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Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso

The University of Texas at El Paso University Communications

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In 1989, as part of UTEP’s 75th anniversary, we invited representatives from the community to serve on a commission that would help us to define the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead for the university.

As we celebrated UTEP’s past achievements, we also were planning for an even more successful future. Our commitment to educational excellence, and to ensuring equity and access for all, served as our guide in embarking on this project.

For more than a year, the 2001 Commission worked closely with UTEP faculty members to research the university’s programs and services. They also met with countless civic groups to ensure that the commission’s final report would reflect the dreams and aspirations of the entire community.

The result of their hard work was *UT El Paso: A Diamond Jubilee Commission Report*, a comprehensive, thoughtful study that included many recommendations about the important role that UTEP could play in creating or enhancing opportunities for personal and economic growth in our region. Over the past decade, we continued to revisit the report to evaluate our progress.

With the arrival of 2001, UTEP began to prepare a formal response to the commission. In *Addressing the Challenge: UTEP’s Report to the 2001 Commission*, we measured our achievements in each of the six focus areas: educational opportunities, leadership, economic development, community development, image, and international relations. I am very proud and pleased to tell you that UTEP not only met, but surpassed, nearly every recommendation made by the 2001 Commission.

We shared our good news with all of you in the eight-page *Addressing the Challenge* report mailed earlier this summer. UTEP’s progress during the past decade has been remarkable, and *Addressing the Challenge* tells the story in detail. If you have not had an opportunity to read the report, I encourage you to do so. There is much to celebrate in those pages, including these highlights:

In 1988, UTEP had four computer labs and 120 PCs, and the Library had only two electronic titles. Today, we have 31 computer labs and 7,895 PCs. UTEP’s Library now offers 4,860 online books, journals and other publications.

In 1988, UTEP offered one doctoral program. Today, we offer 10.

In 1988, UTEP’s endowment funds totaled $22.3 million. Today, it’s $112 million.

This is a terrific success story, and many of you have played a major role in it through your generous commitment of time, expertise and financial support. We can all be very proud of what we have accomplished together.

But, we certainly don’t intend to rest on our laurels. Before long, we will begin making plans for UTEP’s Centennial in 2014, and we will once again call upon many of you to join us in developing a vision for what UTEP should seek to achieve in the years before our 100th anniversary. The excellent work of the UT El Paso 2001 Commission will serve as a valuable model for this next phase in the sustained partnership between UTEP and the community that we are proud to serve.

— Diana Natalicio

Note: If you haven't received your copy of *Addressing the Challenge: UTEP’s Response to the 2001 Commission*, please call UTEP’s Office of University Communications at (915) 747-5526.
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Larry K. Durham's Miner football career included more losses than wins, but he says it was a lesson he needed to learn. "While I would have liked to have gone through four winning seasons and some bowl games, maybe it was better for me that we weren't successful," says Durham, the recipient of the 2001 Alumni Award for Exceptional Service. "I was a little too self-confident and cocky. I needed to be at the bottom and get beat down, and grapple with what that meant and figure out what to do from there. I had to realize that you can lose some battles, but win the war."
A native of Sweetwater, Texas, Durham came to Texas Western College as an undersized running back in 1961. He attended on a football scholarship, but it was a near thing — then-Miners Coach Ben Collins had not originally intended to sign him.

"I pleaded my case with him and said, 'Coach, I think you owe me a scholarship,'" Durham recalls. "He was quiet for a minute. Then he said, 'If you feel that strongly about it, come out here and you've got a scholarship.'"

Durham's persistence and come-from-behind spirit characterized both his college and his professional careers. After graduating from TWC in January 1966 with a degree in mathematics, he had a successful career in the aerospace industry for such giants as Boeing in Wichita, Kan., working on a model to modify B-52s into commercial 747s, and Lockheed Electronics in Houston, where he worked on spacecraft mission abort systems for NASA.

Although he was successful in his field, Durham grew discouraged with the bureaucracy of the organizations for which he worked, and aspired to one day run his own business.

It was while he was in California, working for a firm writing software for the first wave of spy satellites that would become the NORAD system, that he became friends with Jim McGee, the owner of a small, struggling bus company.

"He said if I could help him, he'd make me an owner," Durham says. "I saw immediately that there were chances to grow, if you stepped out of your comfort zone and took risks in the marketplace."

In January 1971, Durham changed careers and went to work with McGee. A year and a half later, the company was "out of the woods." In 1976, Durham bought the company from McGee and became the owner of what would become the highly successful, multimillion-dollar Durham Transportation. In 1999, he sold the company to a British firm, National Express Group, which hired him back as president and CEO of its U.S. subsidiary, National Express Corporation.

"It goes back to the things your parents and grandparents tell you — the importance of hard work, of having a strong value system and modeling those values in the workplace, and of hiring people with like beliefs, challenging them and then rewarding them," Durham says of his work to turn the company into a winner.

Durham's capacity for hard work was evident on the TWC football field. Although the Miners didn't experience much success during his four years, Durham emerged as one of the team's best players. Admittedly nervous in his first game in 1961 ("They put me on special teams and I fumbled four times before I got my first hand on the ball"), Durham settled down and became a major contributor on both offense and defense. He made history when he scored the first touchdown in the Sun Bowl on the first play from scrimmage against North Texas State in 1963. He had seven career interceptions, including a 100-yarder against New Mexico in 1962 that is tied for the longest in school history.

But while making a name for himself on the gridiron, Durham found balancing academics and athletics to be more difficult than he had imagined. The 1962 season, in particular, was a
real challenge for him. With so few players coming back, then-Miners Head Coach Bum Phillips looked to his sophomores, including Durham, to be the team leaders, and the young man found himself struggling in his classes.

"I had graduated in the top five of my class in high school and had never made less than an ‘A’ on a report card," he says. "Dealing with some classes where I didn’t make an ‘A’ was difficult for me. I struggled — it was hard to balance football practice and classes."

Durham’s memory of the difficulty of achieving that balance prompted him to give back to UTEP, and his business success gave him the means to do so. His donation of $5 million to the university is supporting the construction of an $11 million sports center that will provide both physical and academic support for the nearly 300 student-athletes competing on UTEP’s 15 Division I teams.

Construction began on the 60,000-square-foot Larry K. Durham Sports Center on the north side of the Sun Bowl in January 2001, and the grand opening is scheduled for spring 2002. It will feature a 10,000-square-foot strength and conditioning center, a student-athlete lounge and computer center, a multi-purpose meeting center, a “Hall of Champions” and display of memorabilia of UTEP athletes’ past and current accomplishments, coaches’ offices and locker rooms, and a separate laboratory for the 250 undergraduate and 30 graduate students in UTEP’s Kinesiology Program who are preparing for careers in physical education and industrial ergonomics.

Durham says the new facility will truly link athletics and academics.

“There’s so much media hype around the athletic teams making it to the playoffs and becoming Number One. But if all we’re doing is making the game a stepping stone to the professionals, then we’re looking at it the wrong way,” he says. “All of my gifts to the university have been with the idea that this is not to develop an athletic program that’s going to win every year and become a dynasty. It’s to provide kids with an opportunity to compete at the highest level and to walk away with a degree.”

Win or lose on the playing field, thanks to Durham’s donation and the support of the sports center’s facilities, future UTEP student-athletes will have the tools they need to help them succeed academically, giving them the opportunity to learn the life lessons Durham learned at UTEP and during his business career.

“I think the bottom line is you’ve got to be a winner — have a burning desire to be the best at whatever it is you’re doing. It comes down to understanding that life is a big game, and to fully relish it, you need to put your goals further than you can possibly reach — be open to new ideas and continue to educate yourself and pursue personal growth.”
HENRY AND MABEL NG: LIVING THE GOLDEN RULE

by Wally Haley

Henry Ng believes in the Golden Rule — treating others the way he would like to be treated.

Living his philosophy, Henry and his wife, Mabel, established the Henry and Mabel Ng Endowment in 1999 to provide a scholarship for a UTEP senior or graduate student studying structural engineering.

“I hope to donate enough money to offer more than one scholarship each year,” Henry says.

Mabel adds, “The endowment is something we’ve been thinking about for a number of years. It’s a way to give back to the community and help students.”

The engineer came to UTEP from his native Hong Kong in the 1970s at the urging of a friend.

“I didn’t even know where El Paso was, I just figured it would be good to go to a school where there was someone I knew. It was a shock,” Henry says, remembering his reaction to seeing El Paso for the first time. “I came from a major urban city of six million people to see a much smaller desert town.”

Surprisingly, Henry wasn’t sure what he wanted to study at UTEP until the day he registered. But once he entered the university’s engineering program, he found his studies challenging and built ties with new friends.

“I enjoyed my youth at UTEP,” he says. “The engineering school is a closely knit community. We spent a lot of time on campus after school to work on different projects. I even stayed overnight on campus once trying to meet a project deadline.”

After graduating from UTEP in 1977 with a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering, Henry immediately began pursuing a master’s degree while working full time for a building company that specialized in both commercial and residential construction. He completed his master’s degree in civil engineering in 1981.

He established his own one-man engineering firm, Henry K Ng Consulting Engineers, in 1987.

For a long time, my objective was to stay a one-man firm because I wanted to do everything myself,” he says.

But the success of his company made a solo operation impossible. Today the firm employs four engineers and a draftsman in addition to Henry and his wife, who is the office manager.

Henry and Mabel grew up in Hong Kong, where they attended high school together. Mabel stayed in the city after high school for a year to work in the foreign shares department of the Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corporation.

She then moved to Toronto, Canada, where she attended Ryerson Polytechnical Institute.

After graduating from college in 1977, she returned to Hong Kong for eighteen months to work for an import-export company before coming to El Paso to reunite with Henry.

“We stayed in touch the whole time we were in college,” Mabel says.

The couple has two children, Jessica, who is planning to study pharmacy, and Adrian, a high school senior who loves math.

Both children love music, and each of them began playing an instrument at the age of seven. Adrian also plays on his high school’s varsity tennis team.

“As Chinese parents in America, in light of our different culture, we want to stress education, but at the same time, we encouraged our children to pursue other interests such as music and sports,” Mabel says.

The Ngs have achieved success in their adopted hometown, and want to share it with an old friend — UTEP.

“I got my education from UTEP and have been living in El Paso more than half my life,” Henry says. “What I got from the university and from society, I am giving back in part to UTEP. It’s the right thing to do.”
"Do you have trouble behaving sometimes?" asks Trisha Ainsa, professor of teacher education. "I am going to read you a story about behaving — about a princess, a dragon and behaving."

There is no trouble with behaving once the book covers part and Ainsa's voice fills the space between her and the rapt audience of 4- and 5-year-olds — all eyes are focused, the little bodies cease to move, and voices are hushed. The questions begin almost immediately after "the end" of the story. How can you become a princess, or a dragon for that matter? What was the princess' favorite flavor of ice cream? Ainsa fields them all with a smile — patience is her guide.

It is a lesson she passes on to her education students, who spend several days one month a semester with her reading to children at local bookstores, donning costumes and using hand puppets to make children's literature come alive.

Ainsa can trace her career beginnings to early childhood education, and as she mingles among the children, her own college students taking notes, she is clearly in her element. The author of "Computergarten," a textbook designed to introduce very young children to technology, she earned a degree in education from Texas Western College (now UTEP) in 1967 and became a teacher, following in her mother's footsteps.

After a classroom career that included early childhood education and special needs students in schools in both New Mexico and Colorado, Ainsa began teaching at UTEP in 1977 as a special education professor. But when a position in teaching early childhood education opened up, she jumped at the chance to teach in her second area of expertise.

Ainsa has designed and implemented more than 10 new courses in special education and early childhood education and served as the chairwoman of the task force that designed a bachelor's degree in early childhood education at UTEP.

Her record of commitment to teaching was rewarded last year when she received the Minnie Stevens Piper Award for teaching excellence.

"I wouldn't do it if the students weren't who they are," she says, noting that many of her students have stayed in college even in the face of crushing personal crises.

"When students question their goal to become teachers, when other careers may pay better, I tell them, 'You're going to work for the rest of your life. You better do something you love.'"

In addition to her role as a professor, Ainsa is the first female Faculty Athletic Representative on the UTEP Athletic Council, helping student-athletes meet their academic and volunteer requirements and serving as a liaison between students and faculty.

"Working with the student-athletes is better than getting a paycheck. It's really rewarding," she says, adding that in the past two years, two student-athletes have earned the distinction of being named among UTEP's Top Ten Seniors.

"It can be very tough to balance academics and sports for a student-athlete, but I make sure they do everything they need to do to achieve in the classroom," the educator says. "When everyone does their job — coaches, students, faculty — the system works."

The author of more than 11 books, Ainsa recently added another accomplishment to her list — earning a second master's degree in public health from The University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston. She plans to use her knowledge of public health issues when instructing her education students.

"If you are a classroom teacher, you get into many areas of public health," she says.

One area of particular interest to Ainsa is HIV-positive youngsters and children with AIDS. Her new book, Teaching Children with AIDS, published by Mellen Press, provides teachers with information on the disease and helps them prepare lesson plans about AIDS and HIV.

But it is not the books she has written or the courses she's developed that inspire. Changing people's lives as an educator keeps her motivated.

"Teachers put a piece of their hearts into their jobs."
Education professor Trisha Ainsa weaves a tale of dragons and princesses for a captive crowd of youngsters. UTEP football player and student Chris Porter helps with the audience.
Miners Poised for Second Championship Season

With the WAC Championship still fresh in their minds, UTEP football fans expect another winning season — and they won’t be disappointed if Head Coach Gary Nord has anything to say about it.

Despite plenty of new names on the roster this season, the Miners have enough players from last year to prove their 7-1 WAC record wasn’t a fluke. "We have more than enough talent in place to show 2000 was anything but a one-year wonder," says Nord, who was named WAC Coach of the Year following the championship season.

The Miners, who lost nine starting players, expect a strong showing this season from several different areas, including the wide receiver and tight end positions, running back and the offensive and defensive lines.

Nord is expecting stellar play from senior wide receiver Lee Mays, who is considered a bona fide All-America candidate after leading all wide receivers nationally with 15 touchdown receptions last season. Mays already is the all-time Miner record-holder with 27 catches for touchdowns and is fourth in yardage in school history with 2,175 yards. Mays can become the all-time WAC touchdown reception leader with 15 more scores this season.

Other standout players and All-Star candidates include members of the offensive line such as sophomore Trey Darilek, right tackle; junior Ariel Famaligi, left tackle; senior Lawrence Norman, left guard; and senior Crance Clemons and junior Weldon Cooks, defensive backs. Other All-Star candidates are Camar Jackson, junior linebacker; Joey Knapp, senior tight end; Chris Porter, senior running back; and D.J. Walker, junior defensive back.

UTEP hired Bob Wagner as defensive coordinator to help operate the eight-man front the university used last season to keep opponents at bay. Wagner, a two-time WAC Coach of the Year at Hawaii in the 1980s, most recently coached linebackers and special teams at Arizona.

Also joining the UTEP coaching staff this year are Ron Hudson, who will coach the tight ends, and Reggie Johnson, who will work with defensive ends. Brian Callahan, who was part of last season’s team, has been elevated from tight ends coach to handle offensive line duties.

This season, UTEP will face Boise State University and Louisiana Tech, both of which joined the WAC this fall. UTEP will play 12 games in 2001, including six home games for the first time since 1995.

Although UTEP will not play Fresno State University this season, the Miners will play non-conference games against Texas Southern, the University of New Mexico, southern powerhouse Alabama, and a nationally televised game Sept. 13 against Texas Tech that will air on ESPN2.
Three Cheers for the MINERS!
Go, Miners, Go!  Fight, Miners, Fight!  Win, Miners, Win!

October 15-20

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Homecoming and Gold Nugget Award Reception
4:30-6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18
Business Administration Lobby, First Floor
No charge.
Contacts: Jo Willems or Nancy Vigil at 747-7715 or 747-7718, via e-mail at jwillems@utep.edu, or on the Web at www.utep.edu/coba.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Gold Nugget Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Templeton Suite, Union Building East, Third Floor
RSVP required.
Contacts: Suzanne Sifuentes or Julie Payan at 747-5572, or via e-mail at jpayan@utep.edu.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
Metallurgical and Materials Engineering Faculty-Alumni Mixer
4:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18
Home of Pat and Larry Murr
All Metallurgical, Material and Mining Engineering graduates are welcome to attend.
Contacts: L.E. Murr or Faye Ekberg at 747-5468 or 747-6929, or via e-mail at fekberg@utep.edu.

Civil Engineering Alumni Reception
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Lunch and refreshments will be served.
Contacts: H.S. Oey or Maria Simental-Gomez at 747-6913 or 747-8664, via e-mail at oeyhong@utep.edu or msgomez@utep.edu, or on the Web at www.utep.edu/civil/.

Engineering Homecoming Alumni Breakfast
8:15-10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center
$10 per person; dressy casual attire.
Contact: Leticia Diaz Rios at 747-8801 or 747-5460, or via e-mail at lrios@eng.utep.edu or eng@utep.edu.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Gold Nugget Luncheon
Noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Santa Teresa Country Club
Contact: Pat Du Mond at 747-7201, or via e-mail at pdumond@utep.edu.

Alumni Homecoming Tailgate Party
4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
Pavilion across from Memorial Gym
No charge; casual dress.
Contact: Judy Griffen at 747-2211, or via e-mail at jgriffen@utep.edu.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
Military Science Department Push-Up Contest
11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16
Memorial Triangle
Contact: Capt. Jesus Silerio, U.S. Army, at 747-6695, or via e-mail at jsilerio@utep.edu.
English Department
Homecoming Reception
2:30-4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18
Hudspeth Hall Foyer
Contact: Ceci Rhymes at 747-6240, or via e-mail at crhymes@utep.edu.

Gold Nugget Award Ceremony and Reception
7-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18
Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, Second Floor
Contact: Craig Wells at 747-7363, via e-mail at cwells@utep.edu, or on the Web at www.utep.edu/libarts/spotlight/feature.htm.

History Department Reception
4-6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
History Department Lounge,
Liberal Arts Building, Third Floor
No charge; informal dress.
Students and alumni welcome.
Contacts: Emma Pérez or Edith Yañez at 747-5508, or via e-mail at emperez@utep.edu.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
Alumni Brunch & Hicks-Middagh Award Presentation
10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
Cotton Memorial Building Lawn
Contacts: Patricia Witherspoon at 747-5129, or via e-mail at withersp@utep.edu.

Political Science Homecoming Reception
9:30-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
Thomas I. Cook Seminar Room, Benedict Hall, Room 205
No charge; award presentation.
Contact: Debbie Pancoast at 747-7968, or via e-mail at dpancoast@utep.edu.

R.O.T.C. Alumni Picnic
2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
Military Science Building, Room 107
Contact: Capt. Jesus Silerio, U.S. Army, at 747-6695, or via e-mail at jsilerio@utep.edu.

GOLD NUGGET BREAKFAST
9-11:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Geology Reading Room
Business attire.
Contacts: Michelle Cadena or Jeannie Webb at 747-5536, or via e-mail at rvasquez@utep.edu or ewebb@utep.edu.

College of Science and Medical Professions Organization Parade Float
12:20 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Homecoming Parade, University Avenue.

Physics Annual Homecoming Picnic
5:30-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Leech Grove
For alumni, current physics faculty, staff and students.
RSVP required; informal dress.
Contact: Terry Weber at 747-7527, or via e-mail at tweber@utep.edu.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
History and Tradition of the College of Science
Noon Thursday, Oct. 18
Bell Hall Parking Lot
Students and alumni are welcome to help build the college float.
Contact: Michelle Cadena at 747-5536, or via e-mail at rvasquez@utep.edu.

College of Science and Medical Professions Parade Float
12:20 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Homecoming Parade, University Avenue.

Geological Sciences Brunch
9-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
Geological Sciences Building, Room 310
$8 per person.
Contacts: Sandy Ladewig at 747-6551 or Pam Hart at 747-5501, or via e-mail at hart@geo.utep.edu.

College of Science Tailgate Party
4-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
Leech Grove
Casual dress. Everyone welcome.
Contacts: Michelle Cadena or Jeannie Webb at 747-5536, or via e-mail at rvasquez@utep.edu or ewebb@utep.edu.

ALUMNI
For information on Alumni events, contact Jeannie Johnston or Doreen Black at 915-747-8600, 1-866-GO-MINERS, or via e-mail at alumni@utep.edu.
Contact the Alumni Relations Office for information on special rates with Southwest Airlines and area hotels.

Open House
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, Oct. 15-19
Peter and Margaret de Wetter Center
Alumni Association
Golf Tournament
Noon Thursday, Oct. 18
Location TBA.
$65 per person.
Contact: Ron Harvey at 541-1133 or the Alumni Relations Office at 747-8600.

Golden Grads Mixer
2-4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18
Peter and Margaret de Wetter Center
Informal mixer for the class of 1951 and the anniversary classes of 61, 71, 76, 81, 91 and 96.

Golden Grads Dinner
5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18
La Hacienda, 1720 W. Paisano Drive

Honored Classes Luncheon
1:45 p.m. (after Homecoming Rally) Friday, Oct. 19
Peter and Margaret de Wetter Center
Luncheon to honor the class of 1951 as well as the classes of 61, 71, 76, 81, 91 and 96.

Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus Awards Reception
6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Coat and tie dinner, Don Haskins Center.
Tickets available at the UTEP Ticket Center, 747-5234.

Golden Grads Luncheon
Noon Saturday, Oct. 20
Tomás Rivera Conference Center, Union Building East, Third Floor
Complimentary luncheon, hosted by Dr. Diana Natalicio, honoring the Class of 1951.

Alumni Association Pre-Game Party
4:30-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
Peter and Margaret de Wetter Center

GRADUATE SCHOOL
Open House
3-5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Graduate School,
Administration Building, Room 200
Contact: Yvonne López at 747-7898, via e-mail at selopez@utep.edu, or on the Web at www.utep.edu/graduate.

GRADUATE STUDENT SERVICES
Graduate Student Social/Cook-Out
6-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Union Building West Parking Lot
No charge with Graduate School I.D.
Contact: Yvonne López at 747-7898, via e-mail at selopez@utep.edu, or on the Web at www.utep.edu/graduate.

HERITAGE HOUSE
Exhibits on the Band and Golddiggers
11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, Oct. 17-19;
10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Oct. 20
Contact: 747-5592.

HONORS PROGRAM
20th Anniversary Celebration Brunch
10:30 a.m.-noon Sunday, Oct. 21
Honors House Patio
$10 per person; casual dress.
Contacts: Mary Carnie or Lillian Mayberry at 747-5858, or via e-mail at macarnie@utep.edu or mayberry@utep.edu.
STUDENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Homecoming Parade
12:20 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
University Avenue.

Pep Rally
1:15 p.m. (following the Homecoming Parade)
Friday, Oct. 19
Location TBA.
Contact: Marisa Olague at 747-5670,
or via e-mail at olague@utep.edu.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Homecoming Pageant
7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12
Magoffin Auditorium
Contact: Alejandra Rivas at 747-7493 or
the SGA Office at 747-5584, or via e-mail at
arivas@utep.edu.

Homecoming Party
7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19
Union Building West Parking Lot
Contact: Victoria Martinez at
the SGA Office at 747-5584,
or via e-mail at martinez@utep.edu.

TEXAS WESTERN PRESS
Open House
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Oct. 15-19
All books will be 50 percent off
Contact: Carmen Tavarez at 747-5688, via
e-mail at twp@utep.edu, or on the Web at
www.utep.edu/~twp.

UNDERGRADUATE RECRUITMENT AND ADMISSIONS
Leadership “U”
9 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17
Union Building East, Third Floor
Contact: Lydia Espinoza at 747-8975,
via e-mail at lespinoza@utep.edu, or
on the Web at www.recruit.edu.

UTEP ALUMNI BAND
Saturday, October 20
Marching Band Rehearsal
3-4 p.m. Meet at the Sun Bowl Stadium for rehearsal with the Marching Miners. Bring your
instrument and wear your UTEP colors.

Alumni Band Party and Business Meeting
4-6 p.m. Fox Fine Arts Building.

Football Game Halftime Performance
6:15 p.m. March in with the Marching Miners
to perform at halftime.
Contact: Curtis Tredway at 747-5665, or
via e-mail at ctredway@utep.edu.

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE
For information on University Bookstore events,
contact Annabelle Padilla at 747-5593, via
e-mail at apadilla@utep.edu, or on

Super Homecoming Sale
8 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Oct. 15-18;
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 20
All UTEP clothing and novelty spirit items
20 percent off.

Patio Clothing Sale
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, Oct. 17-19
Buy one, get one of equal or lesser value free.

UTEP FOOTBALL
UTEP vs. San Jose State
7:05 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20
Sun Bowl
For tickets, call the UTEP Ticket Office
at 747-5234.

Stop by the de Wetter Center (the Alumni Lodge) during Homecoming to purchase your
2001 UTEP Holiday Ornament for only
$15. For more information, contact the Alumni Association at 915-747-8600,
1-866-GO-MINERS, alumni@utep.edu, or
visit us on the Web at www.utep.edu/alumni.
The story goes that the burro—a large sculpture of the mascot of old, adorned with rope and saddlebags—was housed unused in the Athletic Department for years, taking up needed space, until one day it disappeared.

Fast forward several years to a poolside party for university staff at a colleague’s house. Sitting by the pool was none other than the brown burro, looking serenely at the sparkling water and party-goers nearby. Again the burro was uprooted—this time from the pool—and taken to a more permanent home at the Heritage House.

The Heritage House’s exhibits of college momentos such as the burro, and photos of student councils from years long past, paint a picture of the university’s legacy—etched in the faces of more than 80 years of students who have called the campus home.

For alumni who trek back to their alma mater for Homecoming each year, the house is a treasure trove of memories—a blue yearbook from 1947, a Homecoming corsage with streaming white and gold ribbons, a letterman’s jacket with a broad orange “M” sewn on the front, and a battered megaphone with the visage of Paydirt Pete staring out at Miner fans.

“We invite alumni, especially the Golden Grads, to visit the house each year during Homecoming,” says Nancy Hamilton, a UTEP alumna and former university staff member who belongs to the 30-member Heritage Commission Executive Committee that oversees the home. “A lot of them walk through and reminisce about classmates or activities they participated in while they were here. We hear some great stories, and many of the alums end up donating an item to our collection.”

Hamilton relays the story of an alumna who had been a drum major and donated her costume to the Heritage Commission. She visited Heritage House during Homecoming week one year and was “tickled” to discover she also was featured in a display on KTEP’s 50th anniversary in her role as a former radio station staff member.

The KTEP materials were just one of the special exhibits the Heritage Commission creates each year in addition to the permanent displays that line the walls of the historic home.

The home itself, originally built in 1921 for Steven Worrell, the first dean of the School of Mines, and his wife, Kathleen, has housed former administrators, and been used as a special projects center and as office space for the Schellenger Research Laboratories and the Upward Bound Program.

Today the Heritage House holds the traditions and dreams of generations of Miners: an entire collection of yearbooks dating back to 1920 and clothing from former cheerleaders, basketball and football players, and faculty members—including a wedding dress belonging to Anita Lorenz, a modern languages professor who taught at the university in 1925.

This year, Homecoming revelers can enjoy special exhibits on the UTEP band and Golddiggers, featuring uniforms and photos.

“It is these shared experiences that bring us all together—the common feeling of pride we all have for the university and the anticipation of our Homecoming celebration,” says Hamilton.

Her statement rings true—through several decades of yearbooks, the hairstyles and fashions change, but the spirit of the Miners lives on.

The Heritage House will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday through Friday during Homecoming week. Please contact Jeannie Johnston at 747-5592 for more information.
2001: An Education Odyssey
UTEP Explores a Decade of Progress in the 2001 Commission Report

Alejandrina Drew, a member of the UT El Paso 2001 Commission International Relations Committee, reviews Addressing the Challenge, an overview of UTEP's achievements.

At a reception July 19, UTEP President Diana Natalicio unveiled a report summarizing the university's progress in responding to the recommendations of a special commission of community members and UTEP faculty.

"Addressing the Challenge: UTEP's Report to the 2001 Commission" is the university's response to guidance from the UT El Paso 2001 Commission. Natalicio established the group in the late 1980s as part of the university's 75th anniversary to coordinate thinking and discussion about the challenges and opportunities UTEP would face between then and the turn of the century, and to recommend how the university could expand opportunities for the development of the region.

The 2001 Commissioners gathered data about UTEP and national and regional trends, and sought broad-based community input. This information served as the basis for the commission's recommendations.

"We were given an extraordinary opportunity to help shape the destiny of our university — and the key role it would play in the human and economic development of this community," says Robert Heasley, chairman of the 2001 Commission.

"This was a generous and brave gesture, one that demonstrated UTEP's genuine commitment to excellence and to the future of our community.

"As I look back on the goals we set more than 10 years ago, I am proud to announce that they have not only been met by UTEP, but surpassed in every area," he says.

"Addressing the Challenge" provides an overview of UTEP's achievements during 1988-2000 as they relate to the 2001 Commission's vision.

"Throughout the years, we have continued to revisit the 2001 Commission Report to measure our progress in meeting the needs identified by the community," says UTEP President Diana Natalicio.

"We are greatly indebted to the commission members for their efforts and foresight in making recommendations that, together with UTEP's own plans for growth and improvement, pointed our way toward achieving excellence in the 21st century."


Smithsonian Event Announces Museum Project

Smithsonian Event Announces Museum Project

At a July 27 reception at the Smithsonian Building (also known as the Castle) in Washington, D.C., UTEP, in collaboration with the Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, announced the establishment of the Paso al Norte Immigration Museum.

This international museum, described as the "Ellis Island of the Southwest," will be the first major institution in the United States dedicated to the history of migration across the country's southern border.

UTEP currently is coordinating a binational effort to develop the museum, but ultimately, the project is envisioned as an independent institution symbolizing the aspirations of all immigrants.

NOVA Quarterly will feature the museum in the Fall 2001 issue.

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UTEP alumnus Sam Donaldson, broadcast journalist for ABC News, alumna Maria Graciela Rivas, and President Diana Natalicio visit at a July 27 reception in Washington, D.C. The event, held at the Smithsonian Building, marked the establishment of the Paso al Norte Immigration Museum.

2001 Commission members Julian Berenat, chairman of the Image Committee, and Patrick Wieland, a member of the committee, talk with UTEP President Diana Natalicio during the July reception for the commissioners.
Helping More Students through TEXAS Grants

Helping students with financial needs reach their educational goals just got a lot easier thanks to a boost in funding from the Toward EXcellence, Access and Success (TEXAS) Grants program.

UTEP’s share for the new academic year is expected to reach about $6.6 million — $4.1 million in new awards and about $2.5 million in renewals for students who meet the criteria to continue in the program.

In 1999-2000, the first year of the state program, which provides funds for students with financial need to attend college if they successfully complete a prescribed high-school curriculum, UTEP so efficiently disbursed its initial allocation of about $885,000 that state officials reallocated funds from less successful schools to increase UTEP’s share to $1.1 million.

UTEP’s initial allocation in 2000-2001 of almost $1.4 million was enhanced by an additional $888,000, making the total allocation for last year more than $2 million.

More than 450 students at UTEP received the aid in the first year, and the university was able to help 812 students last year.

In May, the Texas Legislature increased funding to more than $300 million for the 2001-2002 academic year.

Changing of the Guard: New Deans for Business, Health Sciences

New deans have taken the helm in the colleges of Business Administration and Health Sciences.

Latin American studies specialist Charles Crespy begins his duties as dean of the College of Business Administration on Sept. 1. The former chairman of the marketing department at Miami University, Crespy also has been board president of the nonprofit Trans-Miami Health Systems and production manager for the $38-million line of canned produce of Productos Del Monte, S.A. de C.V. He taught marketing and Latin American studies in both English and Spanish, and designed a study-abroad program in Spain for international business students.

Crespy replaces Frank Hoy, who, after serving as the dean of the business college for the past 10 years, will return to teaching and direct the Centers for Entrepreneurial Development.

Advancement, Research, and Support (CEDARS).

John Conway, former interim dean of the School of Public Health at the State University of New York in Albany, became dean of the College of Health Sciences in January. He also is the former head of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Health at San Diego State University, served on the U.S.-Mexico Committee on Occupational and Environmental Health, and was a member of the U.S.-Mexico Border Maternal and Child Health binational project. He is the receipent of the Distinguished Service Award from the American Public Health Association.

Former Health Sciences Dean Patricia Castiglia, who came to UTEP in 1989, worked with Conway during the spring and summer semesters and will serve as assistant to the president for health affairs until her official retirement Aug. 31.

New Institute Brings Together Research Projects and Services

UTEP has merged several of its economic, policy and social science research centers under one umbrella, the new Institute for Polley and Economic Development.

The new arrangement provides the public one contact point for social science and business research while leveraging resources to avoid duplication of support services.

IPED includes the activities and programs of the Public Policy Research Center, the Texas Center for Border Economic Development, the Center for the Study of Western Hemispheric Trade, the Regional Econometric Modeling Project, the NAFTA Intermodal Transportation Institute, and a new project, the Survey Research Center.

UTEP OFFERS NEW BACHELOR’S DEGREE

For the first time this fall, UTEP students are enrolling in a new undergraduate degree program designed to give them the tools to address environmental concerns along the U.S.-Mexico border.

An interdisciplinary program administered by the College of Science, the environmental science degree will train graduates for jobs in diverse fields, including resource management, pollution prevention, environmental justice and wildlife ecology. Courses focus on environmental problems and possible solutions unique to the El Paso-Juarez region.

UTEP has offered a doctoral degree in environmental science and engineering, in which students pursue their Ph.D. while involved in community-based environmental research and educational programs, since 1995.

20 YEARS OF HONORS

Since 1981, when UTEP added its Honors Program to the list of opportunities the university provides its students, scores of talented young undergraduates have called the Honors House home and worn the gold stole at graduation, signifying their completion of the program.

During Homecoming festivities this year, the Honors Program will celebrate its 20th anniversary and many success stories with a brunch Oct. 21.

Former honors students run the gamut of degrees of study and career ambitions. Teachers, physical therapists, accountants, engineers, graduate students, television producers, advertising executives and bankers fill the ranks of former honors recipients.

TIME FOR THE BORDER

A Town Hall Meeting June 5 in the Wise Family Theatre sponsored by TIME magazine in association with CNN, AOL and UTEP brought together national experts to discuss the border as a place where people and ideas travel to form a new world, one that blends language, politics and policy, literature, culture and cuisine.

“La Frontera: A Day on the Border” included two sessions, one focusing on the border in 2010 and one on culture and society in the new frontier and how it will change both the United States and Mexico.
It Takes a Village...  
Campus Living Comes of Age

In late August, UTEP unveiled a new era in campus living. The first students moved into Miner Village, the university’s new apartment-style residence hall complex, to find everything from the old standbys of dorm living — laundry rooms and picnic areas — to new, high-tech amenities like 24-hour direct computer access to the Internet and phone services with voice messaging. Even the laundry rooms have Internet connections — students can surf their way through the spin cycle.

The Bhutanese-style “Village” has 12 residence halls with efficiency, two- and four-bedroom units with full kitchens and private baths. The community building has study rooms, a recreation area and private mailboxes. And the location means students are just a short walk from athletic events, concerts, restaurants, recreation facilities, and their classes — a total campus experience.

Native Plant Sale in Full Bloom

The Centennial Museum’s annual FloraFEST harvested big rewards for the museum’s Chihuahuan Desert Gardens and for the roughly 2,000 to 3,000 people who purchased plants and attended special educational lectures and presentations at the two-day event in April.

Wynn Anderson, botanical curator of the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, calls the plant sale a “feeding frenzy” as the more than 215 species of attractive, drought-tolerant native flora — 6,000 plants in all — sold for a record $38,000.

Anderson, who conceived the desert gardens as a model to educate El Pasoans on the benefits of using native plants, attributes the success of the plant sale to the changing attitudes in El Paso.

“It’s a combination of increasing water rates and being better educated,” he says. “Overall, people see the handwriting on the wall — they know we have to change what we accept as appropriate landscaping. We have to stop thinking of grassy lawns and magnolias.”

Proceeds from the sale will be used to install a sidewalk and stairs around the north side of the Centennial Museum adjacent to the gardens and to landscape the area.

Legislature Recognizes UTEP’s Excellence

The 77th Texas Legislature approved $63 million in state funding for the university for next year, including special funding recognizing the university’s excellence.

The total includes $4 million — $8.8 million over the biennium — in Excellence Funds, which is based on a formula that includes the number of graduate degrees granted and research dollars expended. UTEP ranks fourth among all Texas public universities in research and sponsored project expenditures.

The Legislature also separately authorized $22 million in tuition revenue bonds for a biosciences teaching and research facility expected to break ground in Spring 2002, and border health research received $350,000 in funding for each of the next two years.

UTEP’s total budget, including outside funding from federal agencies and private foundations, is a record $190 million for 2001-2002.

Gov. Rick Perry discussed the outcomes of the legislative session during a news conference in June at UTEP.
UTEP One of Top Schools for Hispanics

Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education lists UTEP second among the nation’s universities in the number of bachelor’s degrees awarded to Hispanic students. According to the magazine’s annual “Top 100 Colleges for Hispanics” survey, UTEP ranked:

- second in business and marketing,
- second in health sciences,
- second in multi/interdisciplinary studies,
- fourth in English/English literature,
- fifth in engineering/engineering tech,
- sixth in biological sciences,
- eighth in protective services, and
- eighth in psychology.

New scoreboards and video screens are part of the renovations Miner spectators will enjoy this football and basketball season.

The Don Haskins Center will have a new hardwood floor, four new scoreboards and two new video boards. (Pieces of the old hardwood floor will be sold; details will be announced early this fall.)

The Sun Bowl will sport new AstroPlay turf, three new scoreboards and a 20-by-26 video screen, and the field will be expanded to accommodate international soccer matches.

On the north side of the Sun Bowl, work continues on the Larry K. Durham Sports Center. The grand opening for the 60,000-square foot building is planned for Summer 2002.

For the latest on the renovation and construction projects, including photos, check the UTEP Athletics Web page at http://athletics.utep.edu.

University College: One Stop Student Success

UTEP has formed a new University College to offer its students a seamless blend of services while bolstering student success.

The college, which began operation June 1, brings together the newly created Visitors' Center, undergraduate recruitment and admissions, testing, registration, financial aid, new student orientation, the Tutoring and Learning Center, University Seminar, the Academic Advising Center, and the highly successful Entering Student Program.

"Bringing all these services together, each reporting to a single unit, not only maximizes our resources and effectiveness, it makes a statement about our commitment to facilitating student success," says Maggy Smith, associate vice president of undergraduate studies and the new college’s first dean.

Components of the new college received a boost earlier this year in the form of a three-year, $1.8 million anonymous gift that is being used to enhance ESP, the University Seminar course and academic advising, and to develop a Student Leadership Institute under ESP.

The grant, which can be renewed for an additional two years to total $2.5 million, follows an award in October 2000 totaling more than $1 million from the Hispanic-Serving Institutions program under Title V of the U.S. Department of Education to support the University Seminar course.

Commencing with Graduation

Texas Secretary of State Henry Cuellar, speaking at commencement ceremonies May 12, challenged UTEP's more than 1,100 graduates.

"I ask you to become ambassadors of education," he said "Education is the great equalizer. It doesn’t matter where you come from, because once you have that foundation, you can do anything you wish.”

Sec. Cuellar also announced that funding for the TEXAS Grants program, a state initiative to help low-income families send their children to college, had increased to more than $300 million.

Cuellar was appointed Texas’ 102nd Secretary of State by Gov. Rick Perry. Before his appointment, he served in the Texas House of Representatives for 14 years. In 1999, he authored the TEXAS Grant legislation, and after the 1999 legislative session, he was appointed co-chairman of the TEXAS Grant Oversight Committee.

New SGA President Has International Outlook

Gbenga Asedeko, a senior accounting major from Nigeria, West Africa, is the new president of UTEP's Student Government Association, marking the third year an international student has held the SGA presidential post.

Asedeko, who is a peer facilitator for the Student Development Center and the international student orientation program, won the Outstanding International Undergraduate Student Award in 2000.

He is a member of the honors society, the Golden Key National Honor Society, the Accounting Society, and served as president of the Union of African Students and vice president of the Mortar Board National Senior Honor Society.
CASE Kudos for UTEP Alumni Association

Efforts by the UTEP Alumni Relations Office and the Alumni Association to promote and sponsor alumni-related activities in Juárez and Chihuahua City have won the university the 2001 Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Seal of Excellence.

The award, which is the organization’s top prize, distinguished UTEP as a model for other university alumni associations.

To reach out to alumni south of the border, the association developed a program targeting the two Mexican cities. For many years, UTEP has served as the major university in the region, providing educational access and opportunities for Mexican students from the northern part of Mexico.

“To receive our first Alumni Relations award in this category was an honor, but it was especially great because it was given for such a worthwhile activity — locating more of our alum in Mexico,” said Yolanda Ingle, assistant vice president for Alumni Relations.

Golden Grads

The Class of 1951 will be honored as Golden Grads at this year’s Homecoming festivities. A special certificate will be awarded at the Golden Grad Luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 20. For more information, contact Jeannie Johnston at 1-866-GO-MINERS, 915/747-8600 or jjohnston@utep.edu.

In Memorium

Arturo Morales Dominguez
1915-2001

UTEP alumnus Arturo Morales Dominguez, 86, passed away at his home in Mexico City May 25.

Born in Santa Eulalia, Chihuahua, Mexico, Dominguez pursued a degree in engineering following years of odd jobs during the Great Depression. He graduated from the Texas College of Mines (now UTEP) in 1939, and later attended MIT and graduated with a degree in aeronautic engineering.

During his lifetime, Dominguez worked for Pan American Airlines and helped organize the United Nations aeronautics school in Mexico City before returning to the mining profession. He retired in 1982, but remained active in promoting education in the sciences in Mexico and the United States.

Dominguez is survived by his wife, three daughters, nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, his stepdaughter and her family.

Homecoming 2001

Save the dates on your calendar for UTEP’s Homecoming 2001 Oct. 15-20. The Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Reception will be held Friday, Oct. 19, and the Fighting Miners will battle the San Jose State Trojans in the Sun Bowl Oct. 20. Check for Homecoming updates online at http://homecoming.utep.edu.

Alumni Association Membership

Membership in the Alumni Association is open to all graduates, former students, and friends of the University of Texas at El Paso.

Annual membership dues are $25 per individual or $40 per couple. Life memberships also are available. Membership dues support Homecoming, special events, pre-game parties, scholarships, and alumni and student awards.

In return for joining the association, members are eligible to receive the following benefits and services:

- Permanent E-mail Forwarding Address
- Library Services
- Career Services
- Recreational Sports
- University Bookstore
- Special Events Discounts
- Texas Western Press
- Athletic Events
- Alumni Association MBNA MasterCard
- Alumni Insurance Programs
- Travel Discounts

For more information, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at 915/747-8600, 1-866-GO-MINERS or alumni@utep.edu.

Alumni Association Pre-Game Parties

Home Games at the de Wetter Center (Alumni Lodge) at 5 p.m.

September 8 - Texas Southern
September 13 - Texas Tech
September 29 - Tulsa
October 20 - San Jose State (Homecoming)

November 10 - Louisiana Tech
November 24 - Nevada

Away Games, times to be announced

September 1 - at New Mexico (Albuquerque)
October 27 - at SMU (Dallas)
November 17 - at Rice (Houston)

Dialing for Dollars

This year, PhoneCenter student callers raised more than $152,000 in pledges from alumni and friends of the university that will enhance academic programs and educational opportunities. If you receive a call from the PhoneCenter, please remember that you can make a difference too.
College of Business Administration

Martini DeGroat

As General Manager of Southwestern Bell in El Paso, Martini DeGroat handled company initiatives in 57 West Texas communities, including Amarillo, Abilene, Midland and Odessa.

The responsibility was nothing new to DeGroat, who worked her way up from repair service supervisor to regional sales manager and then general manager before retiring in May.

A 1978 graduate of UTEP with a bachelor's degree in business, DeGroat was named one of the Top 10 Influential Business Women in El Paso in 1996 and was inducted into the El Paso Commission for Women’s Hall of Fame in 2000.

A native El Pasono, she continues to strengthen her ties to the community through work with organizations including the Junior League, the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce Board, the United Way Board, the YMCA Board and the El Paso Symphony Board, among others.

College of Education

Juan Roberto Job

Juan Roberto Job, the author of Just Because I'm Latin Doesn't Mean I Mambo: A Success Guide for Hispanic Americans, is a nationally known expert on change management and cultural diversity.

Born in Watsonville, Calif., a farming community known for its strawberries, Job grew up in El Paso where he attended UTEP, receiving his bachelor's and master's degrees in education.

During graduate school, Job worked as an instructor and grant writer in the adult education division of the El Paso Independent School District. After graduation, Job applied the skills he learned at UTEP to the corporate world.

As corporate vice president of the New York Life Insurance Company, assigned to the cultural marketing division, Job oversees all strategic aspects of New York Life's Hispanic market initiative and their Vietnamese initiative, as well as supporting cultural and business protocol for the Chinese, Korean and Asian Indian markets.

A powerful and dynamic public speaker, Job is a frequently featured keynote, workshop and seminar presenter for Fortune 500 firms, public sector organizations and Hispanic professional, business and student organizations throughout the nation.

Class of Engineering

Al Griffin

Al Griffin Jr., a member of Texas Instruments' highly touted group technical staff, has been a key player in developing technology and improving processes since the day he walked in the door.

Griffin, whose great-great-great grandfather William Price Cooper was an original settler of El Paso, is a manager at one of the leading state-of-the-art wafer fabricators in the world, where his efforts and ideas have saved more than $200 million since 1996.

Griffin received a bachelor's degree in metallurgical engineering from UTEP in 1984. He also earned a master's degree and a doctorate from Rice University, where he was a Brown College Associate, advising and assisting students.

He is a founding member of IBM's Entrepreneurial Board, an entity created to find and develop new technologies and products at IBM. He also was awarded a post-doctoral fellowship to conduct advanced research in corrosion behavior of thin-film metallizations, nucleation and growth of chemically vapor deposited tungsten films and thermal conductivity of thin dielectric films.

College of Liberal Arts

Hank Cohen

Henry "Hank" Cohen, who earned a bachelor's degree in mass communications from UTEP in 1978, is president of MGM Television Entertainment.

The native El Pasono, whose father and uncle were former major leaguers Andy and Syd Cohen, began his career in television as a page at NBC, leading tours of the Burbank studio, escorting visitors to the Tonight Show and playing chauffeur to the stars.

During his rise to Hollywood's elite entertainment ranks, Cohen toured as Spiderman, worked on the "Family Matters" episode that introduced Steve Urkel to America, and oversaw the American Music Awards and the Academy Awards.

Today, Cohen is responsible for television development at MGM, which includes comedy, drama, reality TV and movies of the week. In 1988, he earned an Emmy Award for writing the Academy Awards show during the writer’s strike. He also supervised the Emmy Award-winning movie "Twelve Angry Men" and the Golden Globe Award-winning movie "Inherit the Wind."

College of Health Sciences

Joyce L. Harris

An expert and researcher in communication development and disorders, Joyce Harris is an associate professor of speech-language pathology in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department at The University of Texas at Austin.

Harris earned a bachelor's degree in speech, language and hearing disorders at UTEP in 1973 and went on to complete a master's degree in speech pathology at the university in 1974. In 1979, Harris returned to UTEP as a lecturer and clinical supervisor of speech-language pathology before leaving to pursue a doctoral degree at UT Austin.

The author and contributing editor of several books on communication development and therapy, Harris also lectures and conducts workshops on topics ranging from cognition to sociocultural influences on communication. Currently, she serves as an associate editor for language for the Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing Research.

In 2000, Harris was honored by the National Black Association for Speech-Language and Hearing with its prestigious Scholar-Mentor Award. She also was selected by Pennsylvania State University as a Summer Scholar in Residence in the College of Health and Human Development.

College of Science

Ralph Ponce de Leon

Ralph Ponce de Leon carved out a name for himself as a top-level executive with electronics giant Motorola, becoming one of the $35 billion-dollar corporation's first Hispanic executives.

Born in Zacatecas, Mexico, he arrived in El Paso when he was one month old. He graduated early from Cathedral High School in January 1952 and started taking courses at Texas Western College (now UTEP). He graduated in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry.

Before earning his degree, he joined the Air Force and in 1953 was sent to Korea, where he served on a ground crew. He received early release and returned to college to complete his chemistry degree.

The longtime El Pasono started at Motorola as an analytical chemist, then climbed the corporate ladder to retire 34 years later at the peak of his career as corporate vice president and Motorola director of supply and environmental management.

Today, Ponce de Leon maintains his ties to UTEP as a member of the Science Advisory Board.
Alfredo P. Escalante (M.A. ’59) earned a doctor of philosophy degree from Pacific Western University in Los Angeles.

George O. Guess (B.S.Ed. ’64), a retired pilot for Trans World Airlines, is a registered investment adviser in Tempe, Ariz.

Bradford A. Holt (B.B.A. ’69) moved to Horseshoe Bay, Texas, after residing 37 years in El Paso, where he worked for Chevron.

David M. Maldonado (M.A. ’65) is president of Lifff School of Theology in Denver.

James R. McDonald (B.S.C.E. ’68; M.S.C.E. ’74) retired from the Texas Department of Transportation after working for 28 years in highway construction. He is now a construction engineer for the city of El Paso.

Richard W. Morris (B.S. ’68; M.S. ’74) is semi-retired from the mining industry in Nevada, where he still enjoys prospecting, camping, travel and renewing acquaintances among former UTEP classmates.

M. Susana Navarro (B.A. ’68), executive director of the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence, received the 2000 Virginia B. Smith Innovative Leadership Award.

Edward F. Sherman (B.A. ’62) is dean of the School of Law at Tulane University in New Orleans.

Charlene Bourland Tess (B.S.Ed. ’67) has retired from teaching and is a full-time writer. She is the author of the nonfiction book Simple Steps to Sentence Sense, available from Pathway Press, and her romantic suspense novel, The Van Winkle Bride, was released in June by Port Town Publishing.

Col. Howard T. Cain Jr. (Ret.) (M.Ed. ’72) received the U.S. Army Commander’s Award for Public Service and a certificate of recognition for Cold War service from the Secretary of Defense. Retired from the U.S. Army and the Texas Guard, he is a federal civil service employee with the Department of Medical Science at the U.S. Army Medical School in San Antonio.

Mike Herrera (B.A. ’75) was elected State District Judge of the 383rd District Court for El Paso County.

David J. Labrec (B.A. ’71), a partner with Strasburger & Price LLP in Dallas, was elected the Texas representative of the Defense Research Institute, the nation’s largest association of civil litigation defense lawyers.

Rebecca Torres Pierce (B.S. ’75) is director of special projects for the Migrant Border Health Initiative at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso. She received her master of science degree from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and previously worked as a clinical laboratory specialist. She also received certification as a health science teacher and taught at the high-school level for several years before joining Texas Tech.

Evelyn Posey (B.A. ’74; M.A. ’81), associate vice president for instructional design and technology integration at UTEP, was inducted into the 2001 El Paso Women’s Hall of Fame, sponsored by the El Paso Commission for Women.

Barbara Mummm Wilson (B.S.Ed. ’73), principal of Stephen F. Austin Elementary in Baytown, Texas, was named the 1999 Administrator of the Year for the Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District. Austin Elementary was named a Texas Exemplary School for 2001.

Evelyn Arroyo (B.S.Ed. ’82) is principal at Surprise School in Phoenix.

Linda J. Hinshaw (M.S.N. ’84) is assistant superintendent of programs at Abilene State School.

Travis J. Hughes (B.S.C.S. ’86) is president of the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center.

Abel Salazar (B.S. ’80) is an assistant chief patrol agent for the U.S. Border Patrol in El Paso.

Jesse A. Shaw (B.A. ’84) is an assistant chief patrol agent for the U.S. Border Patrol in El Paso.

Maria Elena Tapia-Godinez (B.S.Ed. ’82; M.A. ’89) is an assistant professor of English as a second language at Southwestern Adventist University in Keens, Texas.

Robbie Myrick Villalobos (B.A. ’83), lifestyle editor for El Paso Inc., was inducted into the El Paso Commission for Women’s 2001 El Paso Women’s Hall of Fame for her contributions to journalism and the performing arts.

Beatriz Benitez (B.S. ’97), director of Lutheran Social Services of the South in El Paso, presented a paper on “Faith in Action to Improve Total Health” at the World Conference on Health Promotion and Education in Paris in July.

Louise Dale (B.A. ’87; M.A. ’94) received a master's degree in counseling from Ottawa University in Phoenix. She works in the field of addiction and teaches writing for a distance learning program at Rio Salado College in Tempe, Ariz.

Elvia Hernandez (B.A. ’91), El Paso city representative, was inducted into the 2001 El Paso Women’s Hall of Fame in recognition of her civic leadership.

Ricardo Herrera (B.S.C.S. ’99) appeared as Timur in the El Paso Opera Guild’s production of “Turandot.” Later this year, he will perform at Carnegie Hall as a soloist for Beethoven’s
Ninth Symphony, a Mid-America Production.  
**David Valencia** (B.S.M.E.T. '92) was recently promoted to lubrication solutions engineer for Equilon Lubricants in San Diego, Calif.

**Pat Adauto** (B.A. '00) was appointed the city of El Paso's director of planning, research and development.

**Beatriz Maese Killough** (B.A. '38) Nov. 15, 2000. Killough, a Fulbright Scholar, resided in Conestoga, Pa. A Spanish professor at Millersville State College for 20 years, she taught at York College of Pennsylvania. In 1983, the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association named her Educator of the Year. She also taught Spanish for the U.S. Civil Service Commission at the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command in Belleville, Ill. She was secretary to the commanding officer of Antiaircraft Command at Fort Bliss.

**Donald L. Libby** (B.S. '50) Dec. 5, 2000. Libby was a retired manager of manufacturing at Anderson Chemical Co. in Macon, Ga. A mining engineer and geologist, he was district director of the Small Business Administration for the state of Arkansas and district manager of the Eleven State Southeast District for the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior. He was regional program coordinator for the U.S. Geological Survey during the 1970s and early 1980s, led initial feasibility studies for the development of oil shale in the western states, and developed the Brier Gypsum Mine in Arkansas. While living in New Mexico during the 1950s, Libby developed mining interests for U.S. Borax and U.S. Potash and Chemical, serving as assistant resident manager and executive vice president.


**Fernando Jose Orrantia Jr.** (B.A. '80) Dec. 24, 2000. Orrantia was a lifelong resident of El Paso and taught English at Ysleta High School for 20 years before retiring. His achievements included the Appreciation Award for Dedicated Service to the National Honor Society and the Leadership High School Sponsor Award.

**William L. Fugate** (B.S.M.I. '49) Jan. 4, 2001. Fugate was a resident of Athens, Ala.


**Col. Joseph M. Dunn (Ret.)** (B.A. '72) Jan. 9, 2001. Dunn was retired from the U.S. Army and was a longtime El Paso resident.


**Horace N. Chavez** (B.A. '56) Jan. 19, 2001. Chavez, a lifelong resident of El Paso, was a U.S. Navy veteran. Following his retirement as an accountant for the State Comptroller’s Office, he owned and operated a bookkeeping, accounting and tax business. He served as president of the UTEP Alumni Association in 1989 and was president and lieutenant governor for the 20/30 Downtown Club.

**Col. Melvin LeRoy McCoy (Ret.)** (B.S.Ed. '71) Jan. 20, 2001. Upon his retirement as a colonel in the U.S. Army, McCoy began a second career as a teacher in Canutillo. After retiring from teaching, he continued his work with El Paso’s youth through the Transmountain Optimist Club and the Partners in Education Program with Dowell Elementary School.

**Lt. Col. John W. Young (Ret.)** (M.A. '73) Jan. 26, 2001. Young worked in El Paso’s planning, research and development department and was retired from the U.S. Army. His military awards include the Senior Parachutist Badge, the Bronze Star and the Air Medal. Young volunteered with the United Way, Family Service of El Paso, the El Paso Shelter for Battered Women, Project Bravo, KXCR Public Radio, the Leadership El Paso Advisory Council, the Yucca Scouting Council, the Armed Services YMCA and the Providence Hospital Foundation and Disability Services.

**Julia Lane Lorentzen Fink** (B.A. '58) Jan. 27, 2001. Fink, the daughter of a pioneer El Paso family, was a lifelong educator and a member of many honorary and hereditary organizations, including the Daughters of the American Revolution. She taught piano and was a school librarian.

**Maj. Harry Lamar Miller (Ret.)** (B.S. '42) Jan. 27, 2001. Miller, a retired major of the U.S. Army Air Force, was a resident of Bellville, Texas. In the private sector, he was superintendent of open pit and underground mining operations in New Mexico, Colorado and Tennessee. His installations were regarded as some of the most efficient and advanced mining operations in the world at that time. In the 1960s, his mines in East Tennessee were included in the U.S. Bureau of Mines tours for foreign officials. In 1962, the Israeli government hired him to re-open and serve as superintendent of operations at the modern site of King Solomon’s Copper Mine in the Negev Desert. Miller retired in 1988 as superintendent of operations for lithium mining for the Foote Mineral and Rangair Corp.


**Shirley Mae Landgren Gonzalez** (B.A. '61; M.A. '64) Feb. 1, 2001. Gonzalez, an artist and a seminary and institute instructor, taught for the El Paso Independent School District and UTEP.


**Louise Bagge** (B.A. '40) Feb. 9, 2000. Bagge, a lifelong resident of El Paso, was a teacher in the El Paso and Ysleta independent school districts.

**Janet Emily Wyatt Pidgeon** (B.S.Ed. '69) Feb. 18, 2001. Pidgeon was a retired schoolteacher and a resident of El Paso.

**James Earl Turner** (B.S.Ed. '77) Feb. 19, 2001. Turner was a teacher at Wiggs Middle School in El Paso.


**Lt. Col. Richard K. Leonard Sr. (Ret.)** (M.Ed. '64) Feb. 20, 2001. Leonard was a resident of Youngtown, Ariz.

**Wiltz Anthony Harrison** (B.A. '49) March 1, 2001. Harrison, a professor at UTEP, was an artist, jeweler, sculptor and painter. He created the sculpture in the lobby of the Wells Fargo Bank in downtown El Paso, and the light, menorah and lectern at the Jewish Temple Mount Sinai. His work was circulated and exhibited by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian Institution and the Museum of Contemporary Crafts in New York, and is in the private collection of the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts.

**Gladys Mae Lucky Millican** (B.A. '93) March 8, 2001. An El Paso resident, Millican was a member of the Ysleta Women’s Club.

**Susie Johnson Magusiak** (B.A. '69) March 20, 2001. Magusiak was a retired education counselor at Fort Bliss and a former San Elizario Elementary teacher.


**Orlando B. Chavez** (B.S. '77) April 2, 2001. Chavez was a former resident of El Paso and had resided in Lake Oswego, Ore., for eight years. He retired after 35 years as a service manager for the Border Machinery Co. in El Paso. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army who served during the Korean War.


**Peter Anthony Mikaelian** (B.A. '88) April 10, 2001. Mikaelian, a professional singer and comedian, was a teacher at Benito Martinez Elementary School.
Miner football

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
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<td>Sept. 8</td>
<td>at New Mexico</td>
<td>7:05 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Texas Southern</td>
<td>8:05 pm</td>
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<td>Sept. 22</td>
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<td>Sept. 29</td>
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<td>Oct. 13</td>
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<td>Nov. 10</td>
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<td>Nov. 17</td>
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