One month after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the ban on same-sex marriage as illegal, new questions arise when it comes to the new ruling such as adoption rights for same-sex couples, divorce and custody of children. Along with the more than 40 same-sex marriage licenses issued in the county of El Paso since the ban was lifted, same-sex divorce cases have also emerged.

Three days after the ban on same-sex marriage was lifted, the first same-sex divorce was granted in El Paso by Judge Mike Herrera of the 383rd District Court. The couple, Jennifer Gasca and Stephanie Michelle, were married in New Hampshire, but moved to El Paso when the marriage between same-sex couples was still banned. According to court records, they had applied for divorce since late October 2012. On June 29, their divorce was granted.

Before June 26, the only way a same-sex couple could end their marriage in states where their marriage was banned, was for the couple to change residency to where they were originally married or by dissolution of marriage outside of the courts. Judge Carlos Villa of County Court at Law No. 5, said statistically, around 50 percent of all heterosexual marriages end up in divorce. However the rates for same-sex divorce have yet to be seen since it is relatively new.

A 2011 study conducted by the Williams Institute on marriage patterns of same-sex couples in United States, found that in states where same-sex marriage was permitted at the time, same-sex divorce was slightly lower than those of heterosexual marriages. The study found that 1.1 percent of same-sex couples divorced annually on average, whereas 2 percent of different sex couples divorced annually.

“Every state has a leader in place, and I believe same-sex couples will be divorcing,” Villa said. “I don’t know if in higher numbers, same number or lower numbers, but some of them will end up in divorce.”

Jason Martinez, senior multimedia journalism major, said that it will take time to see how same-sex divorce statistics will develop in contrast to straight couples.

“I think same-sex divorce numbers appear to be low because the straight marriage ratio is larger,” Martinez said. “I think divorce will go up in the end and we even might see an increase in domestic abuses.”

Villa, who conducted the first same-sex marriage in El Paso County, said the Supreme Court ruling has granted same-sex couples the right to marry and they will be recognized around the nation as married individuals, granting them all the civil rights of a married couple. However, this ruling does not force any religion to marry same-sex couples.

Sarah Tarango, senior organizational communication major, said she was very happy when she found out about the court ruling.

“It was the first thing I saw that morning. I got really emotional and even teared up a bit,” Tarango said. “It’s been an issue that has gone on way too long. It was about time they gave everyone the equality to marry whomever they want.”

If the case should arise where a judge refuses to marry a same-sex couple, Villa said that at least in El Paso County, the judge might be reported to a judicial ethics committee because a judge cannot discriminate against individuals based on sexual preference.

“If you are in public office, you have an agreement on whom the managing conservator and possessor conservator will be, the decision based the child’s best interest and regardless of who the parents are. It will proceed the same way with a same-sex couple after a divorce ensues.”

Juan Raygoza may be reached at theprospectordailynews@gmail.com
A century of news filled with information, drama, controversy and triumph. The Prospector has been the assayer of student opinion for The University of Texas at El Paso and is still a university staple 100 years after it began.

Since its first issue was published in magazine format in July 1915, The Prospector has grown and evolved into what we now know as an online daily publication.

In February 1919, The Prospector was officially published as a monthly newspaper and was sold at 5 cents a copy, which today would be the equivalent of $1.17.

Now, as both a weekly print publication and a daily online publication, The Prospector is committed to providing students with news, sport, and entertainment stories that directly relate and affect them.

This is accomplished while simultaneously giving young aspiring journalists the opportunity and experience to work in a professional newsroom.

As one of these students, I am proud to say that everything I have learned about journalism has come from my education at UTEP; but if I were to tell you where I have grown the most as a student, person and a journalist–it has been while working for The Prospector.

Like those before me, I came into the newsroom unsure of my abilities, but anxious for the opportunity to practice what I have been taught in the classroom.

Before writing my first story I thought I had everything mastered, but with the red ink bleeding through the paper I quickly found out I was wrong.

Working for The Prospector has given me the gift of educational freedom. In this sense, my definition of this is that I have been given the opportunity to learn without the fear of being condemned for my mistakes while producing a product that will be made available to a large-scale audience.

Serving over 23,000 students is a big responsibility and this has allowed many past, present and future students to earn their journalism stripes.

Behind the doors of The Prospector office, there are more than just writers, the paper has also served as a platform for aspiring photographers, cartoonists, graphic designers and media account executives.

Students from each profession at the newspaper have won local, state and national awards.

Just this past year, students from Mineo Magazine and The Prospector won 23 Texas Intercollegiate Press Awards.

Many have gone on to accomplish incredible things in the field of journalism and many continue to reach milestones that they credit back to their time at The Prospector.


As for myself, I thank The Prospector for opening the doors to my interest in our local ABC News affiliate KVIA-ABC7. In the fall, I will be moving to Washington D.C. to work for the Scripps Howard Foundation as a reporting intern, and for this I credit my work at The Prospector for allowing me to practice and hone my craft.

All in all, The Prospector has given back to students just as much as it has covered the history of the university. It is the ultimate win-win situation and I think I can speak for the many that have been fortunate enough to work for The Prospector when I say that we will always look back at the experience as the highlight of our college careers.

Amanda Guillen may be reached at theprospectordaily.news@gmail.com

The Prospector's Centennial year
Ludicrous spending damages students credit

Although Avitia said he knows how to keep good personal credit, he used credit cards to pay for a Cancun trip last summer and had to use part of his school loan to bring his credit card balance down.

“I have a perfect credit now and try to keep a balance I am able to pay,” Avitia said. “I have three credit cards and I have no debt in any of them.”

Another alarming trend is the use of school loans to pay for vacations or other goods that are not related to school expenses. School debt accumulates interest and cannot be discarded in bankruptcy. A recent study by the online financial education site iQuanti, showed the average debt load for people between 20 and 25 is $13,116. That same debt triples for those in their late 20s—up to $46,622.

Gilberto Garcia graduated from UTEP with a bachelor’s degree in linguistics this past May and he admits to have used student loans for purchases that were not related to his studies. Among those expenses were dining out, vacations and he even purchased a car. Now he has a job and is looking for a second job to start paying the loans back.

“I was hoping to repay that money before graduation, but my bills ran longer than what I had planned, and at least I was able to find a job right after I graduated,” Garcia said.

From the battlefield to the classroom

“Veterans, from what I’ve seen, usually make the better mentors and impact the lives of others in ways that I wouldn’t think possible.”

- Diego Lopez, junior nursing major

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- Diego Lopez, junior nursing major
What did you spend the most money on this summer?

ANDRES VALENCIANA
Freshman engineering major
“I spend most of my money on food or going to the movies.”

ASHLY DAIDUB
Senior biomedical sciences major
“A trip to San Antonio cost me about $500.”

DAMIEN VELASQUEZ
Freshman engineering major
“This summer, I have spent most of my money on video games and my car.”

MICHELLE HIDALGO
Freshman political science major
“I’ve spent most of my money this summer on clothing because I have too much winter clothing.”

ERIC HERRERA
Junior electrical engineering major
“I bought a $600 42” Sony TV this summer.”

MAITE MARTIN
Senior environmental science major
“I bought a plane ticket for a science conference, $1,400.”

ISAAC ARCINIEGA
Freshman mechanical engineering major
“I’ve been spending mainly on restaurants and food this summer.”

ANNA AGUILAR
Freshman nursing major
“I bought a pair of pants not too long ago that were about $49.”

DAVID ZWICKER
Junior computer information systems major
“I spent $2,400 on a trip to San Diego.”

REGINA GOODWIN
Sophomore mechanical engineering major
“I bought a $400 Dell laptop for school.”

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LET’S GO SOCIAL!

www.theprospectordaily.com
Our Friend The Mountain fuses genres for a unique style

BY JULIA HEITNER
The Prospector

"In what art of science could improvements be made that would more powerfully contribute to increase the comforts and enjoyment of mankind?"

This is a quote from Sir Benjamin Thompson from a 1794 essay on the art of cookery, which has inspired and motivated a local chef who has taken a different approach to one of El Paso's favorite dishes.

Omar Cuellar, lead vocalist and guitarist of Our Friend The Mountain, said he started the band after a random spark of inspiration struck him.

"I thought it'd be cool to have a band, so I asked some friends and

my brother, who plays drums, to join me," Omar said.

The band is comprised of Cuellar's brothers, Adrian and Irving Cuellar, who play guitar and drums respectively, pianist and vocalist Jazmin Gonzalez, inaugunthā G. Raspopovich, who plays bass, Albert Moreno on lead guitar and Salvador Malby who plays trombone.

The members of the band came together while enrolled at UTEP.

"We all met at UTEP and once when I walked out of the library, I saw our lead singer playing guitar and asked if he could play bass," Omar said. "My brother is a music major and plays a lot more frugal.

"We're influenced by bands like Band of Horses and Of Monsters and Men, and our pianist, Jazmin, really likes Damien Rice and our guitarist likes a little bit everything," Omar said. "We're all really big fans of Arcade Fire and Tony Blair and we even cover some of their songs."

Our Friend the Mountain celebrates their four-year anniversary this July. The band has worked hard to help carve a name for themselves in the local music industry. "We've been through so much in the music scene, and we've been doing a lot," Omar said. "There are not many bands like us."

According to Omar, the music scene has improved drastically over the years. "Back then was bad, we never got paid, bookers were shady, but now our bookers are young guys who play music as well," Omar said. "I don't want to say I'm playing to get paid, but you need it. When you first start playing, you do it because you like it, but eventually you need it."

The band has toured throughout cities in the Southwest including Austin, San Antonio, Los Angeles, Phoenix and cities in Mexico. Omar said touring and performing with his band is the job he wants to continue doing.

"The best part is playing music and performing it," Omar said. "Do the job you love because it's not really going to be a job."

Our Friend the Mountain was chosen for the "El Paso's Choice" award for the Cool Canyon Nights concert series in June. Omar said winning the award was a great experience. "It was awesome," Omar said. "It goes to my brothers and Jazmin playing super hard for that."

Jazmin Gonzalez, pianist for Our Friend the Mountain, said playing in the band is a lot of fun. "What I appreciate about it is we all come together to create music, and there's not one person dominating. We all contribute and I have full control over my instruments," Gonzalez said. "It's reflected in our music and it gives us a unique sound."

The band is currently working on their second album and new ways to market it in the local music scene. "With the new album, we really want to get that out there and really start marketing ourselves outside of El Paso," Gonzalez said. "We have a decent following, but we hope we can tour somewhere new."

Our Friend the Mountain will be playing Cool Canyon Nights on July 30. The concert begins at 6 p.m. For more information, visit the Our Friend the Mountain's official Facebook page.

"Each member of the band has a different influence in music, ranging from punk, pop and indie bands. This drives Our Friend The Mountain to try new styles."

The Organic Taco Machine serves a healthier El Paso favorite

BY JOSE SOTO
The Prospector

"To what end of the food chain are giving locals the food they want and motivate a local chef who has been offering El Pasoans a healthier alternative to a traditional Mexican dish.

Marko Herrera is the owner of The Organic Taco Machine, a food truck that has been offering El Pasoans a healthier alternative to a local favorite by cooking up tacos with organic produce and meat.

Herrera and his on-the-go business are giving locals the food they want with a healthier alternative.

"Not only do I like for people to eat healthier, but I also want people to think outside the box," Herrera said.

Herrera’s idea for his taco business came to be while he was an active firefighter in the U.S. Air Force.

"That went very well because there was a lot of local produce vendors, so most of the people were interested in eating organic on the taco," Herrera said.

Since then, The Organic Taco Machine has been bustling around town to different locations and hitting up different bars and venues like Roomtown, Blackbird and The Lovebrand.

"It's good to switch locations so that different groups of people try the tacos," Herrera said.

Among the tacos The Organic Taco Machine offers are Asian tacos and their popular Sriracha-taco tacos.

"A lot of people think of organic produce and dishes as bland, but that isn't always the case," Herrera said. "In the Mexican community, we're not used to think of using organic food to make cultural dishes like tacos. I wanted to transform the taco, be innovative with the way we see and eat tacos. A modern version, if you will."

The business sources its produce locally from Mountain View Market, Skagard Natural Farms and Costco.

In the future, Herrera hopes to open new venues with a garden so he can source his own produce and downscale outsourcing.

"The business has really aimed to create authentic yet contemporary concepts of taco recipes," Herrera said. "It's all about a relaxed and accessible experience with eating organic."

For more information on The Organic Taco Machine, visit their official Facebook page at www.facebook.com/theorganictacomachine.

"I purchased it soon after, painted and renovated it myself. I painted the logo."

The Organic Taco Machine offers el Pasoans a healthier alternative to a traditional Mexican dish.
Flamel, persiguiendo un sueño

Por Fernanda Leon

El rock contemporáneo y space rock son los géneros musicales que una banda local está utilizando para la creación de su música con cancio-
nes compuestas en español.

Fundada por el vocalista Daniel Corpus y el bajista Ángel Ramírez a finales del año 2013, Flamel, una ban-
da de rock, nació por la necesidad de estos dos individuos de cumplir uno
de sus grandes sueños, crear música.

Para Corpus y Ramírez, la música es la manera de poder expresarse, y junto con el guitarrista Sergio Hernández y el baterista Alejandro Barragán, Flamel les ha brindado
la oportunidad de expresarse libre-
mente en el ambiente musical.

"Pues en lo personal la música siempre la he llevado desde chico ya que mi abuelo era músico y siempre se me inculcó la música", Hernández dijo, quien además es estudiante de la
carrera de periodismo en la Universi-
dad de Texas en El Paso.

"Cuando estoy tocando ya sea en un show o en el estudio, se me olvida todo lo
que está pasando. Nada más me gusta estar pensando en el sentimiento que
me pasea en mi canción o melodía", Her-
nández dijo. Nombrada en honor a Nicolás Flamel, alquimista francés del siglo
catorce, la banda de rock originaria de El Paso se dedica a participar en eventos locales y también en Ciudad
Juárez para dar a conocer su música a un público más amplio.

La banda también ha tenido la oportunidad de abrir o tocar en con-
ciertos con otras bandas de rango internacional.

"Unas de las bandas importantes con las que hemos tocado ha sido con Acid Mothers Temple que son de Japón", Hernández dijo. "También hemos tocado con una banda de Es-
paña que se llama Cçpula.

En la actualidad, la banda tiene en
pie la producción de su primer mate-
tial discográfico que se titulará "Vol.
1". "Caballos de Mar" será su primer sencillo.

"Nuestro próximo objetivo es em-
pazar con el CD y abrirnos camino", Ramírez dijo, también estudiante de UTEP en la carrera de publicidad.

"Justo con el CD vienen cosas como el video, que estamos grabando con ZGN Productions, para nuestro primer sencillo".

Dentro de los objetivos a largo plazo de la banda se encuentran vi-
ajes, conciertos, giras y buscar la opor-
tunidad de sobresalir en la escena
cultural de México y en un futuro, internacional.

"Los planes que tenemos a futuro es sobresalir más allá de lo que es la es-
cena musical fronteiza", Corpus dijo.

"Queremos no solamente ya expres-
arnos, sino queremos ser una banda
cobraderamente en México. Con cualquier rincón musical que aquí hay en México.

En El Paso mexicano, Flamel ha tenido oportunidad de presentarse en lugares como la Plaza de la Mexicanidad
dad en Ciudad Juárez, y ha participa-
ddo en un concierto junto con la banda
originaria de Puebla, México, Juliette.

Con su rock en español, Flamel pla-
nea salir a tocar en ciudades para mostrar su dedicación a la música.

"Porque con la música, no pienso
en nada más que no sea en mí y la
música", Hernández dijo. "Y ese pro-
ceso se vuelve mejor si haces música
con la gente indicada".

Para mayor información sobre
la banda local Flamel y sus próxi-
mos eventos, visten la página oficial de Facebook www.facebook.com/
flamelmex y la cuenta de twitter www.
twitter.com/flamelmex.

Fernanda Leon may be reached at theprospectordaily.sott@gmail.com.
Kassi out-threw Arreola 534-317 and out landed him 135-97. Although his punches never seemed to really hurt Arreola, Kassi was significantly more effective and precise with his offense. After the 10 rounds, one judge gave the bout to Arreola on the other two gave it to Kassi, declaring a draw. "Big Fred," as Kassi is nicknamed, gave Arreola all he could handle. Kassi was the more active fighter throughout the 10 rounds of action. Right away and fight as quickly as possible," in the main event of the first half of the doubleheader, undefeated featherweight champion, "The Jackal" Frampton took a punch from Alejandro "Cobrita" Gonzalez. The ref overreacted to the low blow, I was just doing my body work," Gonzalez said. "I'm not a dirty fighter, I play by the rules and this was disappointing."

"I'm not happy (with the decision)," Kassi said. "I won every round of the fight. I showed tonight I was the better fighter!" Throughout the fight, Kassi switched back and forth between left and right stances, causing trouble for Arreola, who never really looked comfortable inside the ring. "He was very awkward," Arreola said. "It was just a tough fight. Fred came to him and he's a survivor. He held right, he moved right. He came here with a good strategy and got a draw out of it."

"The Nightmare" Arreola will continue to work toward another title opportunity, like the one he got in 2009 against Vitali Klitschko, and then again versus Tomas Adamek in 2010. "Obviously, I'm not ready to fight with (Deontay) Wilder," Arreola said. "I want to earn that shot and I didn't today. I want to get back in the gym and continue to work toward another title."

"I definitely, on the fight, I was much more effective," Gonzalez said. "I want a rematch and I'm happy to do it in his hometown. He's a good fighter, but I'm the best he's ever faced!"

Although he got the victory, Frampton was not satisfied with his performance as this was his introduction to the American boxing market.

"The statement I made wasn't great," Frampton said. "I wanted to win by KO. It didn't happen, I'm disappointed, but I'll evaluate and move on."

"The Jackal" took control of the fight and Gonzalez was never really able to regain the control he had in the early stages of the fight. "The Cobrita" did not make it easy for Frampton—making the champ work for every round. The 22-year-old Gonzalez even felt like he did enough to earn the decision and the belt. "I definitely, on the fight, I was much more effective," Gonzalez said. "I want a rematch and I'm happy to do it in his hometown. He's a good fighter, but I'm the best he's ever faced!"

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line to fight for the vacant WBC junior welterweight title. But that’s not the only thing CNN’s promotors, Don King, has in his sights for the young boxer’s future.

“He demonstrated the skill, the agility, the ability of the dexterity and the punching power to steal tonight’s show,” King said. “We’re calling out Floyd Mayweather—we want the best out there.”

The second fight of the Showtime card was for the vacant junior bantamweight title. Unfazed fighters McJoe Arroyo and Arthur Villanueva promised to put on a show, but it turned out to be an unwatchable affair that saw Arroyo win the belt on a technical decision due to a cut above Villanueva’s eye.

The over-9,000 fans in attendance cheered when Villanueva and Arroyo finally left the ring, not just because the fight was finally over, but because it meant the main event of the evening was next.

For the first time that evening, the atmosphere was different. The crowd was invested in this fight. Chavez Jr., a former middleweight champion, is mainly known for his legendary father Julio Cesar Chavez, and for his lack of discipline and credibility when it comes to opponents, which makes him quite the polarizing figure among boxing fans.

After failing to make weight once again, Chavez Jr. was clearly the bigger, stronger fighter when he stepped into the ring. Reyes, nicknamed “El Terrible,” was the active precise one from the start, but the smaller man from Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico, could never hurt Chavez Jr.

“That was a difference,” Reyes said. “He was much bigger. I made weight.

He didn’t make weight. He was like a light heavyweight in there, but I put up a good fight.”

Chavez Jr. on the other hand, worked inconsistently throughout the fight, but every time he landed a punch, Reyes seemed to feel it. Although Reyes was landing more punches, Chavez landed his harder. During several instances of the fight, Chavez Jr. took total control of it, using his jab effectively and keeping his smaller opponent at bay.

But he was never consistent and the fight would go the distance to everybody’s disappointment.

The son of the legend attributed his lack of finishing power to an injury.

“There is a good fighter,” Chavez Jr. said. “I hurt my hand. Is it broken? Maybe. I’ll see the doctor. I hurt him to the body, but I didn’t finish him.”

Chavez Jr. earned a unanimous decision after 10 rounds. The mismatch between fighters and several instances where Chavez Jr. complained to the referee left the crowd unhappy with the decision.

Nonetheless, Chavez Jr. was pleased with his performance as he continued to try and return to the top of the middleweight division and make a name for himself in the world of boxing.

“I felt good in there. I felt like I did some good things,” Chavez Jr. said. “Reyes is a tough fighter and I expect him to give me his best and he did.”

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