Homecoming week begins at UTEP, but some students are still questioning the decision of changing the theme. While this year’s homecoming theme was originally centered on zombies, it was changed to a Haunting Homecoming.

“I don’t know why the university would do that. I think it would have been more interesting if they had kept the zombie theme. Everybody knows October is Halloween month so I think it would have been a little different if they had stayed with the original theme,” said Monica Flores, senior computer information systems major.

One of the issues with the zombie theme that some students and faculty had was the image it could reflect on UTEP and how it represents the school.

“One of the main reasons that the homecoming theme was changed was that with so many alumni and people from the El Paso community visiting our campus throughout these week-long activities, the image of the zombie is not one that we would like to showcase,” said Ivan Ramirez, collegiate science senator for the Student Government Association and senior biological sciences major. “Also, with the growing number of students and organizations on campus, the zombie theme would have been a very narrow theme, especially for the increasing size of UTEP.”

While SGA claims that the change of theme was the result of a compromise made by both students and faculty who were invited to a meeting to discuss the issue, some students do not agree that it was a good idea.

“I do not think they should have changed it,” said Janet Quiroz, junior industrial engineering major. “At least, they should have allowed the students to have a vote on it and not just some students, but all of us.”

Yet, regardless of the theme, UTEP’s homecoming will feature a variety of events meant to engage students and the community.

“This year, there are only positive points to encourage teamwork and sportsmanship between students and organizations. Some of the events include a scariest dessert contest, pumpkin carving competition, lip sync contest and a float making event, among other things, such as the parade and the pep rally,” Ramirez said.

“Some events are intended to reflect UTEP spirit by giving students the opportunity to become involved and network with others.”
The Prospector is committed to accuracy. If you think we have made an error of fact, e-mail us at prospector@utep.edu.

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Address and phone number will be used for verification only.
Write to 105 E. Union, e-mail prospector@utep.edu, call 747-7477 or fax to 747-8031.

Dawn of the students

BY BEATRIZ A. CASTAÑEDA

The Prospector

Last April students voted for a homecoming theme that made administrators and several students concerned about the image it would give the university.

This summer, The Prospector published a story about how that original theme zombie was changed to Haunting Homecoming and how university officials and a few students made the decision.

The arguments behind the decision were that the "zombie" theme would give a bad image to the university during homecoming. Another concern was the proximity that El Paso has to Ciudad Juarez and the drug-related violence. They thought the zombie theme may be insensitive to people who have been affected by the on-going violence in Juarez.

I’m upset about how officials made a big deal about the first theme. Zombies may have different meanings to people. To some, they are just the walking dead, while to others, they are people who are in between life and death or are soulless corpses revived by witchcraft. I don’t believe students meant for it to be offensive.

Through the Campus Activities Board (CAB), the few student organization members who are involved voted. The highest vote was zombies. The other choices were; under the World and the year before that was the BASTA events.

When people think about zombies, they think of fantasy, sci-fi characters, video games and horror movies rather than Juarez and the violence plaguing the city. Students would have loved the zombie idea because it is currently a trendy topic.

While this year’s theme changed to Haunting Homecoming, I still think there’ll be a couple of students that will dress up as zombies and walk around campus. As students, we need to stand our ground and if we want to dress as zombies, then go right ahead.

Beatriz A. Castañeda may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
El Paso has joined dozens of cities across the country as protesters have taken up San Jacinto Plaza for the city’s version of Occupy Wall Street. Due to permit reasons, Occupy El Paso officially began at noon Oct. 17, rather than originally planned Oct. 15 during the city’s Chalk the Block event.

According to Occupy El Paso member Joseph Flores, the group got a permit from the city to camp at San Jacinto Plaza for 24 hours each day over the course of 24 days. "Personally, I think it was great that we got a permit," Flores said. "I think it’s a great method of tactic. Now the demonstration can be more peaceful and we don’t have to worry about getting arrested.”

Nationally, people were arrested over the weekend in Occupy-related protests in New York City and other cities such as Washington D.C., Denver, Seattle, San Diego and Chicago, according to CNN.

Flores said that while the permit comes with restrictions, they will not hinder the event. "There are only a few restrictions to the permit," Flores said. "We are not allowed to stake our tents and we are not allowed to have drugs or alcohol, which is completely reasonable.”

Members of Occupy El Paso are aiming to bring the national protest to a local level in order to make changes that will affect El Pasoans. "Our protest will focus on issues of local concern," Occupy El Paso spokesman Matthew Gillespie said. "The problems occurring on Wall Street can be seen at a local level.”

The group plans on submitting a list of grievances to the city in which they will mention the local issues they hope will change. As of yet, the date they will submit the list has not been decided. "We are protesting the same causes as the protesters in Wall Street," Flores said. "But in order to get the local community to understand the issues, we have to localize them so that they can identify with what is happening nationally”.

Members of Occupy El Paso participate in a press conference Oct. 15 at One Civic Center Plaza to announce the official date of the protest. The Occupy El Paso movement began Oct. 17 at San Jacinto Plaza.
WASHINGTON - The selflessness and courage needed to lend a hand to victims of crime is not a common asset, especially when you live in a place embedded in corruption.

That’s what Belen, Posada del Migrante (Bethlehem, Migrant’s Shelter) in Saltillo, in northern Mexico, exhibits when it protects Central-American migrants who fall victim to organized crime.

Father Pedro Pantoja Arreola, director of the shelter, was recognized for his service Oct. 12 at the 35th Annual Letelier-Moffitt Memorial sponsored by the Institute for Policy Studies. He was presented with the International Human Rights Award, which has been given to only one other Mexican.

About 150 migrants who have been beaten, raped, mutilated and robbed arrive at Pantoja’s door daily. Most hope to continue their journeys even after the inhumane treatment they endure.

“All of the Central-American misery arrives at my home,” Pantoja said in his acceptance speech.

The shelter, which is mainly run by volunteers, is part of the organization called Fronteras con Justicia (Borders with Justice) which has been active for 11 years and has helped more than 50,000 migrants. Most come from El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Ecuador and are heading toward the United States.

Pantoja documents the testimonies of all of the migrants, but many of them are not willing to report to authorities out of fear of being sent home.

“Our work is based on the stories that migrants who come through our doors tell us,” Pantoja said.

The economic conditions in their countries push them to seek a better life elsewhere. The only means of transportation to cross Mexico is atop freight trains, which they call “la bestia” (the beast).

Their vulnerability makes them prime targets of kidnapping by organized crime.

Pantoja said 20,000 kidnappings have been reported this year. Armed criminals assault the trains and take migrants hostage, then ask them for phone numbers of relatives in the U.S. or back home so they can ask the relatives to pay a ransom.

Those who decline to provide information are often tortured or killed. Migrants have reported seeing Mexican agents taking bribes from the criminals to let trucks loaded with captive migrants pass through checkpoints, Pantoja said.

Pantoja told Grijalva he wants the Mexican government to stop ignoring the situation and protect migrants’ human rights.

“There has been a year since the massacre of the 72 migrants in San Fernando and the finding of the mass graves a few months after, but there is no formal investigation,” Pantoja said. “We want to take the government of Mexico to trial.

He asked that the U.S. rethink the way money is being supplied to the National Immigration Institute of Mexico through the Merida Initiative. He wants the U.S. to know the consequences of providing equipment to corrupt agencies.

Grijalva said Pantoja can count on his support and that what Pantoja needs is more public attention.

“We should try to get a broader response from the State Department,” Grijalva said.

He advised Pantoja to file a report with the State Department about what has been happening to the migrants.

Pantoja said he will continue to advocate his cause and try to gain as much support as he can, despite the danger.

“Our project has always been tied to death and blood,” Pantoja said.

Danya P. Hernandez, senior multimedia major at UTEP, is an intern at the Scripps Howard Foundation’s Semester in Washington program. She may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
Homecoming

UTEP honors distinguished alumni

BY JASMINE AGUILERA

The Prospector

During homecoming week, UTEP will honor the 2011 recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

The awards will be given to Bob Black, managing partner of Mehaffy-Weber law firm and president of the State Bar of Texas, and Jerry Porras, retired professor of organizational behavior and change at Stanford University.

Porras graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering in 1969 and Black graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in history in 1977.

“The Distinguished Alumni award is the highest recognition UTEP is able to bestowed upon anyone,” said Richard Daniel, assistant vice president for alumni and constituent relations. “When you have been selected for this award, it means that you have reached the highest level in your field!”

During homecoming week, UTEP will also hold its first of a series of centennial lectures in which Porras will be the guest speaker. The lecture is titled “Vision and the Great Millennium Lectures,” but this time, it’s titled “Vision and the Great Mindset.”

Daniel said that choosing distinguished alumni is a long process.

“Alumni are nominated early in the year,” he said. “After that, we go through a vetted process in which a committee views the nominees and decides on which ones will be distinguished and which ones will be awarded Gold Nuggets.”

Porras came from a poor family and grew up in El Paso. He earned a degree in electrical engineering from UTEP, but after spending three years in the Army, he decided that he was more interested in management. He went on to earn an M.B.A from Cornell University and then a Ph.D. in management from the University of California, Los Angeles.

After earning his Ph.D., he began teaching at Stanford University and later wrote three books.

Black was born in Ocala, Fla., and went on to earn a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Texas Tech School of Law.

Bob Black, Bob Black

“We used to have something called the Great Mindset Lectures,” Daniel said. “They empower me to be like them, to be successful and to follow my passion.”

Daniel said Black will not be speaking at the centennial lecture, but he will speak at the homecoming event.

Black and Porras will also be recognized at a Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 21 at the Don Haskins Center.

“The beauty of alumni is that they graduated from UTEP and then went out into the world representing us,” Daniel said. “When they come back, students can see them as amazing role models that set the bar high for them. They help give students a ‘they did it, now I can do it’ type of mentality.”

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Black was born in Ocala, Fla., and moved to El Paso when he was 11.

Throughout high school and college, he was involved with speech and debate, which sparked his interest in law. He earned a degree from UTEP and then went on to earn a degree from Texas Tech School of Law.

“It’s like they are blazing a trail for more of us to follow,” said Erik Myers, junior creative writing major. “They empower me to be like them, to be successful and to follow my passion.”

Jasmine Aguilera may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

Items from page 1

“I think that homecoming does an excellent job of motivating the entire school, cheering us up and bringing us together as a community,” said Paulina Reyes, sophomore linguistics major. “It raises our UTEP pride and strengthens our school spirit.”

“With the university’s continuous growth in terms of student population, the expectations of this year’s homecoming are high.

“We can only expect this homecoming week to be bigger and get more students to participate in the events. The Student Government Association is very excited to be able to get students pumped up,” Ramirez said.

Jerry Porras Bob Black

For more information, please call the OAS at (915) 747-6333. Brought to you by The Drug Enforcement Association (DEA) and University Police.
Though funding for resources is low for the group, there are several people that will be camping out at the protest site.

“I plan on staying when I can,” said Gilbert Gonzalez, El Paso Community College student. “I still work and I still have to go to school, so I’m hoping to stay the night maybe three to four times a week.”

According to Flores, a few members have created a WePay account that is still in the works where they will accept donations.

“For now, I am planning on getting food from the local restaurants,” Gonzalez said. “But later, a few of us will discuss putting together a food distribution project.”

The Occupy movement has brought out strong opinions from people both for and against the protest, and El Paso is no different.

“I support Occupy El Paso,” said Joel Marquez, senior digital media production major. “I think they are finally taking a stand and they understand that their futures are at stake. I’m about to graduate and I’m personally very concerned about whether or not I’ll be able to find work and I think there are so many out there who feel the same way I do.”

Some people have criticized the movement for being unorganized and for most protesters not knowing what they are protesting against or what changes they want.

“I definitely disapprove of what they are doing,” said Anthony Baca, a retired Albuquerque police officer. “I don’t think they have a main focus and they don’t really know what they are protesting about. I don’t think they’ll be able to accomplish anything that way.”

Jasmine Aguilera may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

The fourth annual Chalk The Block event took place Oct. 14-16 at the Arts Festival Plaza and the San Jacinto Plaza in Downtown El Paso, where local and national artists showcased their work. More than 2,500 people showed up to the three-day event.
Floyd to start season without lone senior

By Frankie Rodriguez
The Prospector

Senior forward Gabriel McCulley has been debating surgery for a while after sustaining an injury to his left shin in the summer. During practice Oct. 17, McCulley announced that he will be receiving surgery Oct. 21 on his left shin.

McCulley said that after surgery, he will undergo rehab with a recovery window lasting anywhere from six to eight weeks. He is hoping to be back sooner by rehabilitating it.

McCulley said the surgery will insert a rod into his shin so that oxygen can flow.

He also said he has been pushing the injury to see how fast West can go. He feels he did not do a good job of determining the pain.

“I never know about an injury until that night or the next day. I don’t know if it’s the adrenaline or what it is,” McCulley said. “This injury here is day to day. One day it feels good, I can play on it and the next day, it doesn’t. It’s just one of those things that if I let it prolong and I try to go about the season playing on it, it could be worse. It could break and I could get out for the season.”

He was hoping to wait until after the season to have surgery because the recovery process may take several weeks. Now the injury exactly happened remains a mystery.

“It happened over the summer. I came back out here playing pickup, and it was one of those things that started hurting the next day. They thought it was shin splints, but I went and got an MRI and it was a stress fracture,” McCulley said. “I sat the whole summer out on it and it went back to get an update when school started and it was still there. I have been playing on it and it’s been feeling good, but over the last week or so, it has been irritating me.”

With his only senior on the squad awaiting surgery, head coach Tim Floyd may need to rely on his eight incoming freshmen and three other newcomers to step up and contribute to the 2011 team.

McCulley knows that being the most experienced player on the team is crucial for him to lead the way.

“Being the only senior, and these guys not knowing what is ahead of them, I try to let them know what is ahead and let them know how the season goes, and how intense practice has to be coming from a different level from high school. I just try to be a leader for them on and off the court,” McCulley said.

According to players on the team, the chemistry has been developing over the summer thanks to pickup games they have been running. McCulley also believes in his young teammates.

“We have been legitimate together so I think they have gotten a little familiar with each other,” McCulley said. “They are all talented, great young guys, great character and they are all ready to play. They are real anxious to get out there on the court to show what they got.”

Floyd knows that his team is lacking experience, but is still excited about the group of guys he has.

“Well we have a lot to teach in a short period of time. We have a bunch of guys that are not really sure what town they are in. It is a brand new team,” Floyd said. “We basically starting over with a bunch of guys that are freshmen. They are here because they wanted playing time, and we are hopeful to get a couple of stars and role players out of them.”

Starting over with a new set of guys has its challenges in store, but Floyd feels no pressure with the group he brought in.

“My thought would have terrified me if I was 32 and worried about what I was going to do if things did not work out,” Floyd said. “Right now, I am excited because I really love the teaching phase of the game and we have a bunch of really eager guys who are going to hold on to everything we say. Whether they can retain it because of their level of youth remains to be seen.”

According to junior guard Jacques Streeter, what can be anticipated from this team is a high-tempo pace.

“You can expect a lot of excitement since we are a young team. For sure a lot of running, jumping and a lot of defense,” Streeter said. “We are a young group and we have fresh legs so everybody is ready to go right now.”

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

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New merger means little to nothing

By William Vega
The Prospector

Head coach Mike Price is excited about it. Athletic director Bob Shull is thrilled. Even UTEP President Diana Natalicio gave her two cents. But with the new Conference-USA/Mountain West football-only merger, it really shouldn’t get many fans’ hopes up too much.

On Oct. 14, the two conferences announced that they would merge together to form a 22-team super conference. The merger hopes to take place in 2013, but may start as early as next year. The merger hopes to maintain stability, flexibility and the ultimate goal of receiving an automatic bid to a Bowl Championship Series.

However, with five teams possibly leaving to receive bids to the Big East (who already hold an automatic bid), the concept of reaching the same status is improbable.

Reports are saying that Houston, SMU, UCF, (of C-USA) Boise State and Air Force (of the Mountain West) will be receiving bids to join the Big East who are losing three teams over the next two years. East Carolina is also rumored by some reports to possibly receive an invitation.

Sure, the concept of having 22 teams in one conference sounds exciting, but in reality, all the new conference is getting are 22 schools that would never receive a bid to a BCS bowl. With the exception of Boise State, only teams such as Houston, UCF, Hawaii and Nevada (the latter two will be joining the Mountain West next year) have had national success in the past. But they are not BCS-caliber schools.

While it may sound great for UTEP fans that want to rekindle old rivalries, such as with New Mexico, Colorado State, Nevada and UNLV, what has to be remembered is that this is for football only. This means that the Miners will still have to compete against these teams in non-conference slates only.

According to various media reports, most schools would be the next product of realignment with this concept, but that would probably never happen. It may take some time to do that because nothing has been decided on the current football merger.

Nothing can be decided over night, I understand that, but even if the new conference goes to regional divisions such as the way the Western Athletic Conference used to be, that won’t make much of a difference. Even if the conference merges next year or in 2013, it seems that the only merging taking place will be in the conference championship when the Mountain West rider takes on the C-USA victor.

That still doesn’t mean an automatic bid, and if anything is to be seen, it will probably just be the same amount of bowl games the two conferences had anyway.

If there is anything to get excited about, it is the possibility of a play-off system between the two schools. Another goal for the new merger includes that idea and Shull has even mentioned one option that would pair the top-two teams in each conference against each other in a four-team playoff.

The biggest thing that makes me happy about the merger is what was mentioned above stability. I would much rather see UTEP in a large, 22-team (or 16 team) conference instead of a small, eight to 10-team conference that could happen with so many realignments occurring in college football.

But if a fan is expecting to receive that automatic bid and gain recognition through college football, they really need to wake up and smell the roses because the BCS doesn’t care for Conference-USA, the Mountain West or their new product.

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

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MERGER TEAMS (2012)

MOUNTAIN WEST

Air Force
Boise State
Colorado State
Fresno State
Hawaii
Nevada
New Mexico
San Diego State
UNLV
Wyoming

CONFERENCE-USA

East Carolina
Houston
Marshall
Memphis
Rice
SMU
Southern Miss
Tulane
Tulsa
UAB
UCF
UTEP
BY DANIEL OREILLY

The Prospector

The Miners will be home to set up their non-conference schedule against the Colorado State Rams for the homecoming game Oct. 22 at the Sun Bowl.

Both teams enter the match with a 3-3 record, but are coming off opposite sides of the win column. UTEP finally won a conference road game, their first in 13 tries, beating Tulane 46-7, while the Rams fell to home to no. 3 Boise State 63-13.

The Miners are coming off a win where they only attempted 15 pass plays and perhaps the success of the running game is 11th in the nation with 233.3 yards per game. Fullback Shane Vereen leads the running game with a team-high 416 yards and seven touchdowns.

Their quarterback Pete Thomas is really outstanding. He entered as a true freshman at Colorado State. He’s a big kid with a great arm," UTEP head coach Mike Price said. "Colorado State head coach Steve Fairchild is a quarterback guru. This has been one of the nation’s working and developing quarterbacks.”

The Rams also bring a talented group of defense led by sophomore linebacker Mike Drakes, younger brother of Washington Redskins linebacker Brian Orakpo, and sophomore defensive and wide receiver Nick Lamaison is averaging over 9.5 yards per carry. Since Thomas entered the Broncos, the Miners have averaged over four yards per carry.

With three home wins up 63 points, the Rams allowed over 700 yards of offense in the loss to Boise State. The Rams defense is allowing 410.3 yards per game. Before the loss in the Broncos, the Miners are allowing 344 yards per game.

The Rams are led by sophomore quarterback Pete Thomas and bring a trio of running backs that are also averaging over four yards per carry. Redshirt sophomores Nick Chubb leads the running game with a team-high 416 yards and seven touchdowns. His other backfield mates are redshirt sophomore Chris Nwoke leads the rushing game with a team-high 233.3 yards per game, while senior Vincent Plottel is averaging over four yards per carry. Redshirt freshman James Storey is really outstanding. He started his first three games with seven touchdowns and a completion percentage of 69.3. The Prospector talked to Lamaison to get to know the player outside the playing field.

Junior transfer quarterback Nick Lamaison has taken over for UTEP and their high-power offense. Through six games, Lamaison is averaging over 222 passing yards each game with seven touchdowns and a completion percentage of 59.3. The Prospector talked to Lamaison to get to know the player outside the playing field.

Q: What is your favorite meal? A: California, when I live here.

Q: What was your first job? A: Football, I have never had a real job.
Q: What is your worst habit? A: Probably biting my fingernails.
Q: Do you have any pre-game rituals? A: Yes, I walk up and down the field and tap certain things. Walking up and down the field is symbolic for letting the opposing team know I am going to work them up and down the field all day.
Q: Choice athlete to watch? A: Antonio Bryant.
Q: Who is your favorite musical artist right now? A: J. Cole, for sure.
Q: Favorite place to visit? A: California, when I live here.
Q: Favorite athlete to watch? A: Antonio Bryant.
Soccer

Miners fall twice in final road weekend games

BY WILLIAM VEGA
The Prospector

Head coach Kevin Cross repeatedly talked about how much he would rather have his team play at home and so far this season has shown why.

The Miners closed their final 2011 road games with losses to no. 8 Memphis and UAB, dropping to a tie for third place in the Conference-USA standings. With the losses, UTEP can no longer win the regular season title outright. The Miners finished 2-5-1 on the road this year and are currently 8-0-1 at home.

UTEP first took on the Tigers Oct. 14. The Miners were without junior midfielder Tess Hall and senior defender Jessie Pettit due to injuries. Memphis, who is undefeated, struck in the 21st minute when sophomore midfielder Christabel Oduro scored from five yards away. The Tigers went into the half with the 1-0 lead after outshooting the Miners 10-5 and picking up five corner kicks in the half.

The second half swung in favor of Memphis with the Tigers scoring 12 minutes into the half. Senior defender Lizzy Simonin passed a header to sophomore forward Rasheeda Ansari who scored in front of the goalie. In the 75th minute, Memphis tacked on an insurance goal when Simonin scored on a free kick from 30 yards out. The Tigers took the game 3-0 to remain in first place.

Without Hall, who has contributed for five goals this season, ranking second on the team, UTEP hurt offensively. The Miners had only 10 shots the entire game with three on goal and four corner kicks. In addition, UTEP substituted only two players from the bench as seven played the entire 90 minutes.

The Miners then turned their attention to UAB Oct. 16, a team that has struggled this year. The Blazers were coming off a big win against C-USA, leading Colorado College at home. Similarly, nine Miners played the full 90 minutes for UTEP, but head coach Kevin Cross substituted three other players in the game.

The Miners fell behind UAB in the 33rd minute when senior forward Tiffany Turpin was left alone for the goal. Freshman goalkeeper Sarah Dilling mistimed a pass that UAB junior midfielder Emma Smith crossed that allowed Turpin to score on the open net.

UTEP’s offense had six shots in the first half and five in the second, with six being on goal, but freshman goalie CS Wispin was there for all of them. Wispin was named the C-USA defensive player of the week for her performance over the weekend.

Senior midfielder Katie Dorman led the Miners with six shots and two on goal but UTEP’s best chance to square things up came in the 55th minute. Freshman midfielder Mackenzie German had a free kick that sailed to the opposite corner, but Wispin was there again.

The Miners missed on a great opportunity to move up the C-USA standings. They had a chance to tie top-ranked Memphis and Colorado College Oct. 14 after Colorado College fell to UAB that day. Had they beat the Blazers, UTEP would have been in a tie for second place with Colorado College and SMU. The Miners now sit in a tie for fourth with Tulsa and Rice and will face the Gold-Hurricane Oct. 21 at home.

The final two games of the season will be home games Oct. 23 against SMU, who leads UTEP by three points, and Colorado College Oct. 28, who is tied with SMU right now.

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

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FILE PHOTO

Junior midfielder Tess Hall passes the ball during a match at University Field. Hall did not participate in the Miners’ final road stretch of the season.

Soccer Standings

TEAM RECORD POINTS

Memphis 7-0-1 22
SMU 5-2-1 16
Colorado College 5-2-1 16
UCF 4-1-3 15
Tulsa 4-3-1 13
UTEP 4-3-1 13
Rice 4-3-1 13
UAB 2-4-1 7
Houston 2-5-1 7
East Carolina 2-5-0 6
Marshall 1-5-2 5
Southern Miss 0-7-1 1

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UTEP’s offense had six shots in the first half and five in the second, with six being on goal, but freshman goalie CS Wispin was there for all of them. Wispin was named the C-USA defensive player of the week for her performance over the weekend.

Senior midfielder Katie Dorman led the Miners with six shots and two on goal but UTEP’s best chance to square things up came in the 55th minute. Freshman midfielder Mackenzie German had a free kick that sailed to the opposite corner, but Wispin was there again.

The Miners missed on a great opportunity to move up the C-USA standings. They had a chance to tie top-ranked Memphis and Colorado College Oct. 14 after Colorado College fell to UAB that day. Had they beat the Blazers, UTEP would have been in a tie for second place with Colorado College and SMU. The Miners now sit in a tie for fourth with Tulsa and Rice and will face the Gold-Hurricane Oct. 21 at home.

The final two games of the season will be home games Oct. 23 against SMU, who leads UTEP by three points, and Colorado College Oct. 28, who is tied with SMU right now.

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

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PHOTO BY RAY JACKSON OF RAYWORK PRODUCTIONS

FILE PHOTO

Junior midfielder Tess Hall passes the ball during a match at University Field. Hall did not participate in the Miners’ final road stretch of the season.
Volleyball

UTEP swept over weekend, drop to fifth

BY KRYSITL OBILINGER

The Prospector

The Miners were unable to gain separation from the third spot in Conference-USA after two losses to Rice and Houston Oct. 14 and 16, who were tied with UTEP heading into the weekend. This puts the Miners in the fifth spot as they trail the conference-leading Tulsa by three games.

Rice out-matched the Miners in all their systems with 45 kills, 43 aces and 55 digs for the entire match. Once again, UTEP scored high in attack errors with 23 versus the Owls’ 16. The match-high kills and digs were awarded to UTEP after sophomore middle blocker Xitlali Herrera reached 15 kills for the match and senior libero Stephanie Figueroa played hard defense with 18 digs.

Even though Herrera out-ranked Rice in kills, the Owls had two players finish with 10 kills and another with 11. Rice took the match 25-22, 25-23 and 25-21.

Against Houston, the Miners won the first set but could not keep together in the last three. Herrera and junior outside hitter Bridget Logan both committed 13 kills, while sophomore outside hitter Jeanne Horton followed with 12. UTEP made their highest number of mistakes during the fourth set. The Miners committed 11 errors, which rendered their 15 kills useless.

Throughout the match, UTEP’s hitting percentage trickled downward as the Miners could not keep their composure stable. They opened the game hitting .485 in the first set and hit .083 in the final one. Their errors increased, too, committing two in the first set and 11 in the last.

Returning home Oct. 21 and 23, the Miners will have a chance to pick up wins when they face Southern Miss, which is in the ninth spot following a win against Marshall, and the 11th-place team Tulane, which is coming off a win against East Carolina.

UTEP’s defense has placed high in the C-USA standings. The Miners have taken the third spot with 199 total blocks and reached second in service aces with 108. Figueroa has held the top spot for service aces and rose to the fifth spot for digs in the conference. In blocks, Herrera also rose to the third spot.

In kills and assists, UTEP remains in seventh place despite high numbers. The Miners are averaging 12.00 assists with a kill average of 12.98. Southern Miss holds the sixth spot for kills and fifth for assists. The Miners may need to work on their hitting percentage, an inconsistency as of late. They may also need to work on their defense to avoid costly attack errors.

UTEP will take on Southern Miss Oct. 21 and Tulane Oct. 23 at Memorial Gym.

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

Simplystated

Junior Risper Kimaiyo clocked in with a time of 20:19 in the women’s 6K, taking first place for the second consecutive year Oct. 16 at the 2011 Pre-National Invitational in Terre Haute, Ind.

Kimaiyo led the women to a team finish of 27th among 40 teams. It was her fourth first-place finish of the year.

Junior Elkana Rotich was the top finisher on the UTEP men’s team. He finished 14th with a time of 24:31 to lead the team to a 12th-place team finish among 35 teams.

The University of Texas at El Paso Humanities Program Invites you to attend:
The First Annual Robert B. & Lorez M. Price Memorial & Mary Smith Price Memorial Lecture Series
Sponsored by the UTEP Humanities Program

Dr. Richard Talbert
Space and Time, Civilization and Power: The Creativity of Roman Maps
Monday, October 24, 2011
UTEP Campus: Undergraduate Learning Center Rm 116, 7:00 pm
Book Signing & Refreshments 8:15 pm

Romans- more than any other ancient people- showed remarkable creativity in recognizing that maps serve as powerful communicators. Maps were designed as artwork to promote and reinforce values- from peace and civilization to unashamed pride in conquest and entitlement to world rule. From this revealing perspective Richard Talbert reconsiders the thinking that inspired two very different masterpieces of Roman cartography, each in its own way bold enough to collapse time and reshape space. This lecture deepens insight into the particular case of the Romans and its far-reaching cultural impact.

Co-Sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Office; Departments of Art, English, & History; Stanlee & Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts; Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Program.
For more information, contact Dr. Ronald Weber at 915-747-5835 or rweber@utep.edu.

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Team reacts to preseason position

BY RUSTY BURNS
The Prospector

Picked to finish tied for fourth in the Conference-USA preseason poll, the women’s basketball team has not taken practice lightly as they prepare for their run and gun style of offense set for Nov. 5, the first preseason game.

“Our conference is really good,” head coach Kerith Adams said. “We’re smart enough that we learned from last year. We know we have to be ready every night, from top to bottom. It’s just a poll. It’s on paper, but it’s going to be who plays it out on a consistent basis. I’m excited, but we have a lot of work to do.”

The Tulane Green Wave are tied with the Miners in the preseason poll, a team they played two tightly-contested games against. Tulane made it to the C-USA Tournament finals after upsetting no. 22 Houston in the semifinals. Houston was the team that ended UTEP’s year after defeating them 68-64 in the quarterfinals. The Cougars received an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament, but did not make it out of the first round.

Taking first are the Memphis Tigers, followed by the Rice Owls and the UCF Knights. Last year, the Houston Cougars took the regular season title with UCF taking the tournament title and the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. UTEP finished ninth in the conference, falling to the Cougars in the quarterfinals of the C-USA Tournament in El Paso.

Memphis’ senior guard Brittany Carter was named the preseason player of the year with an average of 13.8 points a game last year. The Miners defeated the Tigers last year 60-55 in Memphis, but Carter did not play due to a stress fracture that sat her out five games last season.

Against Rice, UTEP beat the Owls by 22 Jan. 20 at home, then fell to them on the road Feb. 17 by seven. In one of their most exciting games of the year, the Miners fell at UCF Feb. 10 on a half-court buzzer-beater after they came back from 15.

Even though the rust of coming back from the offseason was apparent in practice Oct. 12, Adams said she felt the team was in good condition by Oct. 17’s practice. At the end of practice, the team went as hard as they could. Their final drill was to make 200 shots total in a six-minute time limit.

This will be Adams’ 11th year as the head coach for the Miners. Under her wing, the team has had five-straight seasons with winning records, totaling up 100 wins during that span. Also under Adams, the Miners went to the NCAA Tournament in 2008.

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To start out this year, eight players will be making their return, three of them from last year’s starting lineup. There has even been an individual accomplishment, such as senior forward Gloria Brown, who was picked on the preseason all-conference team. But despite the good news that’s been coming to the team, including their spot in the standings, the players would rather let their playing speak for them.

“Rank isn’t a big thing to me,” sophomore forward Kayla Thornton said. “That’s only a matter of what the people outside think. What matters is who’s going to finish at the end.”

Thornton is one of the eight returners. Last year, she started 12 games, was second on the team in rebounds per game with 5.2 and third on the team on steals.

Sophomore guard Kelli Wiliingham is another one of the eight returners. She was second on the team in scoring with 9.0 points per game and led the team with 33.1 minutes per game and 39 total steals.

“Rank doesn’t really matter,” Wiliingham said. “I think it’s pretty good coming from our season last year, but at the end of the day it really doesn’t matter. We just have to play and have a good year.”

The Miners will open up conference play Jan. 5 at 5MU then Jan. 8 have their conference home opener against Memphis.

“We really want to work hard and improve,” Adams said. “We have a good nucleus of returners and newcomers. But what we want to ultimately accomplish is to win a championship and to play in the NCAA Tournament. Being a team and playing hard, both of those things are very important.”

Rusty Burns may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.
The Amigo Airsho celebrates its 30th year in the Sun City. It will take place Oct. 22 and 23 at Biggs Army Airfield in Ft. Bliss. The show’s air exhibits will include a variety of 13 performers, including the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, back in the show after a 15-year absence. Guerra said negotiations to book the Blue Angels began two years ago. The U.S. Army Golden Knight Parachute Team will also perform.

Putting together an air show takes time. Two years to request planes and performers, a year of board of directors meetings and a week to set it all up on the airfield. It’s an intensive process, Guerra said. He also claimed the Amigo Airsho, which will take place Oct. 22 and 23 at Biggs Army Airfield in Ft. Bliss, has become a local fall staple.

“Last year, we held a focus group and we asked them, ‘What could we put out there to attract you to our site, not only to see the planes, but also to have a good time with friends?’” Guerra said. “Students responded live music, so we have chosen to highlight the great local talent we have in El Paso.”

As a newly chosen centennial Tier-one event for the Navy, the show will host U.S. Navy week. “They’ll be bringing educational activities to reach out to schools and the community to educate them on the great things that the Navy is doing,” Guerra said.

After 30 years of community support, the Amigo Airshow remains true to its mission to educate the community about the military and aviation and to bring them top-notch entertainment.

“It takes nearly 400 volunteers to put this together,” Guerra said. “There are that many people in the community that have a passion for El Paso and for the event. That is something that the community should be incredibly proud of.”

Paul Rangel, freshman undeclared major, will volunteer this year at the event for the second time. Rangel, who comes from a family of Air Force mom, said he is used to shows like this, but he really liked it. “It was just one of the entrance guys, but I really liked it,” Rangel said. “Afterwards, they let us look around and we got to see the planes backstage. You really don’t see this anywhere else.”

Clarissa Castillo, junior pre-business major, said she enjoys the show year after year. 

The Amigo Airsho takes the city’s sky

Amigo Airsho takes the city’s sky

Community

AIDS Walk to draw thousands for the cause

BY KRISTOPHER RIVERA

As part of the efforts to avoid new cases of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome infections and to improve the lives of those affected by the disease, the International AIDS Empowerment and AIDS Project El Paso will be conducting its 18th annual AIDS Walk El Paso charity event.

The 5K competitive run/walk will take place from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Oct. 22 at Memorial Park, located at 1701 N. Copia St.

The money raised during the event will go towards community-based non-profit organizations that assist people affected by AIDS.

“The state and federal government are coming down on the fundings,” said Antonio Muñoz, chair of AIDS Project El Paso. “We need to get the community involved. There’s still a bad stigma about this disease in El Paso.”

AIDS Project El Paso is a non-profit organization, primarily composed of volunteers, that helps individuals who have been diagnosed with the disease. Around 95 percent of the money granted to AIDS Project El Paso goes back into the community.

Muñoz said receiving support from the El Paso City Council has been difficult.

“We had Emma Acosta one year who helped us out, and when it came down to the time, she refused to even answer the calls,” Muñoz said. “We did get Mayor Cook to help us two years ago. He was in the walk, but he couldn’t wait to get out of the place. He walked halfway down the road and asked the volunteers, ‘What could we put out there to attract you to our site, not only to see the planes, but also to have a good time with friends?’”

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“This will be the second year UTEP’s MPO (Medical Professions Organization) participates in the event. They’ll be bringing educational activities to reach out to the community to educate them on the great things that the Navy is doing.”

The show has made a name for itself. Once September and October roll around, people know it’s Amigo Airshow time,” Guerra said. “We have an incredible place in the community now, one that we are very proud of.”

“After 30 years of community support, the Amigo Airshow remains true to its mission to educate the community about the military and aviation and to bring them top-notch entertainment.”

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See AIRSHO on page 14.

AIDS Walk El Paso

Walking towards a future without AIDS

The Prospector

By Kristopher Rivera

The Amigo Airshow has been a local fall staple for many years. In its 30th year, and fresh off last year’s record-breaking 72,000 attendees, Michael Guerría, Amigo Airshow president, is expecting a great year for the event.

“Putting together an air show takes time. Two years to request planes and performers, a year of board of directors meetings and a week to set it all up on the airfield. It’s an intensive process,” Guerra said. He also claimed the Amigo Airshow, which will take place Oct. 22 and 23 at Biggs Army Airfield in Ft. Bliss, has become a local fall staple.

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The Prospector

By Andres Rodriguez

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See AIRSHO on page 14.
The Office of International Programs Presents:
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Memorial Triangle
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

When the song "Monkey Wrench" was released by the Foo Fighters in 1997, lead singer Dave Grohl was screaming at the top of his lungs at "that one part." Fourteen years later, Grohl continues to "scream as loud as he fucking can" without the use of computers or technological advances.

After 16 years of rocking together, the Foo Fighters remain the best U.S. band over the last 20 years and should be a staple for musicians for years to come.

Currently on tour in support of their seventh studio album, "Wasting Light," the Foo Fighters remain in their element—rocking sold-out arenas and staying true to their fans. They played for three hours at their latest concert Oct. 16 in Phoenix, performing some of their biggest hits, acoustic songs and new tunes off their latest album.

Opening for the Foo Fighters was Mariachi El Bronx, a mariachi-style rock band and the alter ego of their original band, The Bronx. They have a lead singer that resembles Bradley Nowell, the deceased singer of Sublime and, coincidentally, Mariachi El Bronx is also from southern California. The band has two trumpet players, a drummer, guitarist player, guitarrist and violinist, too.

Following them was Cage the Elephant, an indie-hard rock band that was sure to win some new fans over. Their energetic live performances are known throughout the rock world and Phoenix was no exception. While more fans knew their songs as compared to Mariachi El Bronx, many did not know them and were there for the Foo Fighters.

Their energy was transferred to the audience as lead singer Matt Schultz dove into the crowd twice. During the second dive, he crowd surfed from the general admission floor to the seats where he ran through the concourse to finish his band’s set. But what do these bands all have in common? Grohl answered that during his transition into "Monkey Wrench."

Grohl talked to the screaming fans about his criticism of music today and how much he praised this tour because not a single band needed computers, synthesizers or technology to create music. As the fans cheered when he said that, Grohl responded by saying, "this is what music sounds like when you don’t have that crap. It is hard not to listen to Grohl, the former drummer of Nirvana, and respect what he has to say. He has a point. All this electronic crap from DJs who believe they are creating good music needs to stop. Sure, it sounds good and it’s great background music for clubs, but when performed live, it should not happen. I don’t know about everyone else, but when I see a great concert, I like to sing, jump around and just feel the next day from so much moving. Sure, some people may enjoy the beats and it makes them dance but let’s be real; it is not music. Electronic music is sampling and mixing songs from some great bands who surprise me by not suing the shit out of them. Especially when these "musicians" perform live, all the concert turns into is a big dance party with a computer guiding them. What I hope can become of music stems from bands like the Foo Fighters. For example while creating their latest album, the band recorded all the songs in Grohl’s basement. That is something you cannot do with a computer and samples.

The Foo Fighters are true music at its finest.

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

The Amigo Airshow will open its gates from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets begin at $12 in advance and $20 at the door. Admission is free for military personnel. For more information, visit amigoairshow.org.

The Prospector may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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refuse the ordinary
Event

Border Senses releases seventh bilingual literary journal

BY ALEJANDRO ALBA
The Prospector

Border Senses, a non-profit literary organization, is releasing the seventh edition of “Memorias del Silencio: Footprints of the Borderland,” a compilation of poems and stories written by migrant farm workers in a series of creative writing workshops.

“Some wrote about their reasons for leaving, others about the insecurity they had while living across the border,” said Minerva Laveaga, community project director of Border Senses. “Others wrote about their families and the difficulties they encountered to get where they are now. There is a variety of works.”

Laveaga explained that the stories compiled in Memorias del Silencio were written by students who attended the creative writing workshops of the Community Education Program of El Paso Community College. Laveaga, along with her partner, Francisco Tedeschi, conducted the classes at various community centers where migrant farm workers attended GED classes.

Border Senses began in the fall of 2000 as a bilingual literary journal, which was created by two students while getting their masters in creative writing. Amit Ghosh, co-founder of Border Senses and now publisher, said the community has embraced Border Senses quite well.

“It has allowed us to serve the underserved in the area of literary arts,” Ghosh said. “It is a way of serving more writers and bringing more readers.”

Laveaga said that most of the students who participated in the writing workshops had just arrived from Mexico. He said that if they enrolled in the class and “if they complete the course, then they get published.”

The seventh volume of Memorias del Silencio contains 24 stories and poems in Spanish. Ten of the stories were translated into English.

“With the idea of reaching a wider audience, we included a selection of translations of the most representative stories,” Laveaga said.

Erika Olivas, author of one of the stories, said that the workshops taught her how to express her emotions and thoughts through writing. Olivas’ story is based on a true life event; it is about her relatives losing a son to a mine explosion in Durango, Mexico.

“I really enjoyed the class. It made me write a lot,” Olivas said. “I would definitely do it again.”

The production of the annual book takes about nine months.

“It’s like having a baby,” Ghosh said. “We finish off the year with the book release event, which usually takes place in October,” Laveaga said. “The event is always free and open to everyone.”

The release of the book will be Oct. 21 at 6 p.m. at the Galería de la Misión de Senecú at 8455 Alameda Ave.
Technology

UTEP Bookstore is now offering Kindles, e-books to students

BY JERRY ALDAZ
The Prospector

With Amazon’s recent additions to the Kindle family, alongside the skyrocketing practicality of e-readers, the UTEP bookstore welcomes the digital era of literacy by offering an assortment of Kindle models and downloadable material to students.

At the $79 fixed rate for the basic Wi-Fi model and $99 for added touch capabilities, reaching $149 for 3G connectivity, Amazon’s new line of Kindles eliminates their physical keyboard while maintaining their standard six-inch E-Ink Pearl display.

Most notably, Amazon’s newly introduced Kindle Fire digresses from the traditional e-reader formula. For only $199, this Wi-Fi only, seven-inch, vibrant color display, dual-core handheld can stream thousands of movies and TV shows, support a library of apps, render full-color magazines and provide users with an optimized web-browsing experience.

Although the Kindle Fire is not for sale until Nov. 15, students on a budget who are seeking a college-oriented Kindle models at prices ranging from $99 to $189, students should look no further than UTEP’s bookstore.

By creating an account, users will be able to purchase and save digitalized textbooks. Accessible from all e-readers and internet-capable devices, these texts contain the same range of freedom as they can do with a physical book.

“Similar to other books, you can highlight in it, make notes in it. You can do anything you can do with a physical text,” said Daniel Peralta, bookstore associate. “It also doubles as an audiobook in the fact that it will read certain passages or paragraphs.”

Interested students can sign up for a free three-day trial from CaféScribe’s official website.

Beyond portability, these virtual textbooks might prove lighter on the wallet.

“Prices vary by title. Sometimes these books will be a little less than a used book; sometimes they’ll be even more than the new price of a physical book. It really depends on various factors,” Peralta said.

While many remain hesitant to adopt this emerging technology, Eric Alba, junior pre-nursing major, sees the benefits of portable textbooks.

“Barnes and Noble doesn’t offer textbooks for my Nook. If they offer the textbooks I need, I would definitely subscribe to CaféScribe,” Alba said. “I think digital is much more convenient. Since I usually carry around three books, it can get a bit tiring. All my friends don’t like carrying around all their books either.”

Thomas Stever sophomore creative writing major reads his Kindle in a bench at Leach Grove.

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Register your vote in the 2011 Students’ Choice Awards brought to you by The Prospector. Make your opinion heard today! Prizes will be awarded to winning entries, to be selected at random.

Entry deadline is October 31st at 5 pm. Results will be published in The Prospector’s 2011 Students’ Choice Awards Issue on November 22, 2011.

One entry per student. At least 15 blanks must be filled in to be counted or entered for prize. By entering you agree to have your name published in The Prospector (print and online editions).

*You must be a registered UTEP student

Please send or drop off complete entry to: Students’ Choice Awards, c/o The Prospector, 105 Union East, El Paso, TX 79962-0622, or drop them off at Student Publications office located at 105 Union East.

Name __________
Email __________
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Best sushi
Best pizza
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Best spot for a romantic dinner
Best ice cream shop
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Campus & Classes

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Best make-cut spot on campus
Best place to catch a nap
Best place to park on campus
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