Proposal for tuition increase

BY LORAIN WATTERS
The Prospector

A proposal will be presented to the University of Texas System Board of Regents on April 23 regarding an increase in tuition and fees by 3 percent. Administrators said the tuition increase is needed as a result of UTEP's current financial situation.

"We follow those guidelines and we host open forums, talk to (the Student Government Association), administration and business affairs to determine what plan we want to propose to the UT System," Edens said. "That usually takes a couple of months because we are bringing in together a lot of different people's feedback."

In 2012, the UT System Board of Regents approved an increase of 2.2 percent in tuition.

"Schools have been losing funding and subsidies from the state for years," said Juan Gonzalez, director of Student Business Services. "We have emergency loans and installment see MONEY on page 4

No money, mo' problems

BY LORAIN WATTERS
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COLUMNS

PERSPECTIVES

Increase better than it seems

BY JAVIER CORTEZ
The Prospector

Everything comes with a price, and in today’s society, good education comes with a hefty one. That being said, the proposal to raise tuition and fees by 3 percent, students are looking at it with a cringe and are saying goodbye to that new PS4 and saying hello to a higher tuition. With a closer look though, the 3 percent increase is not all bad, in fact it is actually beneficial to our school and our goal to achieve tier one status. The first thing that needs to be understood is how low of an increase this is in comparison to other universities in the Texas A&M is dealing with double the increase at 6 percent. University of North Texas has a 3.9 increase over the next four years and UT Brownsville is facing a staggering increase of 7 percent. I understand the increase will hurt some students, but going somewhere else is not the solution to our problems. The affordability of UTEP cannot go unnoticed. According to the U.S. Department of Education, Carnegie Foundation, UTEP is ranked the best value and most affordable emerging research institution of higher education in the country. If you look at the 3 point plan itself, some of the proposals are no minuscule that students won’t even feel the effects of it. For instance, students with 150 credit hours would pay a non-resident tuition rate once they have exceed their degree requirements by 30 hours or more. New students entering the 2014 fall semester will have to pay a one-time fee that ranges from $150 to $200. This does not include any student that attends UTEP as we speak. The bigger picture needs to be looked at though. Even the ultimate goal of UTEP increasing tuition of tier one status might be an unrealistic one, it is a commendable effort by President Diana Natalicio. UTEP accepts everyone and their mother. UTEP will only prosper if we modestly raise tuition. This is the reality of this country, if you want to get a higher education you are going to have to pay more—this is just as well as it is.

Inferring, if you think a 3.3 percent increase is that bad, then transfer to Texas Tech or UT Austin and have fun paying off your student loans for the rest of your life. If you want to be competitive, and get the best educators to come and teach at this university, we are going to have to pay more. It is well understood that UTEP is a poor city, and the tuition for UTEP reflects that. I can understand the frustration of students who can’t afford to pay for school already, but UTEP is making a conscious effort to make college as affordable as possible. The cost of education is an important topic, and rightfully so, because it effects everyone, and UTEP has made the cost of education a main priority and the proposal for a 3 percent increase is proof of that.

Javier Cortez may be reached at theprospectordaily.com/ryanlyons.com.

Tuition increases, my wallet ceases

BY LORAIN WATTERS
The Prospector

With the proposal being sent to the UT Board of Regents on the 23rd, all I can think about is “why did I decide to double major?”

Like many students before, the appeal to loans was irresistible. Being given “free money” for school and necessities without having to pay for it upfront seemed like a godsend at the time. But with interest rates and pulling out more money to make up for the increase, I’m only dreading my last semester rather than enjoying my senior year. I am being squeezed for money before I leave the university. Part of the reason for the tuition increase is so the university can reach tier one status, but the other part is because the state has lost funding and subsidies for higher education. Governance Buck Perry introduced an autonomy bill in 2003, meaning universities can set their own tuition rates, which led to students paying more money for the same education.

Since then, tuition has only increased at universities statewide. UTEP was ranked No. 7 in the nation for social mobility, but only because the university has students who come from poor backgrounds—such as Segunda Barrio or Juarez. Increasing tuition to reach tier one prevents those students from coming to the university and leads to them looking for an education elsewhere. According to the Chronicle of High Education, 20 million Americans attend college each year, and 12 million of those attendees borrow annually. The Federal Reserve Board of New York said that 37 million student loan borrowers have outstanding student loans, as of 2012.

Institutional funding depends on enrollment growth and if students cannot afford to come to UTEP because of the increase, UTEP will not receive the proper resources. The Texas government does not support higher education. Whereas attending a university was seen as an opportunity for all, now it is seen as a privilege if you have the money for it. I believe that getting an education at a university should be accessible for everyone, and not just those who happen to have the money. If the UT Board of Regents shoots down the proposal, the students will save a couple hundred dollars, which could be used to start paying back loans or rent.

If it is approved, then this might de- tter students from attending UTEP at all, ridding us of the chance at tier one. By the looks of it, the proposal will follow though since other UT schools have already announced that their tuition will increase for the coming semester. The increase will leave students paying an extra $200 for tuition and fees, this is on top of the other costs students have to deal with on a regular basis—books, rent, etc. I can only hope that I get financial aid for my last semester without having to pull out another loan. I will be graduat- ing UTEP owing them more than $30,000 and I’m not sure if my degree is even worth that much money.

Enjoy your full bank accounts now because they may be at zero for a while once the fall semester starts.

Lorain Watters may be reached at theprospectordaily.com/ryanlyons.com.
In 2011, Gov. Perry put forth a challenge to higher education institutions to lock in tuition at a flat rate for students for four years and to institute degree programs at universities amounting to $10,000. To date, 10 such programs have been created at universities in all of Texas.

Leonardo Barragan Coss, freshman pre-engineering major, and an international student from San Juanito, Chihuahua and uses an installment plan to pay for his tuition at UTEP since he does not receive federal financial aid.

"I just rely on that plan since it is easier to pay for tuition like that," Coss said. "When using an installment plan, the tuition is divided into four payments for the semester."

Coss has a savings account to cover the cost when he begins to pay back the school. He hopes for a job offer near his graduation date to ensure that he pays the full amount.

"For the tuition increase, I know there are many scholarships and that many students are eligible for them without knowing it, but in fact, many students could even need to drop out of UTEP," Coss said.

Senator Wendy Davis has criticized the state’s deregulation of tuition at state colleges and universities in an interview with The Huffington Post.

"It’s time to revisit that conversation and talk about how we can be a better partner… taking away hopefully some of the crushing student debt."

- Wendy Davis, Democratic State Texas State Senator

New Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous

There Is An Answer for Problems with Alcohol
Come Find Out

Wednesdays, Noon - 1 pm
Union Building West, Room 105
Aguirre is only 19 years old, and his short film “El Fuego Detrás” will be screened at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival in May. This is a huge step for the El Paso native. “El Fuego Detrás” is about a young immigrant woman who is oppressed by her abusive father. A violent crime is committed and her path abruptly crosses with her neighbor, who is a suicidal writer. The story develops as the two lost souls develop a friendship.

“I found out that storytelling was a big part of me,” Aguirre said. “My grandparents are also really great storytellers, so ever since I was little it’s been a passion of mine. I thought of (cinema) as a visual medium to tell stories.” Aguirre, along with Brian Ceely, freshman theater arts major, wrote the film in one day. “We wrote the script in a day, edited it in two days, put the crew together and we shot it in three days,” Ceely said.

Ceely is 21 and has written a novel called “Mouth of the Wicked.” “I’ve got to give it to Leo, he’s got a lot of drive and a one-track mind,” Ceely said. “Leo has made short films before, which are quite good, and I was so happy to work with him.” Aguirre will be leaving for Austin in the fall. He is part of the Coordi- nated Admission Program. CAP is a program that allows freshman applicants at University of Texas at Austin to spend their freshman year at any UT System school. Once the CAP re- quirements are met, the student then transfers to UT Austin to complete their undergraduate studies. “We wrote the script in a day, edited it in two days, put the crew together in three days and shot it in three days,” Ceely said.

“I want the process to be clean, to be enjoyable and to learn, to make the proper connections to attain funding for future projects,” he said.

“El Fuego Detrás” will be screened at 6 p.m. April 19 at the Union Cinema. The screening will also present Aguirre’s last film “Back and Beyond” and will help finance his trip to France. “We are asking for donations—so anything you can give would be appreciated,” Aguirre said.

Michaela Roman contributed to this story.

Helen Yip may be reached at theprospectordaily@utep.edu.

Perla Galindo, 2014 election com- missioner and junior political sci- ence major, said restrictions have been placed in the campaign process due to changes that were made to the election code. “The changes were implemented after some of last year’s candidates were sanctioned for violating campaign rules found in the code. “With our new election code, we’re trying to make things fair for every- body to run and to have the election process go a lot smoothly,” Lopez said. “I want the process to be clean, fair, to be enjoyable and to learn, to make it about UTEP.” According to Vice President for Internal Affairs Ruben Chavez, ju- nior pre-business major, the elec- tion commissioners previously made changes. “They just didn’t want to have a crazy election like last year’s,” he said. Some of the changes made to the code include restricting independ- ent party candidates from affiliat- ing with any party, and all parties have to turn in their monetary quo- tas for media advertising prior to the elections. Candidates will also not be able to promote themselves next to computer labs.

For more information including the election code, vists to the SGA Office at 304 Union Blvd, Ext. 919-691-2094. Or visit our website at www.utep.edu/sga.

SGA from page 1 and just there to help, so hopefully that’ll bring voter turn out to in- crease a little this year.” However, some UTEP students don’t seem to know about SGA or what it does. “When Aaron Castro, junior biolo- gy major, was asked if he knew what SGA was, he answered, “straight gay alliance, something like that!” SGA is a campus organization that focuses student representation and provides a student voice in the university decision-making process. SGA also helps in funding various student organizations and hosts a number of campus events.

Some accomplishments under the current presidency include the addi- tion of 31 more Wi-Fi routers at the Fox Fine Arts Center, the creation of new committees, a symposium in collaborating with the Mike Loya Center for Innovation, where schol- arship money will be given away to students and a Centennial Arts Fes- tival that will take place April 25, among others.

“This year we’ve helped the most number of students in the appro- priations committee that we have,” Lopez said. “So more students have been able to travel, more students have been able to have their events on campus and that’s really nice. It’s been a great year, I’m really proud.” Students will be able to vote in SGA elections at polling stations— which are yet to be determined—and on the UTEP webpage. “So anybody can vote from any- where,” said Maggie Ortega, ad- ministrative services coordinator for SGA.

2014 SGA Spring Elections

The Voice of the Students Working Together as One

Formal Campaigning Begins April 28, 2014

Presidential & Vice-Presidential Debate April 29, 2:30 PM

Union Cinema, 1st floor Union East

Position Available

President (1)
VP Interpersonal (1)
VP Internal (1)
Senators-All Large (15)
Business Collegiate Senator (1)
Arts Collegiate Senator (1)
Engineering Collegiate Senator (1)
Graduate Collegiate Senator (1)
Health Science Collegiate Senator (1)
Liberal Arts Collegiate Senator (1)
Nursing Collegiate Senator (1)
Science Collegiate Senator (1)

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Do you plan on voting in the upcoming SGA elections?

**ALEJANDRA ESCARÉNERO**
Graduate public health major
“‘Yes, because I think that they are the people who represent the student body and I think that we need that, for our thoughts and opinions to be heard.’”

**ALFONSO NAHALAUT**
Junior French major
“No, because I’m not really informed on what they do or their political parties. I’m not familiar with their work.”

**CLAUDIA NAVARRO**
Sophomore business major
“Yes, because I didn’t vote last year and this year I am more informed, that is why I am going to vote.”

**HIRAM DURAN**
Freshman multimedia journalism major
“No, because I don’t really associate myself with the school outside of my classes.”

**CLAUDIA RIOS**
Freshman psychology major
“Yes, because I’ve been a member of SGA at El Paso Community College so I want to run again here so I want to take an initiative in voting first before getting involved.”

**JESUS SOTEO**
Freshman computer science major
“Yes, because later in life we’re going to vote in presidential elections so it’s good for us to exercise our right.”

**STACY SHEARMAN**
Freshman business major
“No, because I don’t really associate myself with the school outside of my classes.”

**RAUL ARMENDARIZ**
Senior environmental science major
“I will vote, but not until I get enough information about the candidates.”

**VANESSA NAVARRO**
Junior forensic science major
“Yes, because they are the ones who choose UTEP’s future, and they represent the students’ voice.”

**VICTORIA SGRO**
Junior psychology major
“No, because I don’t really know anybody who’s running and I don’t know enough about it.”

**CARLOS DANGER**
Senior accounting major
“No, because I don’t know any of the candidates but if I did know, I would.”

**JESUS SIFUENTES**
Senior accounting major
“I will vote, but not until I get enough information about the candidates.”

**VIRGINIA JIMENEZ**
Graduate electrical engineering major
“Yes, because I have friends who are running for office and I consider them to be qualified for that position. I would like for this school to be run by competent people.”

**TRAVIS NORTH**
Sophomore mechanical engineering major
“No, I don’t think SGA is active enough to make me feel like they deserve my vote.”
inbrief

CENTENNIAL LECTURE SERIES

Monica Lozano, CEO and chair of the Board of Impremedia will speak to students, faculty, staff and members of the community during her Centennial Lecture at 5 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, at the Undergraduate Learning Center, Room 126, on The University of Texas at El Paso campus. ImpreMedia is a leading media company serving a growing Hispanic community in the United States. In 2010 she was named the CEO. Prior to that, Lozano served as the senior vice president of ImpreMedia’s publishing group, supervising the company’s newspaper and magazine division. ImpreMedia publishes highly respected and influential Spanish-language newspapers and websites, including La Opinión in Los Angeles and El Diario La Prensa in New York. Lozano, who is widely regarded as one of the most influential Latinas in the country, has served more than 28 years in Hispanic media across virtually all business lines. She joined the editorial department of La Opinión in 1985, and under her leadership the daily newspaper rose to national prominence as the nation’s largest and most influential Spanish-language publication. She eventually served as the Publisher and CEO of the newspaper. Her grandfather, Ignacio Lozano, founded La Opinión in 1926.

CENTER FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The role of The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) has been significantly expanded for this single ceremony, and we need over 100 workers to cover six separate locations prior to and during the ceremony in the Sun Bowl. Students that participate will be able to share in the excitement of the 100th anniversary celebration, and be able to make the event meaningful for the 2,400 students that are expected to graduate, as well as their 30,000 friends and family members in the audience. Involvement during this ceremony will also give volunteer students an advance perspective on their own future graduation ceremony. For additional event information, please review the Commencement website at http://ia.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=73197.

All students interested in being a CASS volunteer are asked to contact the CASS office at ccss@utep.edu or 747-5148, by May 9th. As there are a variety of issues to cover, we ask that all volunteers attend one of the one-hour training sessions being held the week of the ceremony, May 12 –16th.

COMMENCEMENT

ARE YOU READY FOR GRADUATION?

2014 Spring Commencement
Saturday, May 17, 2014
Sun Bowl Stadium
7:00 p.m.

Congratulations Class of 2014!

We know that your graduation from UTEP is an important event in your life and in the lives of those who have helped you reach this goal. It is important in the life of the University as well, and it should be a meaningful and rewarding experience for everyone. We hope these tips help to ensure that you, your family, and friends have a memorable experience at this joyous event, marking your transition from student to alumnus.

THE DAY OF COMMENCEMENT

1. In order to experience an enjoyable Commencement ceremony, please arrive at the Don Haskins Center no later than 5 p.m. Please enter through the East doors. Check-in will begin inside the Don Haskins Center at 4:30 p.m..
2. Have a green screen photo taken, in full regalia, after you check in.
3. Please leave all personal items (backpacks, cell phones, purses, coats, etc.) at home or in your automobile. These items (along with beach balls, balloons, confetti, noise makers, silly string, etc.) will not be allowed in the Sun Bowl Stadium.
4. Though your family and friends are an important part of Commencement, childcare services will not be provided, and children may not accompany graduates during the Commencement ceremony. Please make appropriate plans for the care of your children.
5. Wear regalia and COMFORTABLE WALKING SHOES. Please take into consideration that you will be walking from the Don Haskins Center to the Sun Bowl Stadium along uneven asphalt. Out of courtesy for your fellow graduates, please remain for the duration of the ceremony.
6. The student procession will depart for the Sun Bowl Stadium as early as 6 p.m. Please ensure that you have checked in and picked up your reader card before departing the Don Haskins Center.

For parking recommendations, tips for families and friends, and other information: www.utep.edu/commencement
Office of University Relations • www.utep.edu/universityrelations
Student artwork takes the bus

By Lesly Limon
The Prospector

UTEP's graphic design program and Sun Metro have joined forces to bring a new look to public transportation. Sun Metro chose seven pieces of art created by UTEP graphic design students to be displayed at bus terminals as part of the university's centennial celebration. Six individual designs will also be displayed on the buses as well.

"We are very excited to partner with The University of Texas at El Paso," Sun Metro Director Jay Banasiak said. "This partnership brings to light the important roles Sun Metro and UTEP play in moving and advancing the lives of our community, but more importantly this partnership highlights the wonderful creative talent that moves and grows in El Paso."

The design project, which has been in the works since 2013, was finally unveiled to the public earlier this month. The student designs are on display at the Sun Metro Downtown Transfer Center, 601 Santa Fe St., and on fixed-route buses throughout the city.

"This collaboration with Sun Metro is especially exciting because of the huge audience it provides," said Anne M. Giangiulio, associate professor of art. "It also gives the community a sense of the high level of education these students are receiving and the professional quality of graphic design of which they are capable.

The audience that will view these designs is exceptionally large as Sun Metro transports about 17 million El Pasoans each year.

The students whose work was selected for display were senior art majors, Yvonne Aceves, Adrian Batista, Monique Deitrick, Luis Larrieu, Patricia Menchaca and Diana Saenz. Menchaca said that she was excited when she found out that she would take part in this project.

Beck beckons folk rockers

By Amber Gomez
The Prospector

With a new release that is seen as a companion piece to his iconic "Sea Change," Grammy Award-winning singer Beck will perform at 8 p.m., April 24 at the Abraham Chavez Theater.


This year, Beck will be touring across the U.S. in order to promote his new album, "Morning Phase," which was released in February.

"I think he is a great musician," said Luis Medina, senior electrical engineering major. "I like the way Beck incorporates the different music genres into his own, whether it's alternative rock, indie or even hip-hop. He knows how to balance his music. He is one of the few original artists out there that still adds new things to the mix."

Carol McNeal, facilities sales and marketing director for El Paso Live, said she believes that this show, in particular, will be a success among fellow El Pasoans.

"Based on current ticket sales, the show is already a success," McNeal said. "There are still good seats left and I look forward to seeing the show sell out because Beck is a huge folk-rock artist with an amazing new release. It's his first one since 2008."

He was featured in two of the most recent Rolling Stone issues and the reviews for "Morning Phase" are overwhelmingly positive. Rolling Stone said, "The result is a set that feels like an instant folk-rock classic."

"I think it's great for international artists to perform in El Paso," said Leslie Duron, sophomore mechanical engineering major. "It provides publicity for the artists and attractions for the people of El Paso and people that reside around the city."

According to McNeal, the publicity that the city receives can attract people, and having artists like Beck can actually support the economy.

Beck will perform at 8 p.m., April 24 at the Abraham Chavez Theater.

I like the way Beck incorporates the different music genres into his own, whether it's alternative rock, indie or even hop-hop.

--Luis Medina, senior electrical engineering major

Beck will perform at 8 p.m., April 24 at the Abraham Chavez Theater.

see BECK on page 9

see SUN METRO on page 10

see CONCERT PREVIEW on page 10

see THE PROSPECTOR on page 9
Students witness “UTEP in the News”

“After this issue, This Shot World shuts up its loud mouth for good. To those persons who were kind enough to say they liked the column—thanks. For those when this column angered—thanks, too. This Shot World intended to anger you. Your cooperation was appreciated. This Shot World has loved The Prospector for a long time. Too long. And like all love affairs, both sides have hurt each other unintentionally.”

UTEP Graduate and Slain Journalist/Media, Ruben Baltazar, wrote last editorial column for the student publication.

The Prospector, May 8, 1956

Look polished at your next...

You can now access the Career Closet for professional business attire. Look great for your next interview, career fair or professional networking event.

Check out the Career Closet at Union West 103, Monday - Friday from 8:00 am. - 4:30 pm.

FREE SERVICE

University Career Center
103 W. Union or 915-747-5640

Service available to UTEP students only. Items must be returned dry-cleaned.
Grimaldi’s will open in late summer at the “Oculus” to exceed viewers’ fear expectations

BY LESLY LIMÓN

According to urban legend, mirrors have the ability to see into other dimensions and hold onto energy. I’m not too sure how true that is, but one thing is for sure—in the dark, mirrors can play tricks on you and they’re kind of freaky.

“Oculus” takes the whole freaky mirror thing to another level, but in a totally unexpectedly way.

After reading mixed reviews about this film, I was hesitant to see it. I’m a huge snob when it comes to horror films, and I will read up on them and determine if it meets my standards.

Putting my biases aside, I decided to give the film a shot and I was not disappointed. I find that movie crowds these days tend to watch horror movies to have a good scare, but nothing is really scary anymore. I’m tired of seeing bad computer-generated imagery effects and watching predictable and boring horror films one after the other.

“Oculus,” on the other hand, actually had a few plot twists that I didn’t expect, and it is definitely one of the better horror films I’ve seen this summer. The film starts off relatively slow, actually, really slow and kind of boring. However, once the ball gets rolling, things start falling into place.

An interesting fact about the film is that it was released in 2013, however, it recently opened for American audiences. It received second place at the Toronto Film Festival, and was based off of a short film directed by Mike Flanagan in 2006.

What I liked about “Oculus” is that it wasn’t just a generic approach to the whole “there’s a ghost in the mirror” story that has been redone over and over again. It plays with your mind and you find yourself just as confused as Kaylie and Tim—the main characters in “Oculus.” The mirror plays tricks on the siblings, and they find themselves struggling to determine what is real or not.

At times, the film can be very confusing, it’s one of those back-and-forth movie plots that involves flashbacks. So make sure to take care of whatever you need to do before the movie starts, because if you leave the restroom or to get popcorn, you’ll be completely lost once you get back.

By JoSE SOTO

El Paso will soon be captivated by the tantalizing smell of coal-fired, brick-oven pizzas, as Grimaldi’s Pizzeria will open its first doors in Brooklyn in 1905. They say this creates a consistent taste for the pizzeria.

Grimaldi’s is renowned across the nation for its coal-fired, brick-oven cooked pizzas and calzones. More than 100 pounds of pizza-making, the company will feature hand-built, 25-ton ovens at the Fountain’s location as it does at its other locations. Burning roughly 100 pounds of coal per day, the company continues to use this signature cooking method because they have found that the taste is inconsistent when using other methods.

Jeroyna Balderrama, a junior nursing major, said she’s patiently waiting for Grimaldi’s to open their doors.

"El Paso is gradually expanding their operations in dining experiences. It received second place at the Toronto Film Festival, and was based off of a short film directed by Mike Flanagan in 2006."

"Oculus" is not out in theaters and tells the story of two siblings dealing with an evil force involving an antique mirror that was purchased by their father.

Grimaldi’s will open in late summer at the “Oculus” to exceed viewers’ fear expectations. This will be its 11th Texas-based location, with 32 restaurants throughout the country.

Restaurant

World-famous Grimaldi’s pizzas are on their way

By RUDY GIULIANI

According to the pizzeria’s website, Grimaldi’s will open in late summer at the “Oculus” to exceed viewers’ fear expectations. This will be its 11th Texas-based location, with 32 restaurants throughout the country.

“Oculus” is not out in theaters and tells the story of two siblings dealing with an evil force involving an antique mirror that was purchased by their father.

“Oculus” takes the whole freaky mirror thing to another level, but in a totally unexpectedly way.

For more information, visit elpasolive.com, or by phone at 800-745-3000. For more information, visit elpasolive.com/best-office.

Tickets for Beck are $37 and can be purchased at the Plaza Theatre box office, all Ticketmaster outlets, ticketmaster.com, or by phone at 800-745-3000. For more information, visit elpasolive.com/best-office.

According to urban legend, mirrors have the ability to see into other dimensions and hold onto energy. I’m not too sure how true that is, but one thing is for sure—in the dark, mirrors can play tricks on you and they’re kind of freaky.

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Grimaldi’s will open in late summer at the “Oculus” to exceed viewers’ fear expectations. This will be its 11th Texas-based location, with 32 restaurants throughout the country.
“It feels like my work payed off. Knowing thousands of people are going to look at our work is more than I could have imagined for my first real job,” Menchaca said. “This opportunity has given me a greater sense on how many jobs are out there.”

According to Menchaca, as a result of this she feels more confident towards her goals after graduation and she hopes to inspire people through her art.

“I want the world to see their talent, energy and imagination,” Giangiulio said. “It is so important to give the students’ designs a life outside the walls of a classroom and for them to see their work here.”

Sun Metro believes that the selected artwork not only helps beautify El Paso, but it also enhances the experience for their commuters, and provides artists an opportunity to showcase their perspectives of the Sun City: “The students’ work is also displayed as large mosaic murals at the Glory Road Transfer Center near campus.”

“With this project, both UTEP and Sun Metro are taking on the role of giving back to the community and making art accessible anywhere,” Arce said. “The UTEP graphic design department is excellent, and I’m happy we can both work together to bring art to the city.”

Lesly Limon may be reached at theprospectordaily.ent@gmail.com.

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**UTEP CHORAL UNION AND CONCERT CHORAL**

Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall/7:30 p.m.

The University Chorus and Choral Union will present a collage of music on April 21 that will celebrate America—it’s people, places, ideals and composers. Tickets are available at $5 for general admission, $3 for seniors, military and non-UTEP students and free for UTEP faculty, staff, students and children (6 and under).

**JAZZ AND JOKES FEATURING COCOA BROWN WITH BUDDY LEWIS**

El Maida Shrine Auditorium/ 8 p.m.

Hollywood comes to El Paso on April 19. Music will be provided by The Mike Hamilton Group featuring vocalist Sha’Vonne and hosted by Jazz and Joke’s own Daran Howard. Doors open at 7 p.m. and seating is limited. VIP ticket prices are $50, general admission is $30 in advance and $40 at the door. The El Maida Shrine Center is located at 6331 Alabama St.

**21ST ANNUAL WOMEN’S LUNCHEON**

El Paso Convention Center/11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

The YWCA will host their annual signature fundraising event that helps raise money to support programs that invest in children and the community. Special keynote speaker Nely Galán, will talk about her experience in being one of the first Latina producers in Hollywood, her struggle to become a successful media entrepreneur and her ongoing passion to advocate the empowerment of Latinas everywhere. A first generation immigrant and self-made media mogul, Galán was the first Latina president of the U.S. television network, Telemundo, she has won an Emmy Award-winning producer and has appeared on “Celebrity Apprentice with Donald Trump.” To reserve a set or table visit ywcaelpaso.org or call 533-2311.

**EARTH DAY FESTIVAL**

Downtown Union Plaza/ 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The El Paso Downtown Artist and Farmers Market has teamed up with the City of El Paso’s Office of Sustainability to hold an Earth Day Festival on April 19 at the Union Plaza District. This year’s event will feature arts, crafts and produce vendors, green activities for kids of all ages, cooking and gardening demonstrations, food, entertainment and educational booths. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 487-4098.
Sophomore running back Austin Golden breaks a tackle from senior linebacker Anthony Puente during the Orange and Blue Game on April 11.

**SPORTS**

**Defense shines in spring game**

**BY LUIS BARRIO**

The Prospector

For some, the spring scrimmage is a teaser because it means football is back. For coaches, it’s an opportunity to evaluate players and go further into making their final roster moves. For players, it’s the joy of being able to put on the pads and start hitting each other.

Although every one playing is ultimately on the same team going for the win, there is some personal pride that players for the offense and defense take that makes for competitive gamesmanship among the players.

Projected starter at quarterback, Jeansell Shavers, got limited action in the scrimmage. He went four for seven for 44 yards.

In the one-on-one drills segment, brothers Alvin and Aaron Jones met up, with Aaron getting the better end of it against his linebacker brother.

“He caught me on that. I’ll give him that one,” Alvin Jones said.

Head coach Sean Kugler said, “We have really taken a big step forward. They forced turnovers and were able to convert them into points.”

“The entire spring, the defense has really been a big step forward. They are causing turnovers and turning them into points,” Kugler said.

Offense wants to score and make the defense look bad, while the defense is concentrated on not allowing the offense to produce any run.

“I really enjoyed the effort tonight. Guys went out there and had fun and we had a pretty productive spring,” Kugler said.

A defense that gave up huge plays in the past season was making huge plays itself at the scrimmage. They forced turnovers and were able to convert them into points.

“The scrimmage was a mix of the first team and the second team members rotating plays,” Kugler said.

“It looked like today, Alvin made some nice plays on defense,” Kugler said. “Last season, the UTEP defense was one of the worst in forcing turnovers, but that changed for the spring game. Junior cornerback Nick Gathrite had a 92-yard interception return and junior linebacker Adrian James recovered an end zone fumble and brought it back 100 yards for a score.”

Defensive coordinator Scott Stoker and the entire staff.

“Everything was going fine until the wind started to pick up,” Laaksonen said. “It was very strong and it started disturbing things. The wind was really irritating and some people would have had better times if the wind allowed them to.”

“All in all, Laaksonen was happy with the results and is optimistic about the Miners’ chances at the Conference USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

“I believe we have a good chance at the conference championships with these results,” Laaksonen said. “In the past weeks, I was really concerned with a couple of things, but across the board it was a great effort today. I think the men and women really want to do something special at the conference championships.”

The Miners will resume practices Aug. 4 and will begin immediate preparation for their season opener against the New Mexico Lobos in Albuquerque Aug. 30.
A strong finish to spring season

BY EDWIN DELGADO
The Prospector

The UTEP soccer team concluded their spring season in a dominant fashion with four wins and a draw in five games. UTEP began with a 1-0 victory over Arizona State on March 29, and one week later they toppped the Arizona Wildcats, 3-1, and had a draw against the New Mexico Lobos, 1-1, in their only road game. Finally the Miners ended with a 5-0 rout of Eastern New Mexico and a 4-1 win over New Mexico Highlands on April 12 and 13, respectively.

"This is a very positive performance from the team," said head coach Kevin Cross. "I think we are all impressed at where the team is at, especially since we lost five phenomenal seniors, and for the team to be playing this good, it’s a great sign." Players who saw a limited amount of playing time last season showed that they’re more than capable of filling the voids. Freshmen Brianna Barreiro, Hannah Nicholson, Brianna Thomas, Nicole Lindsay and Alexis Roberts were among the young Miners who impressed Cross with their performances.

"I think we played really well this spring season," Barreiro said. "We worked really hard throughout the spring and I think we had a lot of players that stepped up despite being put on positions they hadn’t played in before." Cross said that he was pleased with the team just allowing three goals in five games and that they scored 14. "In the summer we need to keep working on our fitness and push each other to the next level in practice and in every game," Barreiro said. "When we come together as a team, the team gets much better." Despite the good performance, Cross recognizes that their fall season is the one that matters.

"I told them that the spring means nothing and that they will need to work hard in the summer," Cross said. "This is by far the best spring we ever had and I’m proud of the girls—they are playing really well together."

The Miners still have the alumni game ahead of them on April 26 to officially close their spring season. In the fall, UTEP will play 12 home games and will seek to improve on the third-place finish they had during the 2013 regular season.

Edwin Delgado may be reached at theprospectordaily.car@gmail.com.

Miners sweep Blue Raiders

BY LUIS BARRO
The Prospector

On April 13, the UTEP softball team completed a series sweep over the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders with their bats and backs against the wall. Over the weekend, UTEP showed the power of its bats. They tallied 39 hits that produced 24 runs, six balls that went long distance, and a team batting average of .459. The series sweep against a conference foe at home was the first for the Miners since their sweep against Southern Miss in April 2010.

"After the long stretch of games where we were losing a lot, I liked how the girls trusted each other and believed in themselves," said head coach Tobin Echo-Hawk. "They stayed the course and did a great job, both offensively and defensively, and making the right adjustments."

In game one of the double-header on Saturday, the Miners ended their losing skid. Ashley Eldridge made the first out and the first two innings. Danielle Pearson completed a three-run homer over right field. The Miners won game one with a 5-3 advantage.

Game two was more of a personal home-run derby for the Miners than an actual competitive game. The second inning in the second game was where the Miners tallied 15 hits and four home runs. The Miners scored all of their runs during this inning. Game three started out with the Blue Raiders scoring two runs in each of the first two innings. Danielle Pearson was taken out in the third inning, and in came Colleen Hofman. She would finish the game from that point on.

"It doesn’t get any better than four home runs in one inning," Echo-Hawk said. "I don’t think I’ve ever seen that as a coach, so it was nice to see them bust out and have that success."

The Miners are now 15-27 overall, with a 7-8 conference record. They have exceeded their win total of last season of 13 games. Their seventh conference win of the season is more than the team had in its last three campaigns, a total of six in that span. "We feed off of each other like that. Beyond all that, my defense was awesome today," Hofman said. "People made big plays in big situations and that the kind of players we have on this team." Moving ahead to the home half of the fourth inning, UTEP’s Kaylee Netane got on base from an infield error by the Blue Raiders. Up to the plate came Alanna Leasau, who hit her seventh homer of the season to left center.

Colleen Hofman, senior pitcher/infielder

All of a sudden, a barrage of hits and runners in scoring positions came about in the fourth inning for the Miners. Pearson recorded a single after Leasau’s homer. Hofman stepped up and recorded a ground rule double. Marya Montiel recorded an RBI single. A walk by pinch-hitter Kayla Black and the Miners had the bases loaded. The Miners, however, left the inning with all three runners stranded.

In the seventh, the Miners had a one-run lead. The bases were loaded with two out. A groundout to the short stop junior Samantha Avila ended the game and the Miners celebrated the sweep.

"Hitting my spots worked. I think my change-up and drop ball was on today and that was really helpful," Hofman said. "I feel like if we continue that throughout the season, we’ll be just fine."

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