miners!!

A special thanks to my family and friends for all their support.

Silvia Adams

Thanks to my family for their support and love.

Maria Ramirez

Thanks to all my friends and family for supporting me through this long journey, I wouldn't have made it without all of you!

Daniel Segura

Thank you to all who have supported and encouraged me throughout this process.

Lori Lee

Thank you for your support.

-Maria

Thank you for your support.

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Thank you for your support.

Thank you for being a support system.

Thank you for all your support.

I love you all very much.

Thank you to all of my friends, co-workers, and my boyfriend for all of their support, love and encouragement.

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I love you all very much.

Thank you to all of my friends, co-workers, and my boyfriend for all of their support, love and encouragement.
Thank you mom. I am blessed to have you in my life. You have always been there for me, through thick and thin. You have taught me so much about love, strength, and perseverance. Your unwavering support and unconditional love have been a constant source of comfort and encouragement.

You always encouraged me to pursue my dreams and never gave up on me when I faced challenges. Your wisdom and guidance have been invaluable, and I am forever grateful for the many lessons you have taught me.

I want to express my deepest gratitude for all your hard work and sacrifices. Your love and dedication have made it possible for me to be where I am today. I promise to always remember the lessons you have taught me and to carry them forward in my life.

Thank you, Mom. I love you.
FAREWELL CLASS OF 2013!

GRADUATION IS NOT THE END, IT’S THE BEGINNING.

-Orrin Hatch
MINERS IN GOOD SHAPE FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

“"We are in a good position. I’m expecting big things, but I know for sure they’ll do their best.”

-Davian Clarke, assistant coach

The UTEP track and field team is set to have a strong showing at the Conference USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships on May 9-12, which will be hosted by Rice University in Houston, Texas.

“Right now we’re just getting ready, we don’t have too much time to prepare so we need to fix what we can,” said senior distance runner, Ripper Kimaiyo. “We’ve been doing good in the last couple of meets, we just need to make sure we keep our good momentum for conference.”

On April 25-28 at the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa, the Miners were able to obtain four titles. Kimaiyo took first in the women’s 3,000 meters, and senior sprinter/hurdler Janice Jackson was crowned in the women’s 100-meter hurdles.

On the men’s side, junior jumper Mark Jackson set a personal best at 53-feet-1.5-inches in the triple jump. The jump set the third best mark in the nation, which allowed him to take the title. The men’s medley relay composed of sophomores Anthony Rotich, Abiola Onakoya, junior Elkana Rotich and freshman Daniel Tarango dominated with a time of 9 minutes and 44.73 seconds, 2.4 seconds faster than second place Air Force.

The UTEP track and field men’s team is ranked 25th in the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. UTEP and Houston are the two big favorites to take home the national’s track and Field Championships on May 9-12, which will be hosted by Rice University in Houston, Texas.

“On the women’s side, we don’t have the depth we have in the men’s side, and we have a couple of injuries that may hold us back a little bit,” Laaksonen said. “In cross country we finished ninth, at the indoor conference meet we were sixth and now we are hoping that we can improve on that. It’s going to be difficult but I know our girls are going to fight hard and move forward as a team.”

Even tough the coaches are aware of the difficulties the women’s team will face at conference, they will be expecting to see improvements in their performance.

“On the women’s side, we don’t have their performance. "Judging form the stats, in the extent, especially about sophomore distance runner, Anthony Rotich, has improved his personal best by almost half a second in the 200 meters, and senior jumper Donovan Grant whom he believes will make some noise at the conference championships and qualify for nationals. Junior long jumper Richard Olsson, who last year suffered from a shoulder separation injury, is now back and getting his best marks.

“We should be able to be a top three team on the men’s side, on the women’s side we need a little bit more numbers but we do have the potential to get it done, we just need to execute," said assistant coach Davian Clarke. "We are in a good position. I’m expecting big things, but I know for sure they’ll do their best.”

Edwin Delgado may be reached at prospector@utep.edu
this spring, B.K. will move back to next chapter of her life. Graduating in their collegiate career.

Another accomplishment — they've been at UTEP, with 45 wins total. Double-digit wins in all four years including a career-high three goals in a game against the fifth best team in the country. Kindizerski, who has played soccer since the age of 8 also played hockey, but at the age of 13 she chose soccer over hockey.

Hall won't graduate till next winter. Though she won't be able to participate in any more games, she'll be rooting for her teammates in the stands next season. "Soccer is all I've done since I was three and now that it's over, it's almost like what do I do with my life now?" Hall said. "It's a weird state transitioning from being an athlete to now living a normal life."

Both of Hall's parents are athletic, neither of them liked or knew anything about soccer. Hall, at the age of 3, saw a flyer at her preschool to join a team and kept bugging her parents to let her join. The rules said she had to be four years old and but after bypassing her parents count- less times, they lied about her age so she could play.

Staying in El Paso after graduation, Hall will take a Campus Missionary position at the Baptist Student Ministries to lead young girls into mission trips while teaching biology studies. "I'm enjoying the time off, being able to do my own thing and having freedom now," Hall said. One of the best moments both girls agreed will always stick with them was last season's conference finals game against the fifth best team in the nation, Memphis. "Hitting the ball but missed the pass to an intended teammate; instead it landed right in front of Kindizerski who shot the win," senior Brittany Kindizerski, said.

Hand in hand, Devin Miertschin and Tess Hall, both seniors from the women's soccer team are looking ahead to the next chapter of their lives. Hall will take a Campus Missionary position while Miertschin is interested in coaching to further his love for the game. Hall will graduate in the summer with a business and administration degree while Miertschin will graduate in the fall with a history degree, the former Hanks receiver of a 2013 Conference USA Academic Honor Roll.

Graduating in the summer with a history degree, the former Hanks High School student wants to get into teaching history and coaching golf. Surprisingly the coach as Miertschin wants to give young golfers the same if not a better experience in having fun with the game. "The way you can coach and at the same time incorporate life lessons is something I've wanted to do," he said.

With the game always changing, Miertschin encourages others to have fun whenever they play. "It's all about staying patient and keeping one's composure," he said.

Bubba Watson, who instilled a fun aspect to the game, is Miertschin's favorite golfer. Watson, a rare left-hand-er, is the 2012 Masters Champion.

Having great success in high school, Miertschin was a three-time district champion, won 24 individual titles, was named 2008 Athlete of the Year in Hanks and was a two-time El Paso City MVP.

Though he won't compete in the college league anymore and has the time to plan and go out to small tournaments for fun and for a possi- ble chance to go pro. For now though, his main focus is getting a master's in business and administration.

"It's a unique experience just getting out there and competing at a high level. That's one thing I will miss," Miertschin said. "I competed to the best of my abilities and left everything out on the golf course!"

Profile

Leaving everything out on the golf course

BY ALBERT GAMBOA

As a senior golfer Devin Miertschin approached the final 18th hole at the Conference USA Championships in Texarkana, Ark., realizing it would be the last time he made a putt for UTEP. He said that afternoon was something he would remember as he walked down the fairway with his coach of two years, Scott Lieberwirth.

As he made his final putt, Lieberwirth hugged Miertschin and told him what was an enjoyment it had been coaching the best he can be.

Miertschin found his way into golf thanks to some mischievous kids breaking into the Lone Star golf course and dragging the golf cart into the lake. Miertschin's dad, who was an El Paso policeman, caught the kids and was welcomed back to play some golf with the professionals who were there. His dad took him to the golf course when he was 5 years old. A few golfers took notice of Miertschin swinging at the golf ball and offered him the chance to learn the fundamentals of the game.

Senior, Devin Miertschin, is a four-time member of the Conference USA Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll. He will be graduating with a 3.79 GPA.

"It was daycare for me. My dad would drop me off with a bunch of kids that are around the same age as me and we would go play and hangout in the golf course," Miertschin said.

In his final year at UTEP, Miertschin posted the best score average of his collegiate career at 75.3. He finished 15th in the Herb Wimerbly tournament and tied for second on the team for a best round at 68.

Miertschin has a 3.79 GPA, and his professors gave him the ability to strive and challenge himself to be the best he can be.

So time every his dad would go out to the range, Miertschin would come along to learn as well. "It was daycare for me. My dad would drop me off with a bunch of kids that are around the same age as me and we would go play and hangout in the golf course," Miertschin said.

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One of Miertschin's best moments at UTEP was a junior-senior seminar research conference in which he wrote about stereo use in major league baseball. He placed second in that competition for the paper he wrote.

While keeping the student-athlete mentality, Miertschin was a receiver of a 2013 Conference USA Commissioner's Academic Medal and a four-time member of the Conference USA Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll.

"He has a lot of potential to do something great, even though at first he didn't seem like it but now he's a fun, likable, normal guy," said team- mate David Persons.
James Ketchell, an account manager and part-time gym instructor, has rowed across the Atlantic Ocean, climbed Mount Everest, cycled across the United States and he will cycle around the world beginning June 30.

Pushing the limit

BY KRIS TopH RIVERA
The Prospector

After suffering a bad motorcycle accident, James Ketchell, 31, of London, UK decided he would row across the Atlantic. It was an unusual thought to run across the mind of someone who had just broken both of his legs and ankle. Doctors told him he would not be able to cope with strenuous, prolonged physical activity.

“You start to realize and think that things that you perhaps perceived were quite difficult, maybe they are, but actually you’re doing it,” Ketchell said. “Maybe it’s not that hard…if I push myself a bit more what could I do. Then you start to get a lot of confidence in yourself.”

On January 2010, Ketchell rowed across the Atlantic from La Gomera in the Canary Islands to Antigua in the Caribbean. The trip was a total of 2,700 miles and took Ketchell 110 days to complete.

“I got hit in the face by a flying fish. I had an oceanic white shark—which is seven feet long, quite a big shark—followed me encircling the boat for three days,” Ketchell said. “It was really exciting…in the end it realized it couldn’t eat me so it swam off.”

Sometimes the nearest people to him were up in a space station orbiting the earth, which he could see at night, Ketchell said.

After the row, Ketchell decided to take on a new challenge. On March

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to give me a high five but instead she
comes up and I thought she was going
pumped up and one of my teammates
said, “Everyone was cheering and so
like what happened?” Kindizerski
into overtime.

But, Ketchell eventually got down the
mountain on time and was treated for
his lung infection. As Ketchell reached the summit
of Mt. Everest, he developed a lung
infection that could have been fatal.
Fortunately, his Sherpa guide was
there to get him through it.

“He kept shouting to me and say-
ing, ‘Do you want to be like that Japa-
ese guy, ‘ and I had no idea of what he
was talking about,” he said. Ketchell
came down the mountain he saw an object
in the distance, which he thought
was some anti-oxygen canisters.

“When I got closer, it wasn’t. What
happened was a Japanese chap basi-
cally had a heart attack, I think two
days before I went up,” Ketchell said.

“His team didn’t have the energy to
take him back down. He died then
and there and was just left there. You
don’t see dead bodies in your everyday
life. It’s a little bit upsetting. I remem-
ber it clearly because he was lying flat
and his arms are out stretched as if he’s
reaching for help. His eyes were closed
and his body was frozen solid.”

Now, he will take on his next ad-
venture. On June 30, Ketchell intends
to embark on his 18,000-mile jour-
ney around the world. He will cycle
through Europe, the Middle East,
Asia, North America and then back to Europe.

To prepare for the task, Ketchell cy-
died across the United States, starting
at San Diego, Calif. and ending at St.
Florian, Fla.

One day along highway 28 in New
Mexico, he crossed paths with Shan-
on Osborne, student leadership
coordinator for the Student Engage-
ment and Leadership Center at UTEP.

“I was training with one of my
friends and I happened to get a flat
tire. We were four miles from where
our rest stop was. She went ahead,
went along and I was about to fix
my flat tire,” Osborne said. “Once I
get my flat tire fixed I was back on
the road riding my bicycle and that’s
when we met because he started talk-
ing to me out of nowhere. I looked
behind me and here’s this English guy
talking with an accent. We were talk-
ing and asking lots of questions. He
was telling me that he was participat-
ing in a global triathlon.”

Osborne kept in touch with Ketch-
ell. As the advisor for the National
Society of Leadership and Success,
she suggested the group take a look
at possibilities of bringing Ketchell to
UTEP as a speaker.

“We all did our own research on him to see what he’s about because
you don’t want to bring someone in
and you don’t know how to relate to
this person,” said Anastasia Shively,
senior psychology major and member
of NSLS. “I heard his story and it really
stuck out… we need a unity with lead-
ership across campus and for students
to come and go, “Well I went and saw
him so I’m inspired to do something.”

NSLS, along with help from other
sponsors at UTEP, were able to get
Ketchell to come to UTEP before he
starts his cycle around the world. He
will speak at 7 p.m., May 9 at the UTEP
Union Cinema. The event is free admis-
sion and open to the public.