Students participating in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon are preparing to break ground on their competition piece, a $250,000 solar powered house. The design of the house will embody the character of the El Paso region and will be constructed using local materials. The project has been in the works since February 2012 and the competition will take place in Irvine, Calif. in October.

Along with a team of 80 students from varying majors who have worked on the project, junior accounting major Lourdes Esquivel said coordinating schedules was a challenge.

Once the project is complete, Esquivel said the next task will be providing awareness of the competition and bringing pride to the region. The house was named ADAPT after the values the team chose the house to represent: Accommodate, Design, Adjust, Provide and Transform.

The team has received support from the Department of Engineering, including professor of civil engineering, Austin Marshall, department chair of civil engineering, Cesar Carrasco and assistant dean, Manuel Pacillas. From EPCC, dean of architecture, Tonie Basinski, two operating housing complexes currently house 636 students. The official announcement will be made by UTEP President Diana Natalicio, Associate Vice President for Facilities Services Greg McNicol and a representative from Sundt Construction.

Mayoral Election

Students look for job security

Students looking at the opportunities that Steve Ortega and Oscar Leeser promise to offer in jobs and city growth when casting their vote. Kathleen Staudt, political science professor, said that the young vote is of importance but was discouraged by El Paso’s recurring low-voter turnout.

"Older folks vote at far higher turnout rates than people under age 30. Do younger folks really want their futures and their city shaped by older folks?" In El Paso county, we have over 380,000 registered to vote, yet only 10-15 percent of those vote in local government elections," Staudt said.

Still, she said, that the mayor holds influence and power that citizens should look towards to represent them.

On June 15 the El Paso mayoral candidates, Steve Ortega (right) and Oscar Leeser (left) will face off in a runoff election after each fell short of the 50 percent of the votes necessary to win during the May 11 elections.

UTEP officials will announce the construction of a $23 million student housing complex on June 13. It will be located behind the Helen of Troy Softball Complex and will house two four-story buildings. The buildings will have the capacity to house 325 students. According to the Campus Master Plan, UTEP will have 1,440 beds by 2015. The two operating housing complexes currently house 636 students. The official announcement will be made by UTEP President Dana Natalicio, Associate Vice President for Facilities Services Greg McNicol and a representative from Sundt Construction.
This is an exciting time to be a part of the editorial team at The Prospector. After working for a semester as a staff photographer, I am looking forward to continuing the job as the photography editor during the summer and fall semesters.

As a journalism major with a minor in drawing, I have always been doubtful that I could combine following the ethics of one while maintaining the freedom of the other. However, this past semester allowed me to enter that juxtaposed world where truth and creativity can happily mingle.

The Prospector

By EdWin dElGAdO

The Prospector

By VErOniCA EnriqUEz

new members of editorial staff

introductions from

Column

Introductions from new members of editorial staff

BY VERONICA ENRIQUEZ

The Prospector

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The Prospector

BY EDWIN DELGADO

The Prospector

I came into The Prospector only a year ago, and it has been a great experience. My former sports editor, Daniel Orduñas, carried the load last summer, and that pressure really forced me to make things work. Being a sports writer helped me to get out of my shell. I had to approach complete strangers and interview them on the spot, a skill that has made a huge difference for me as a person ever since.

In my year as a writer I got to cover football, basketball and track. I had the amazing opportunity of writing feature stories including one Seoul ’88 Olympic gold medalist Paul Ereng, who is now the Cross Country head coach at UTEP. I also had the pleasure of witnessing two historic landmarks from El Paso be demolished, and got to travel to Tucson, Ariz. to visit the baseball team that is coming to El Paso in 2014. But now a different challenge is just around the corner. From now on I will be the new sports editor.

Now my responsibility is to train and work with the sports staff to help them become better writers and reporters. I don’t have to write as much now, but I will have a greater task as the person responsible for the entire sports section. I am really looking forward to undertaking this challenge and seeing what’s around store for my peeps and beyond. Let’s do this!

Edwin Delgado may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

My goal as photography editor is to continue to assemble and train a team of digital journalists who have intuition and an eye for news as well as an eye for fine art.

Everywhere I look, El Paso seems to be moving towards transformation, whether through construction projects such as the baseball stadium and the UTEP campus, or the transition from one mayor to the next. The Prospector is also moving forward.

We are moving in the direction of giving the UTEP and El Paso community daily news. My role will consist of showcasing remarkable imagery to the students, faculty and staff at this institution through the craft of photojournalism.

We look forward to a great summer and a great year!

Veronica Enriquez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
The University of Texas System has partnered with edX, a popular Massive Online Open Courses platform, to expand the growing field of MOOCs and study how these non-traditional classes work within current academic frameworks. A MOOC is a free online course sponsored by a university on a variety of subjects. Current courses include classes on psychology, literature, art, music, statistics and biology. Students can enroll via a platform like Coursera or edX.

"One reason for aligning with edX was to become part of a national and international conversation of what education should look like in the 21st century," said Steven Mintz, executive director of the UT Institute for Transformational Learning. With a $5 million contribution, made through the Institute of Transformational Learning, the UT System has joined Harvard and MIT in their development of emerging instructional venues. Hundreds of courses are available, but MOOCs are still trying to find footing in the academic world.

According to Mintz, the UT System is planning to convene a meeting of provosts in early June to discuss the potential of offering MOOC credit toward degree completion. Mintz said the issue is on the agenda and it may happen with the right student support. Though some universities have already begun issuing credit, many are moving more slowly in adopting the policy.

"It is still very much in its infancy," said Steve Varela, senior instructional consultant at UTEP Academic Technologies. "People are still trying to figure out how to manage that many students and make it meaningful!"

Three main issues are of concern because of enormous classes: retention, delivery and identification. Although most MOOCs have a large initial class size, the average completion rate lingers at about 7 percent.

"There are a lot of reasons for that," Mintz said. "You can sign up (and if you like it, you can stay. If you don't like it, you can go. These courses need to develop techniques that keep students on track and keep students engaged."

The delivery of class content may also contribute to students abandoning their courses. Many follow traditional models of reading, lecture and testing.

"What we know about instructional design is that only 15 to 20 percent of lecture is absorbed by our brains," Varela said.

Because MOOCs are free, they are available to anyone with an Internet connection. This poses a problem when it comes to verifying who sits behind the keyboard and takes the test. As schools begin to accept these courses for credit, ensuring identity becomes a major issue.

Various solutions are being explored including tracking keyboard patterns, scanning identification cards and occasionally charging students a per-class fee to guarantee the authenticity of their identity.

The potential cost of MOOCs versus standard courses could be a motivator for students. Current verification fees stand at about $30 per class. Add $35 for online-test proctoring by third-party providers and the final bill is less than a third of what many brick-and-mortar institutions charge per credit hour.

Though MOOCs are experiencing growing pains, there is hope that they may usher in a new era of education.

"MOOCs have the greatest promise and potential to democratize education." - Steve Varela, Academic Technologies

"You discover it is not just one student who learns in a certain way, it is thousands who are learning a certain way," he said. "(MOOCs) can supplement courses that are smaller in scale, where you have the interaction with the class or the professor while being able to go and see what Yale or another school has to say! Varela said." It is important for students to try them out. Find a class you like, a subject you're interested in and give it a go. And that will be a catalyst for more."

For more information, or to enroll, visit coursera.org and edx.org.

5. David Ramirez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Shuttle service decrease during summer

BY SABRINA NUÑEZ

The Prospector

The university’s inner campus roads are under construction this summer and will be converted to pathways with the hope of achieving a more pedestrian-friendly environment.

This involves the removal of most inner-campus parking and the addition of parking lots around the outer campus.

Aside from affecting parking, construction is also currently impacting the shuttle access to certain roads, Schuster Avenue in particular.

Paul Stresow, director of Parking and Transportation Services, said the only shuttle route affected this summer is the campus loop, which goes through Schuster Avenue, Yandell Drive and Sun Bowl Drive.

“Because of the construction, (the campus loop) is going to have to be detoured, so it’s detouring after it picks up at Academic Services,” Stresow said. “Schuster construction should be finished around the start of the fall semester, so we’re hoping it won’t affect us when we start up in the fall again.”

Decreased number of students and events at UTEP over the summer contribute to the changes to Miner Metro. The amount of shuttle rides taken this past fall semester totaled around 274,000. Over the summer, the number drops to about 40,000 for June and July.

“It’s tied into our budget, but we operate extra shuttles in the summer,” Stresow said. “During the fall and spring, we run until about 9 p.m., in the summer we run until about 5 p.m.”

Freshman pre-nursing major Xianna Bravo said she uses the campus loop shuttle an average of four times a week. Bravo said the change in routes and hours during this summer can get inconvenient because the shuttles are not available during the times she needs to travel.

“Just because it isn’t during the school year doesn’t mean there’s not a lot of classes going on. It doesn’t mean that people should have less right to the shuttle as people during the fall and spring semesters,” Bravo said.

Residents of Miner Village and Miner Heights also utilize Miner Metro. With additional campus housing plans in the works Stresow said he believes shuttle usage will increase.

“The campus itself really isn’t that large, so I don’t see the need for more stops to be added. However, the wait was always the biggest problem for me, so by adding to the number of shuttles I believe that problem can be resolved,” Garcia said. “I can see more students using the shuttles especially if the routes and the wait time are improved.”

Stresow said the addition of more shuttles could be a possibility.

“We’re going towards a more pedestrian-friendly campus,” Stresow said. “It remains to be seen what kinds of patterns develop once the transformation is complete and depending on how those patterns change, we might have to adjust the routes to accommodate those changes.”

Sabrina Nuñez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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There aren’t too many obstacles in building a solar-powered house other than making sure all the equipment is compatible with your system, since nowadays all the equipment is readily available on today’s markets,” Keriens said. “The biggest obstacle we face as a team is making sure that the house stays transportable with all these different systems being integrated at the same time.”

“The house will be assembled on UTEP property by the airport before being disassembled and relocated to El Paseo. The house will then be brought back to El Paseo after the competition. The disassembling and transporting of the house were faceted into the team’s plans before they began the project on.

“First, the team had to come up with a house that could be assembled and disassembled in a short period of time, and of course a house that was self-sustainable,” Esquivel said. “Second, we have to get sponsors to help us pay for the materials and transportation of the house. Last, (we had) to get the students to begin construction.”

A graduate in construction management, Ceci DeLeon, is the project manager and coordinates interactions between students, consultants, team leaders and faculty members.

“I have my bachelor’s degree in architecture and urban planning, so when I heard about the project, it was an opportunity for me to put my architectural knowledge on the project, as well as a great opportunity for me to be in a foreign country and use my background as an architect,” DeLeon said. “I have my business degree from Mexico, so that’s why I was feeling a real opportunity to use my knowledge as an architect here.”

Keriens said solar-powered houses are beneficial to residents, communities and the environment.

“The benefits of living in a solar-powered house rather than a conventional one would be living in a self-sustaining home rather than having to depend on electric and gas companies, who burn through non-renewable resources to supply you energy.”

The competition is open to institutions of higher education on an international level. UTEP is the only university working with a community college, and is also the only team from the state of Texas participating.

“We are 20 different schools and we see the only ones representing Texas, so we want to make a very good representation of the country,” DeLeon said. “This is an international competition so that means that if UTEP has a good presentation, it will have a good representation around the world.”

Sabrina Nuñez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Due to construction work on Schuster, Miner Metro shuttle routes have been detoured. The summer shuttle rides are set to decrease from 274,000 in the fall to 40,000.

JOBS from page 1

represents our city and helps to shape the council agenda,” she said.

Mayoral candidate and current City Council Representative, Steve Ortega supported the shortening of the wait times for international bridges. Ortega has had an open door policy that has made him accessible to the public since 2005, when he became a city council member.

“My vision has always been about moving this community forward,” Ortega said.

Ortega, who obtained two bachelors degrees from UT Austin and a law degree from George Washington University, expressed the importance of education as well as moving El Paso in a positive direction.

“When asked about what his vision was for the youth of El Paso Ortega said, “opportunity.”

On his campaign website, bond projects are part of his platform. According to the site, bond projects should have a timeline and should reach out through bond community forums.

And while the plans to create a successful and thriving local economy that will bring an influx of jobs and increase the quality of life in El Paso. Lastly, Ortega also has sights on a stronger bond between El Paso and Ft. Bliss to discuss concerns of economic and quality of life in the city and military community.

“I believe in El Paso and as mayor I want to continue our forward momentum to greatness,” Ortega said.

Ortega, a political science major, aspires to attend law school and supports Ortega. She likes what Ortega has done as a city representative for the past four years.

“Ortega is more straightforward and provides a vision for what he plans to do,” Bustillos said.

Bustillos also said that although Ortega has her vote, she is keeping an eye on Lesser’s platforms and vision for the city.

“The reason we receive a large amount of votes during the regular election so I will definitely be keeping an eye on during the upcoming election and finding out why,” Bustillos said.

Local businesswoman, Lesser has made it a point to focus his campaign on what he has done for the community and bringing his expertise to City Hall. In 2009, when the Sun Bowl association was unsure of what the future held for the annual Sun Bowl game, Lesser persuaded Hyundai Motor America to sponsor the event. Lesser’s is mainly based on trust.

His campaign site states, “We have entered the Mayor and City Council with fairly representing our interests. We want them to listen. We want to stay open to diverse points of view. We want them to have an honest discussion.” Lesser also bases his campaign on transparency and accountability according to his site. As of June 11, Lesser did not respond for an interview.

“The reason why I’m voting for Oscar Leeser is because of his aspect, he is a businessman and if anything what we are doing locally is opening up and franchising more businesses, I believe this will help him and can more importantly help El Paso branch out more,” Javier Gomez, sophomore philosophy major, said.

Bustillos on the other hand believes that the mentality of a businessman may not be an ideal selling point.

“When voting for mayor I take into consideration their experience and background, this is a must for me, Lesser being a successful business man can be good and bad for El Paseo,” Bustillos said.

“Good because he has experience on how to make money and how to improve the economy but bad because the money and the economy could be his only strength and the only issue on his agenda. Students said that is important to select and vote for a candidate who is willing to listen and take a stand for the betterment of the future of El Paso.

Sophomore philosophy major Javier Gomez said the ability to listen is something that will sway his vote when Election Day arrives and that the better candidate is the one who is willing to use his recognition and credibility as a mayor for the people rather than for himself. Students said that is important to select and vote for a candidate who is willing to listen and take a stand for the betterment of the future of El Paso.

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The Prospector June 12, 2013
El Paso Playhouse closes with ‘And Then There Were None’

BY LEONARDO MONTÁÑEZ
The Prospector

The El Paso Playhouse is closing its 2012-2013 season with Agatha Christie’s best-selling novel and play, “And Then There Were None,” which will run until June 15.

“And Then There Were None” is a murder mystery that centers on the events that take place on an island off the coast of England. Ten guests are invited to a party, but soon learn that one-by-one they are going to be murdered by a man they know nothing about.

Rachel Mullins, first-time director at the El Paso Playhouse felt that it was a collaborative and fruitful experience.

“The most exciting thing about directing the play was discovering more about these characters,” Mullins said. “I had my idea of how things need to go and when the actors showed up everyone had their own idea of how the characters where and were the characters were going.”

Mullins had directed a parody of “And Then There Were None” before, but felt that doing the original version of the play would be a great experience because it jumps from comedy to drama.

“Doing the real thing was the complete opposite, but I knew that the community loved Agatha Christie,” Mullins said. “I think I did this more for myself to challenge myself to do drama and to try and gather the community over something they love.”

Mullins said she feels very satisfied with the results of the play and would think twice about directing at El Paso Playhouse because it was a very rewarding experience.

“I’m very proud of these people, they really take this into their own hands,” Mullins said. “They impress the audience every night with really convincing acting and I get to take credit for it. I don’t know what else I could ask for.”

“And Then There Were None” is a thrilling story that will keep the audience on the edge of their seats.

A raffle for two tickets to any production at the El Paso Playhouse is also part of the play for whoever guesses the murderer correctly, keeping the audience guessing until the very end.

“For those who have never seen the movie or read the book, this will make them keep on guessing until the very end, every actor is very good (at) playing guilt,” Mullins said. “I would also say that this has been very polished and very meticulously put together.”

The play takes place in 1939 in the living room of a house on Soldier Island. The scenery, the actors, the costumes, lines and accents provide the audience with enough hints to make them feel in the correct era.

“The stage is decorated with a red-velvet living room, with sofas, throne-like chairs and a fireplace displaying the “Ten Little Indians” rhyme, which aptly goes along with the murder-mystery drama of the play.”

The lighting displayed transitions from day to night. In one scene, the stage lightning relied solely on the light of candles, which added a level of tension to the plot.

Since the theater is a small venue, the actors do not rely on microphones. They trained to keep their voices loud and clear throughout the entire play, and whether they were whispering or shouting, the lines were always understandable.

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- Rachel Mullins, director

“Something fun, cheap and really worth it.”

“I enjoyed the show very much. It was very engaging and it was able to captivate my attention. It was a very thrilling experience, where I was trying to watch every move the characters made in order to solve the mystery of the play,” Anchondo said.

Emilia Ontiveros, audience member and regular attendee of the theater, enjoyed seeing Christie’s work at the El Paso Playhouse and is excited to see the next production.

“I had already read the book, so I knew who the killer was, but this play had it right all along,” Ontiveros said. “I’m always astonished to see such convincing acting at El Paso Playhouse. I almost can’t wait to see their next shows.”

Ontiveros said she is willing to come and see the play again because of the commitment and professionalism of the cast.

“I love Agatha Christie and I love theater, so definitely this deserves another shot, and also because you can see that these people really love what they do and that is always a plus,” Ontiveros said.

More information about this play, ticket prices or other productions can be found at elpasoplayhouse.com.

VERONICA ENRÍQUEZ / The Prospector

The cast of ‘And Then There Were None’ brought the work of Agatha Christie to life, offering audience members a new alternative ending to a famous murder mystery.
Dancing in the City introduces new line-up

**SCHEDULE FOR DANCING IN THE CITY:**

All events begin every Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Arts Festival Plaza.

**JUNE**
- **15**
  - Azucar (Salsa)
  - 22
- **22**
  - Texas Gypsies (Swing)

**JULY**
- **6**
  - Sorry About Your Sister (Rockabilly)
  - 13
- **20**
  - Yarn (Country)
- **27**
  - Samba Society (Samba)
  - Ivan Ulibarri & Cafe Mocha (Salsa)

**BY JAIME QUESADA**

The Prospector

Dancing in the City is a free city-sponsored event that offers dance classes from a wide range of styles every Saturday night until the last week of July at the Arts Festival Plaza downtown. The dance classes are taught by Shundo Dance Studio instructors Mando and Melissa Rodriguez, who are also husband and wife. Depending on the theme for the night, they will teach participants how to dance that style from 7 to 8 p.m.

“I invite everybody to come because there is no obligation to dance. If you believe you will struggle, this is the place to do it because is here to struggle with you,” Mando Rodriguez said.

Mando Rodriguez was excited with the crowd as they slowly showed up in singles, pairs and large groups of friends, June 9.

“I am particularly pleased with this event because it breaks people from their shells,” Mando Rodriguez said. After the dance lesson, a dance party takes place in the Arts Festival Plaza between 8 and 10 p.m.

The plaza is a spacious area, nestled between the Museum of Art and the Plaza Theater, which allows the music to resonate without being too loud. Samantha Walker, a ballroom dance instructor at Shundo Dance Studio and a business major at UTEP, was excited about the turnout.

“It’s great to see that the love and awareness for dancing has started to grow and people are willing to come out and take the class (with us),” she said.

Dancing in the City has been a well-kept secret for the past three years, but has slowly been building. When the El Paso Department of Parks and Recreation first approached Shundo Dance Studio, they were afraid that El Paso would only be interested in salsa music. Every year since then, the instructors added more rhythms, introducing funk, swing, samba and country. Other dance styles will be taught throughout the summer.

“Everybody and anybody is welcome to come, and it allows us to continue to get slowly better,” he said. As the dance party began, the mood has been set, with the sun gone and a line of large bright-yellow bulbs slowly coming to life over the dance floor. With dark blue of the night and the warm glow of the lights, Dancing in the City offers free dance lessons every Saturday night to any El Pasoan ready to learn. Dance themes change each Saturday, giving participants the option of choosing to learn the passionate dance of samba or two-step to country.

“I invite everybody to come because there is no obligation to dance. If you believe you will struggle, this is the place to do it because everyone is here to struggle with you.”

- Mando Rodriguez, Shundo Dance Studio instructor

With an itch to know why more than 500 people have congregated in one place to dance.

More information about this event can be found at facebook.com/DancingInTheCity.
Soccer

**Patriots fall to bottom of division**

**Anthony Rotich earns national title**

**Soccer**

**Patriots fall to bottom of division**

A late penalty goal by midfielder Aleksandra Maldonado secured a 2-0 win for the West Texas Soxers over the El Paso Patriots. The loss put the Patriots on the bottom of the Mid South Division of the USL, PDL (Premier Development League.)

“We did good playing as a unit, as a team, and making sure we were moving as one,” said Soxers head coach Warren Cottle. “That’s something we’ve been working really hard on.”

At the start of the game, the Patriots had more possession of the ball, but timing seemed to be the problem. In the first 10 minutes, the Patriots were caught in offside position three times. However, in the 13th-minute, Soxers midfielder Kal Herbert ran through the right side to cross his shot low into the second post to beat goalkeeper Rey Agustin and pull the Soxers ahead.

After the goal, the game became more of a midfield struggle, with both teams trying to maintain control of the ball. Throughout the rest of the half, the Soxers were defending more than attacking. Before the half, West Texas had accumulated three players with yellow cards.

El Paso Patriots head coach, Francisco Chavez was not pleased watching his team unable to finish their chances, because it something that the coaching staff has emphasized in training.

“There are some situations where the player has to make the decision to finish the play,” Chavez said. “We work with an initial game tactic of creating chances to extend their lead, while the Patriots were trying to push forward to try to equalize. In the first 20 minutes of the second half, the Soxers had three chances to increase their lead, but Agustin saved each of those efforts and kept the home side’s hopes alive.

In the 68th-minute, Maldonado managed to get by four defenders to get a one-on-one with the keeper. Maldonado’s shot was saved by Agustin, who used his legs to clear away the danger.

In the 86th-minute, both teams got into a scuffle after a foul was committed on one of the West Texas players near the right corner of the goal, resulting in two yellow cards, one to each player on each team.

The Soxers were able to close the game in the 77th minute, when the referee called a handball by a Patriots defender inside the box, resulting in a penalty.

Maldonado stepped up and converted the penalty to give West Texas a 2-0 lead in the final minutes.

After the goal, the Patriots offensive dwindled down to a few plays, while most of the game occurred in the midfield.

Most of the substitutions by both teams occurred around the 86th minute. The Soxers hoped to rest some of the starters and waste time on the clock, meanwhile the Patriots were hoping to try and mount back to score, but the Patriots ran out of time.

“I thought we did a better job of collective defending than what we had in the past,” Cottle said. “Guys were taking the initiative to step in and press. We were able to beat an excellent El Paso team and they were like that all game, pushing hard and fighting hard. It’s a great result!”

The Patriots head out for two road games, while the Soxers have a two-week bye before facing the Patriots again on June 22 at the Student Activities Complex in El Paso. Cottle said he would like to claim three more points in El Paso.

“As a player or coach, you always want to come in and pull off the result,” Cottle said. “It’s going to be different, given the level of play of El Paso.”

**Anthony Rotich earns national title**

Sophomore distance runner Anthony Rotich claimed gold in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the 2013 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

A total of nine Miners competed from June 5-8 at Hayward Field. Rotich, who last year as a freshman finished sixth, knew he was facing runners with more experience.

“Before the race, the plan was to take a root and go as hard as I could and just run through the line,” Rotich said. “I was just bent on finishing and would be happy with that, because I knew I was going up against experienced runners, but my coach told me that anyone could win this race no matter what. It was then that I knew I could win this race, if I stayed focused and gave everything I had.”

Throughout the race, Rotich consistently held a place within the top three runners. With the final lap of the race it came down to him and senior Henry Lelei from Texas A&M.

Both contestants battled for the leading spot, making it very close. It all came down to the final water barrier where Lelei fell while jumping over the barrier, which gave Rotich just enough time to take the lead, running through the finish line with a personal-best time of 8:21.19.

“At first, I thought it was me who fell down,” Rotich said. “Then when I looked to the left I saw that Lelei fell down. I knew I had the win, so I pushed my hardest to finish.”

Rotich’s time breaks UTEP’s record in the steeplechase and is the seventh-fastest collegiate time.

“Winning was an awesome feeling, but I didn’t win this,” Rotich said. “My team won this. Without the training and time from our coaches, and the constant support from team-mates I would have not won the race. It was a united effort, and I give this honor to them because it was not just me out there.”

Rotich is UTEP’s first NCAA champion on the men’s team since 2008, when Michael Hanany won the high jump.

With four days full of action, the team fought hard to have their efforts recognized.

The Miners return home with one National Champion, three All-American first-team honorees and one All-American second-team recipient.

Senior Robert Kimaiyo, junior Janice Jackson and sophomore Nickyvers Wilson represented the UTEP women’s team at the national meet. Kimaiyo completed her college career with her seventh All-American honor. With a time of 3:40.35, she secured an eighth place finish in the 10,000 m.

Jackson finished with a personal-best mark, clocking in a time of 13:06 seconds in the 100-meter hurdles, Jackson, also earned her first All-American honor on the final day of the NCAA championships.

In her first season as a Miner, Wilson finished 17th overall with a personal-best leap of 12.77m (41-10.75).

Rounding out the individual awards for the Miners was Mark Jackson who finished 10th out of 24 jumpers, with a leap of 15.82m (51-11.02).

“I think this was one of our better national meets in a while,” said head coach Mike Laaksomen. “I haven’t had a national champion since 2008. I’m very proud of everybody’s effort this week because nobody had a bad meet. This is all positive and good to build on for next year.”

Audrey Westcott may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

**NBA: Spurs defeat Heat 113-77 to take a 2-1 lead in the series.**

**World Cup Qualifiers:**

USA 2-0 Panama, Mexico 0-0 Costa Rica.
The Diablos continue to struggle early in the season as they fell in game three to the Grand Prairie AirHogs 8-7, June 8 at Cohen Stadium.

The loss was one of two in the three-game series against the AirHogs. "It's a tough loss, but I think everyone played well. A few runs were scored off a line-drive hit. Once an opponent hits that you can't really do nothing but try to react defensively," said Diablos pitcher Michael Joyce. "Everything's timing, but that's just baseball, sometimes everything doesn't go your way."

It started off rocky for the Diablos at the beginning of game three. Diablos pitcher, Kevin Brahney gave up a walk early in the first inning to give the AirHogs a 1-0 lead. However, Brahney would later recover, going five innings without giving up a run.

Along with Brahney's surge, the offense followed with a momentum shift late in the fourth inning which worked in the Diablos favor. In the bottom of the fourth, outfielder Jonathan Cisneros hit a RBI double, pushing two runs for the Diablos to put them up by two.

In the bottom of the eighth, the Diablos led 4-2 at the top of the sixth inning and seemed to have taken control of the game, maintaining a lead of two. However, the AirHogs were able to turn things around in the sixth with a double, struck by AirHogs' outfielder Keanon Simon to score two runs to tie the game at four, heading into the seventh inning. The AirHogs managed to take the lead in the top of the eighth with two more runs to take a 6-4 lead.

Despite the lead, the AirHogs rallied in the ninth inning. With a one-run deficit, infielder Ryan Pineda hit a triple to bring both infielders Brian Myrow and Brandon Pinckney to the plate and gave the AirHogs the 8-7 lead to defeat the Diablos.

"Tonight everybody was pretty relaxed, trying to get their job done," Joyce said. "Everybody was just focused on the quality of the pitches."

The Diablos let their lead slip away in the ninth and fell to the AirHogs losing the last two games in their three-game series.

"It's tough, some players are struggling and the team is in a slump, but like I said that's just baseball," Joyce said. "It just so happened tonight we fell short, but we just have to rebuff and go into the next series with a clean slate, prepared mentally for a new team and a new series. We're all right there, we just have to keep doing what we're doing and eventually it'll start falling into place."

The Diablos are now 6-16 this season. They will face the Amarillo Sox June 10-13, at Cohen Stadium.

Ellisia Shafer may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.