Students attending UTEP this fall will have an unprecedented impact on the way they experience the university lifestyle due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Not since the influenza pandemic of 1918, commonly referred to as the Spanish Flu, have cities shut down due to rising cases of a virus spreading. In El Paso, over 600 people perished due to complications from the virus.

According to the latest death count conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as of Aug. 4, COVID-19 has claimed more than 160,000 lives in the United States, resulting in 12.4 million cases reported nationwide and over 600 people perished due to complications from the virus. In El Paso, 4,900 cases had been documented as of Aug. 4.

According to a release by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as of Aug. 4, COVID-19 had killed 4,900 people in El Paso, and over 600 people perished due to complications from the virus. In El Paso, 4,900 cases had been documented as of Aug. 4.

According to a news release by UTEP President Heather Wilson, before the pandemic, the university would offer 3,800 different sections in the fall semester, with only 12% of those courses being offered in an online format. Now, there will be almost 2,500 online options to students.

As an institution, UTEP has revamped its college schedule to reduce in-person classes and increase hybrid and online courses. The college experience will also be far from typical for students, with the campus at “Restricted Campus Operations,” that has been in place since March.

“Coronavirus remains an urgent public health concern in our region and beyond, and we will continue to monitor conditions daily,” said Wilson. “But with these new efforts and others like the revised fall schedule we announced last month, which will substantially reduce on-campus presence, and the proactive coronavirus testing program we announced yesterday, we believe we will be able to continue our teaching and research mission while keeping the safety of our campus community at the forefront.”

Over this three-week period, the amount of COVID-19 cases has fluctuated while averaging 251 new cases per day, according to the El Paso official COVID-19 data website. Over the past seven days, 10.49% of people in El Paso were positivity for COVID-19.

“Anything below 7.2% is going to be a good number,” Gov. Greg Abbott said at a news conference in May. “If the positivity test rate is more than 10%, that’s one of those red flags that we begin to look at.”

Until further guidance, any in-person operations will require social distancing and face masks as a precaution. Remote operations are encouraged when possible and working in groups of no more than 10 people under these new guidelines.

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Remote learning that will utilize meeting and completing the majority of work online will add a new element of difficulty for students that have typically opted for in-person classes as their primary method of taking academic courses.

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After suspending school operations March 13, UTEP was able to use the rest of the semester as a test run for going entirely online. Although the transition created new challenges for UTEP’s Technology Support Group, which has never encountered such a large number of students working online before.

“Unfortunately, we would succeed. “Our ability to adapt was put to the test. The situation was stressful, but I had no doubt that we would be successful.”

For some, a considerable part of the college experience is joining an organization, club or fraternity. These activities will still be available, but much like classes, in a virtual format.

Housing space will be limited to one person per room.

Testing will be available for all students who have classes on campus beginning Aug. 24. There are four locations planned for testing: The Fox Fine Arts Complex lower level courtyard, the breezeway between the Engineering and Classroom buildings, the Union breezeway, and the Undergraduate Learning Center patio. According to UTEP, these locations could be changed at any given time with prior communication.

As of now, there are still many facets of the college semester that have yet to be worked out. Football and soccer seasons are scheduled to start within the next month but have yet to issue any guidelines for fans to attend games. Limited capacities are expected, according to UTEP Athletics, but guidance is still being evaluated.

With so much out of the realm of control for administrators, professors and students, there are few certainties for the upcoming semester outside of most of it being taught remotely. For more information and updates regarding UTEP’s COVID-19 guidelines, visit utep.edu/ehs/COVID-19.

Michael Cuviello may be reached at prospector@utep.edu.

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Masks and patience are key to returning to normalcy

Michael Cuvello
The Prospector

While leadership in the United States remains divided on the solutions to the current COVID-19 pandemic, with states and cities all using different tactics to combat the coronavirus, it is important to not base one’s actions on what is convenient or makes one feel better.

With nearly 5 million cases and over 154,471 deaths in public and fast to COVID-19, according to a live count over 154,471 American lives lost to COVID-19, according to a live count, the spread of COVID-19, and to avoid the growing hospitalizations resulting from the COVID-19 positivity rate and cases, and increases in the term implications for all citizens.

With leadership in the United States remains divided on the solutions to the current COVID-19 pandemic, with states and cities all using different tactics to combat the coronavirus, it is important to not base one’s actions on what is convenient or makes one feel better.

Initially, when the pandemic was at its worse nationally, Texas had ramping effects on much of the outbreak’s toll on public health and was tracing other highly populous states by a wide margin in both cases and fatalities.

On March 13, Gov. Greg Abbott asked residents follow CDC guidelines. Abbott defined the guidelines for services such as grocery shopping, exercise, and hunting. What was considered an essential, was ultimately left up to the community.

“This is not a stay-at-home strategy,” Abbott said. “This is a standard based upon essential services and essential activities.”

Eleven days later, on March 24, the city of El Paso issued a stay at home order to its residents.

“We must protect the health and safety of this community. We cannot wait until it is too late, so we must continue working to flatten the wave of cases and help flatten the curve by suppression of this virus,” said El Paso Mayor Dee Margo. “It’s very important that restaurants and businesses cooperate to make this effort as successful as possible to keep our community healthy.”

One of the significant issues with all of these mandates and orders was that face coverings could not be made mandatory.

Under the executive order issued by Abbott April 27, individuals were encouraged to wear appropriate face coverings, but no jurisdiction could impose a civil or criminal penalty for failure to wear a face covering. Texas began its reopening phase on May 1, as Trump pushed for all states to reopen their economies, with Abbott continuing to suppress the virus’ bidding.

By May 18, bars had reopened, and restaurant capacities were expanded. By June 3, all businesses could operate at 50% capacity. The push to reopen and get people in establishments was moving at a rapid pace, and with the state no longer a statewide mask mandate. On June 12, restaurant capacity had expanded to 70%. Within four days, on June 16, cases in the state of Texas had doubled per day to about 4,000 cases.

Within two weeks of the expanded capacity of restaurants and bars being at 50%, COVID-19 cases had exploded to four times the amount they were at the initial reopening of the state.

On June 26, Abbott closed bars once again and reduced restaurant capacity, as cases in Texas continued to rise, while other states’ cases were going down. Finally, on July 2, Abbott relaxed and ultimately issued a statewide mask mandate.

Unfortunately, much of the damage had already been done in the haste to reopen the Texas economy. Texas is one of the top three hardest-hit states by coronavirus, along with being the fourth state with the most active COVID-19 cases in the country.

Complicating the issue further, there are people, including the current president of the U.S., that have ridiculed wearing masks as unnecessary and a personal choice. Some have gone as far as claiming it’s a constitutional right not to have to wear a mask. The problem with that concept is that your choice affects other people’s bodies and shows a lack of compassion for your fellow citizens.

“Not wearing face coverings decreases transmission by 50-80%,” said CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield. “Cloth face coverings are one of the most powerful weapons we have to slow and stop the spread of the virus - particularly when used universally within a community setting.

All Americans have a responsibility to protect themselves, their families, and their communities.”

Case after case study has shown that masks do offer a higher level of protection against COVID-19, compared to no mask. It is not the mask of the beard or some alien plot to take away your rights. It’s an extra level of protection and put on your mask. Don’t do it for yourself, do it for your loved ones and the ones whose lives you put at risk.

Michael Cuvello may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

Paulina Ariztí Spencer
The Prospector

Last month, Gov. Greg Abbott signed a mask executive order mandating that people in Texas must wear a face covering when in public and fail to comply could result in a fine.

“Due to recent substantial increases in COVID-19 positive cases, and increases in the COVID-19 positivity rate and hospitalizations resulting from COVID-19, further measures are needed to achieve the least restrictive means for reducing the growth rate of COVID-19, and to avoid a need for more extreme measures,” the order stated.

Just like other places in El Paso, UTEP requires students, faculty, and staff to protect themselves and others against the spread of the coronavirus by wearing face masks and practicing social distancing.

It has been scientifically proven that wearing a face mask can help reduce the spread of the virus and due to shortage of surgical masks, the community has been advised to wear other face covering alternatives, such as homemade cloth masks.

However, according to a new University of Arizona led study, not all masks are the same and some are more effective than others.

Amanda Wilson is the lead author on a recent study published, titled “COVID-19 and use of non-medical masks: how do various materials compare in reducing the risk of infection for mask wearers?” which focuses on testing a variety of nontraditional mask materials.

The evaluation reviewed the effectiveness of different masks after 30 seconds and after 20 minutes of exposure in a highly contaminated environment.

In the study, researchers compared wearing a mask versus not wearing one for 20 minutes or 30-second exposures. They found that the risk of infection was reduced by 24-94% or by 44-99% depending on the total exposure time. They discovered that risk reduction decreased as exposure increased.

Wilson and her team collected data from various studies on mask efficacy and created a computer model to simulate the risk of infection, taking various factors into consideration.

The model developed by the team included factors such as inhalation rate, the volume of air inhaled over time, and virus concentration in the air.

According to the research results, the next best options are N95 and surgical masks. Since these are often reserved for hospital staff, vacuum cleaner filters can be inserted into pocket filters in cloth masks to provide additional protection.

Results showed that scarves, which reduced infection risk by 44 percent after 10 seconds and 24 percent after 20 minutes, or cotton T-shirts are only slightly better than not wearing a mask at all.

The size of virus-transmitting droplets is an important factor. Larger, heavier droplets carrying the virus drop out of the air faster than smaller, lighter ones. The droplets can come from sneezes, coughs and even speech, which is a reason why distance helps reduce exposure.

It is important for a mask to have a good seal that pinches at the nose. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a person should not wear a mask beneath the nose or tie it under their chin.

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Submit a letter to the editor! Letters will be edited for clarity and brevity. Letters over 250 words are subject to editing to fit available space. Please include full name, street address and telephone number and e-mail address, plus major, classification and/or title if applicable.

Address and phone number will be used for verification only. Write to 105 E. Union, prospector@utep.edu, call 747-516 or fax 747-8031
After UTEP students living on campus were directed to move out by UTEP Housing and Residence Life (HRL) due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they are now being given the opportunity to return.

Although UTEP housing has never closed, students who could afford to relocate were encouraged to do so in the middle of spring 2020.

“We definitely had to take some steps,” said Catie McCorry-Andalis, Ph.D., associate vice president and dean of students. “It has meant increased diligence from cleaning and sanitation. It also has meant a real increase in education outreach to our residents to understand what it means to be part of this.”

New rules were implemented to further combat the virus and keep students and staff safe, such as the reduction of capacity in apartments, an enforcement of masks and an isolation apartment in case students test positive for COVID-19.

“We are following not only the local state guidance when it comes to how to manage the coronavirus and steps to take to stay healthy and safe, but also the Centers for Disease Control as well, “ McCorry-Andalis said.

While some residents are ready to move back, some are debating whether to renew their contract.

“I understand most of the rules given are meant to keep us safe and less exposed to the virus, but I think that they can be more understating when it comes to finances,” said Naomi Valenzuela, a previous resident at Miner Village. “I think the cancellation fee is really unfair during these times because things are incredibly unpredictable.”

The Student Housing Contract has a cancellation policy where students are assessed a cancellation fee of $50 if the contract is cancelled before July 15th for the full academic year.

“I can maybe overlook not giving a refund back because usually if the rent is paid in advance it means the money came from financial aid or a scholarship, but you’re talking about students who perhaps live outside of the state, having to move out when they might not have the resources to do so as quickly as they might,” Valenzuela said.

Apart from the financial issues that could arise from living on campus during a pandemic, Valenzuela fears that residents will not take into consideration the rules being implemented, especially if they continue to ignore the effects of the virus.

“Right now, I’m concerned with getting roomed with someone who isn’t concerned with the virus,” Valenzuela said. “(Someone) who won’t take the necessary cautions to avoid the spread of the virus in our shared parts of the dorm.”

Housing fees have remained the same in order to assist students who have been financially impacted by the pandemic. Resources available include the Campus Advocacy Resources and Education Act, the Food Pantry, and a new team set up to assist residents through this crisis.

“We have case managers set aside, that is their full role right now, to help students through this financial crisis,” McCorry-Andalis said.

Recently, UTEP released a new and special webpage, titled “Resuming Campus Operations”, focused on entirely assisting students and staff during the pandemic.

“The situation that we’re all dealing with is new, and it’s a very fluid situation and it changes,” McCorry-Andalis said. “I think reading information that is shared is going to be super important, whether it’s through email, through the university social media folks, or campus bulletins that go out or looking at that website.”

Students who are looking to reside on campus, but have financial issues, can contact the dean of students at DOS@utep.edu. The new UTEP website designed for students and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic can be found on UTEP’s homepage at www.utep.edu.
Student starts a ‘readvolution’ with free books about race, identity

Michael Cuviello
The Prospector

After attending her first protest following the death of George Floyd at the hands of police, Kierra Lopez-Robinson was motivated to contribute to the movement. Inspired by the community’s response to police brutality and systemic racism, her mobile library, Readvolutionary, was born to help educate children on race and reduce institutional racism.

Readvolutionary is a not-for-profit library that Lopez-Robinson has created to provide the community, particularly children, with free books about race and identity. “I feel that many times in school when history is discussed, we are only given half-truths,” Lopez-Robinson said. “Educators need to do a better job at educating themselves on diverse cultures and institutions should hire more teachers and leaders that look like the kids being taught.”

One of the educators Lopez-Robinson credits for inspiring her library and her passion to educate others is Michael Williams, Ph.D., the head of UTEP’s African American Studies Program. Williams opening dialogues in African American history class helped Lopez-Robinson grasp a better understanding on how to try to connect with others, she said. Lopez-Robinson has attended protests and events held in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, where she says she has received positive reactions from attendees regardless of the political spectrum they may fall under. She feels this experience has given her a more positive outlet to create a discussion around a subject few want to address.

Lopez-Robinson hopes to expand her library by addressing the subject of sex in order to provide children and parents with a better understanding of appropriate and inappropriate touching. Only through open discussion, does she feel parents can make their children comfortable to talk about sensitive matters.

Readvolutionary’s books are donated by individuals or bought with the financial contributions Lopez-Robinson receives through her GoFundMe page. All books are personally sanitized by Lopez-Robinson to reduce health concerns amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

People can learn more about Readvolutionary by visiting its Facebook or Instagram pages.

Voting becomes uncertain amid COVID-19 pandemic

As COVID-19 cases continue to grow across the United States, the virus is predicted to impact one of the most fundamental rights the country’s citizens hold: voting.

With over 154,471 COVID-19 related deaths reported in the U.S. by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as of Aug 4, country leaders have begun to question the future of the upcoming presidential election on Nov. 3.

President Donald Trump, who is expected to face his Democratic opponent, Joe Biden, in the polls, has been pushing for in-person voting despite the pandemic and the Constitutional right states hold to run their own elections.

In the past, Trump has expressed his belief that mail-in ballots could be subject to fraud, going as far as tooying with the idea of delaying the November election by six days. Trump said during a White House press conference on Aug. 3, "The universal mail-in ballots have turned out to be a disaster," Trump said during a White House press conference.

In El Paso, mail-in ballots had a high turnout during the 2020 Primary Runoff Elections, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the El Paso County Elections Department, early voting concluded with more than 26,000 in-person and mail-in ballots.

The Democratic Primary Runoff had a total of 21,570 ballots, with 14,007 people voting in-person and 7,563 voting by mail. In the Republican Primary Runoff, 5,044 ballots were cast, with 4,297 in-person votes and 747 mail-in votes.

Even with early voting extended an extra week, unlike other years, because of the pandemic. Compared week to week with the 2018 elections, turnout this year increased by 22%, with mail-in ballots increasing by 87%.

"With the mail-in ballots, as well as the in-person early voting, we’ve seen a pretty decent turnout compared to what we normally see," said Lisa Wise, the El Paso elections administrator, back in July during the early voting period. "I'm hoping that everybody is either voting, if they can, by mail or by early voting when they have more options and we have more opportunity to social distance.”

Election administrators worked to provide appropriate health precautions during the runoff elections, this included having poll workers wear masks and face shields, providing voters with disposable styluses that can be used for the touch screen machines and having air disinfectant and hand sanitizer available for voters and poll workers.

"Every election has its own challenges," Wise said. "This has definitely been probably the most challenging on the logistical side of just making sure that we have enough supplies on things we normally wouldn't supply." Wise and her team also placed foot separations on the floor in order to observe social distancing and used germicidal cleaner to help disinfect voting stations after each use.

Wise said these elections served as a trial of what might be expected to come during the presidential election.

"We know there's stuff we can magnify and amplify to a 50% to 60% turnout and we're seeing what's working," Wise said. "We're kind of looking at this as a little test run." Similar to runoffs, Gov. Greg Abbott, announced he will be extending the early voting period for the November election by six days.

Early voting will now begin Oct. 13 instead of Oct. 19, with the end date remaining the same on Oct. 30.

Texas residents can register to vote by visiting votetexas.gov, filling out a voter registration application, and mailing it at least 30 days before the election date. People are eligible to vote if they are a U.S. citizen, are at least 17 years and 10 months old or 18 years of age on Election Day, not a convicted felon and have not been declared mentally incapacitated by a court.

According to the El Paso County Elections Department, a person is qualified for mail-in ballot if he or she is 65 years-old or older, sick or disabled, confined in jail or out of the country on election day and during the early voting time period.

The Application for a Ballot by Mail (ABBM) must be submitted to the Early Voting Clerk by mail, email or fax.

For more information regarding voting or to check one's voting registration status, visit votetexas.gov.
Memorial held for Walmart shooting victims at Ponder Park

Michael Cuviello

In 2020, one year after the tragic El Paso Walmart shooting, El Pasoans marched to Ponder Park carrying 23 crosses with the names of those who lost their lives on one of the deadliest attacks targeting Latinos in modern U.S. history.

From the park, the El Paso Fierce and Border Network for Human Rights group marched down Sunnmount Drive. There, a short memorial was held, where all 23 victims’ names were read aloud, and 23 white doves were released in their honor. This was followed by a rendition of the renowned Juan Gabriel ballad “Amor Eterno” sung by Selina Nevarez.

“A very special group of people have come together this weekend,” said Bishop Mark Seitz of El Paso. “It is a community that was created on that awful day, people of various nations and races and faiths and ages now all united, welded together by our suffering.

Family members of the victims took turns speaking about their loss. Antonio Basco was one of them. He lost his wife, Marjie Reckard, on that tragic day. Basco took some time to speak about the lack of action against gun control from the United States’ government leaders.

“Where Trump did not come through with the gun laws, it just encouraged people to do more,” Basco said. “I am just praying that the next generation will have a way to grow up and have a way stop all this killing. They did not deserve that. Nobody deserves that.”

Patricia Benavidez, who lost her husband Arturo Benavidez, also spoke to an impassioned crowd as she held back tears speaking of the tragic day.

U.S. Congresswoman Veronica Escobar was also present to show her support for the victims’ families and loved ones. She later addressed the crowd saying that much of the hate that caused this incident is still prevalent and is being stoked by many of the country’s leaders.

“We are here today because some of the highest leaders in this land have fueled hatred for communities of color and have used language to describe immigrants that rip them from their humanity. We will not have reconciliation until we confront that hate and that racism... Until we remove the power that it has.”

Michael Cuviello may be reached at prospector@utep.edu

Crosses are held for each of the 23 victims of the Cielo Vista Walmart shooting Aug. 3, 2020.

Leadership Network aims to help high school students get ahead

Anahy Diaz

El Paso Leadership Network (EPLN) is a new organization in town that strives to foster the growth of the city’s talent and leadership through academic and professional development.

EPLN is a registered non-profit organization composed of individuals who want to give back to the El Paso community by providing academic programs, mentorship, networking and other opportunities for students and professionals.

“We aspire to influence our community’s education, economy, government and culture by building an extensive network of extraordinary El Pasoans committed to aiding another to thrive in scholastic and professional pursuits,” said Miguel Moya, co-founder and president of EPLN.

Moya, along with El Paso natives, Ricardo Flores, Eric Diaz and Guillermo Santos, founded EPLN in September with the aspiration to serve the El Paso community through an idea they could act upon.

“As a community-based organization whose members are all El Pasoans, we are committed to realizing the potential of our region,” said Moya, who is a senior at Columbia University majoring in philosophy. “Members of EPLN share a common characteristic, and that is a desire to give back to the city that has given them the opportunities to grow and succeed. We want to use our experience and education to be part of the growth of El Paso in the years to come.”

The organization’s foundation lies in their Scholars Program, which is dedicated to mentoring high school students during the college and scholarship application process. The program consists of a two-year curriculum where students, who are accepted as juniors in high school, are granted access to webinars designed to help with financial aid applications, resume building, SAT and ACT preparation, essay writing and other career and academic opportunities.

Students are paired with a college student who acts as a mentor throughout their high school-to-college transition. Mentor applications are open to El Paso natives that have attended or are currently attending a four-year university and are willing to provide guidance to a high school student. Mentor applications are open to El Paso high school juniors with a 3.0 and above GPA and express motivation, ambition, and dedication for their education.

“As a mentor, you tap into a network of young academics and professionals from El Paso who can help you continue to grow,” Moya said. “Becoming a mentor is an unparalleled opportunity to be guided step by step on the journey to go to college, gain insight into potential career options, and meet others who are on the same trajectory.”

EPLN is currently recruiting mentors and mentees for its 2020-2022 EPLN Scholars Cohort on its website eplnetwork.org. Moya says there are other opportunities in which people can engage with the network aside from its mentorship program, this includes attending its upcoming virtual ‘Education Summit’ on Aug. 29 and 30, 2020.

“Our hope for this organization is to give people in our area the platform to help one another succeed,” Moya said. “El Paso is already working towards a better future for its people, and it is essential for us to enhance that work by leveraging our networks to create a positive impact in our community one step at a time.”

For more information and to stay up to date on all the opportunities offered by El Paso Leadership Network, visit its website at eplnetwork.org or its Facebook (ElPasoNetwork) and Instagram (@EPLNetwork) pages.

Student Media and Publications

Employment, internship and volunteer opportunities available.

Our mission at Student Media and Publications is to provide a hands-on learning environment for students, where they can learn practical journalistic applications and business practices. Student Media serves as a public forum for the University and a community that enables students to be informed and active participants in college life. Additionally, the Prospector and Minero Magazine are proudly produced in their entirety by UTEP students!

Opportunities are available for UTEP students interested in journalism, digital media production, graphic design, marketing and advertising.

Email prospector@utep.edu for more information.

Michael Cuviello

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El Paso Leadership Network (EPLN) is a new organization in town that strives to foster the growth of the city’s talent and leadership through academic and professional development.
UTEP’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) has launched its new project CAPS to Go to further reach out to students with its services. After the COVID-19 pandemic affected many services provided by the department, CAPS has adapted and implemented new ideas.

“I think that it’s incredibly important for [students] to be aware that there’s a place that they can go when they’re feeling stuck or they’re not sure what’s going on,” said Brian Sneed, Ph.D, director of CAPS. This new website introduces workshops that touch base on adapting to a pandemic life and how to surpass any issues that arise from it. They are separated like a menu to implement which sessions go first and what they offer.

“We have ‘Appetizers’, which are a little short five-minute video on meditation, maintaining social connections while at home, relaxation techniques and then we have our entrees which are usually somewhere around 45 minutes to an hour on final exam preparation, managing COVID-19 stress, maximizing your homework output, you know, different things like that,” Sneed said.

The website also includes a section titled ‘Specials’ where further tips and webinars are placed. One interesting session is “Nap Time, How to Get Better Sleep”, where one can learn how this pandemic affects their sleeping schedule and how to take better care of themselves.

Although the department already offered most of these sessions online, the access and recordings of these webinars have an easier access and platform.

“Before the pandemic we were able to offer those in a certain format, you know, remotely,” Sneed said. “But we have had several workshops and presentations participating in larger kinds of activities online. Thank goodness for the technology, and everything that you test, has been able to provide.”

Some of the changes that were implemented were the support groups added and the new one-on-one counseling sessions that have adapted to respect safety guidelines due to the pandemic. Students can go on to the CAPS website and log in to a support group if needed or call their hotline.

A research presented by Healthy Minds Network and the American College Health Association shows how there is a wide range of psychological repercussions that have affected college students due to the pandemic. One of them being depression.

The survey of more than 18,000 college students on 14 campuses, shows how on top of the stress that comes from time-management and finances, there has been an increase of 5% of students dealing with depression and an increase of 6% of students having their academic performance being impaired by mental-health struggles.

“There’s not really a problem that’s too small for us to handle and our idea is that if you’re not having the kind of experience that you want out of college, come to the Counseling Center and see if there’s something that we can do to help you out,” Sneed said. “We’re not miracle workers, but boy, would we like to be able to help you guys figure that out so that you can get back on track and have a better chance.”

Students can reach CAPS to Go under UTEP’s homepage at www.utep.edu and can reach the CAPS hotline at 915-747-5302.
Minerpalooza celebrates 30 years with first-ever virtual show

Dinner Theatre Broadway in concert continues
Dinner Theatre will perform and stream live
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Coffee House of Hel opens, ready to scare up business

Sasha Negriez
The Prospector

Coffee House of Hel is serving up frighteningly fruity concoctions in an atmosphere bone chilling enough to make any day of the year feel like Halloween. Owners Helen and Robert Hinopos have conjured up a one-of-a-kind local spot in East El Paso where coffee and horror fanatics alike can convene and indulge in a sinister merger of two curiously compatible passions.

The couple set out to commit to their first business venture after having discussed their dreams together for several years. Before opening Coffee House of Hel, Helen worked at a call center for 20 years, while Robert worked landscaping, often operating under arduous outdoor conditions.

Both of us decided it was time to do something. We had always talked about this so we started saying, ‘all we're doing is talking if we don't do this now, we're never going to do it,’ Helen said. “I didn't want to have to go to work every day and answer to anybody. I wanted to be my own boss. When you're doing something you love it's not even a job anymore, it becomes fun.”

The couple credits a substantial portion of the coffee shop’s concept to the horror comedy film “Burying the Ex” a personal favorite of theirs, with the plotline of the movie, where two individuals come together to achieve something they believe is their destiny. “In the movie the main girl he falls in love with owns an apple confection drizzled in caramel, with a flavor pleasantly contradictory to the appearance of the projectile retching murderously from the Rob Zombie film,” Helen said. “The Exorcist is a newly added menu item that takes on the appearance of the projectile retching Linda Blair enacts in the film but with a flavor pleasantly contradictory to the iconic scene. The frappe assumes the taste of a candied green apple confection drizzled in caramel, sure to provoke any palate.”

Another new item on the menu is the “Re-Animator”, a refreshment that radiates a glowing neon green hue, modeling itself after the reanimation serum from the classic horror film “Re-Animator” so refreshing it will resuscitate you right back to life.

Helen’s personal favorite item on the menu is “Killer Clown,” a watermelon flavored frappe and Robert’s is “Bloody Brains,” a drink that combines the flavor of caramel apples and chocolate raspberry. To create the illusion of brains in the “Bloody Brains” drink, Helen whips up a raspberry chocolate fusion that's drizzled over a pink whipped cream “brain” making for a mouthwateringly frightful sight.

The shop is also embellished with all things horror to supplement the experience even further. Red draped windows, a statuesque portrait of the Bride of Chucky dolls, and a slew of horror movie nights. We want to show classic movies like ‘Return of the Living Dead,’ Helen said. “We’re limited with everything going on right now, so we might have to wait on that a little bit. We wanted to do something where people can bring in their own seats and blankets, where they can just come together and enjoy a movie.”

Regardless of encountering these challenges you can still have high hopes and plans for its flourishing in the future.

“Eventually, we want to have movie nights. We want to show different horror films from the 1970s and 80s,” Helen said. “We want to get to the point where we’re having discussions about this so we started saying, ‘all we’re doing is talking if we don’t do this now, we’re never going to do it.’”

Coffee House of Hel is located at 2228 El Dorado Street. For more information on the shop, call (915) 444-8042 or visit their website at coffeeshouseofhel.com.

Drive- in theatre returns

Michael Cuviello
The Prospector

The Mexico Drive- in, El Paso Live and the El Paso International Airport are teaming up to bring the outdoor movie experience back to El Paso for the month of August with Drive- In showings throughout the month. COVID-19 has brought a revitalization of sorts to the popularity of Drive-In movies. The movie theatre area was made for multiple drive-in's all over the region. The Ascarate, Bronco, Bordertown and Del Norte Drive-In, along with the still in operation Fiesta, were just a few of the locations that were in operation. Since the end of operation, one can now drive in anywhere on the main road and enjoy movies together.

In March, all indoor movies in El Paso shut their doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since that time, only the Cinemark movie theatre has reopened with limited capacity. Movie release to the public have come essentially to a halt outside of smaller independent films.

As of now, the El Paso County Coliseum ran what it dubbed “carpool cinema” with various screenings on a pop-up movie screen. This was followed by the current showings throughout the city of El Paso by the Plaza Film Festival that included locations such as Cohen Water park, the El Paso Coliseum and others that sold out its first two shows at $25 per car.

One of the more unique locations was in an old airplane hanger at the El Paso Airport, which is now dubbed Hangar 7 Studios. This location will now be used for Movies on the Fly running every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from Aug. 14-30 starting at 8:30 p.m.

“We are excited to provide an event to our community that allows for great family entertainment while also practicing social distancing,” said Bryan Crowe, general manager for Destination El Paso. “We know El Pasoans are looking for safe ways to spend time together with friends and family and we are pleased to present this drive-in movie experience.”

Movies are to be shown on a 55-foot screen that will be created by painting hanger doors. Parking is on a first-come, first-served basis and all vehicles will be spaced apart in a checkeredboard pattern. All guests must wear a mask and remain 6 feet apart while waiting in the restrooms provided on-site. Tickets, $25 plus facility fee per vehicle, are contactless and available at El Paso Live. There will be no cash sales and patrons are encouraged to bring their own food and drink.
Taylor Swift’s ‘Folklore’ one good thing from 2020

Claudia Hernandez
The Prospector

Taylor Swift’s popularity has gone through the roof, she did not even need fanfare or weeks worth of promotion for her newest album “Folklore” to be a hit. She can make anyone feel in love or heartbroken without having experienced either. 

During the lockdown, brought by the global COVID-19 pandemic, Swift wrote, recorded, produced, and released a whole new album. “Folklore” is Swift’s eighth studio album, released on July 24th, not even a year after she released her previous album “Lover.” This album came as a surprise to her fans, after being released without any anticipation. She announced it one day before she released it, sending the internet into a complete spiral. The music video for the first single on the album, “Cardigan”, premiered at midnight EST on YouTube that same day, where over 300 thousand people streamed the video live.

According to an Instagram post made by Swift, the album and music videos were created during lockdown and abided by safety guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Swift collaborated with her “musical heroes” such as Bon Iver, and The National’s guitarist, Aaron Dessner. While her last album “Lover” explored the multiple emotions of what being in a relationship and deeply in love feels like, “Folklore” brought a more nostalgic vibe.

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It is also comforting to rely on her never-ending addition of “Easter eggs” to her music videos and lyrics. This time around, she connected some her songs, telling the same story through different perspectives. This is the case for the songs “Betty”, “Cardigan” and “August”, which fans think are songs written about three people involved in the same love triangle.

It is always good to rely on Swift’s storytelling techniques, which have personally hooked me since I was a kid. I have been a fan of Taylor Swift since her very first album. I love that all her songs tell a story that somehow are always relatable no matter what. It is mesmerizing to see how her music has evolved, as my feelings do too.

It was about time for her to shine again after all the disputes she’s encountered with her former record label Big Machine Label Group and rapper Kanye West. For her, competition is not an option anymore, she has made peace with herself and her past, and this album shows that tranquility.

Ever since her Netflix documentary “Miss Americana” came out, the world was able to catch a glimpse of Swift’s dilemmas, traumas, drives, and fears. I am glad all that process was turned into art, that way it can remain just that. “Folklore” is a masterpiece. Swift’s music evolves as she has new experiences. Swift is thriving and discovering new ways of expressing her feelings and memoirs into masterpieces that are no longer part of any specific genre.

In the past, In the past she has been criticized for switching from Country-pop to pop, and now to an Indie/Pop/Folk album. But to categorize an artist into one genre perhaps limits their talent, and their opportunity of discovering new forms of music. From “Fifteen”, where she shares how her first kiss felt like, to “You Need to Calm Down”, where she finally took a political stand, all the way to “Cardigan”, where she talks about the nostalgia of past relationships, Swift’s fans have accompanied her through every step of her life.

There is always one Taylor Swift song for any moment of your life. She is 8 years older than me, so she has lived all the phases before me, and written about it, so I can relate to them as I go through them. I could say she is kind of my older sister. Her fans, myself included, are now just waiting for this pandemic to be over, so we can spend our money to see her live from close or, far away and cry our eyes out. Well, at least I am ready.

While listening to this album, I re-lived my first breakup, my first love, and the nostalgia that comes within growing apart from someone. It was beautiful and painful but in a magical way. I rate “Folklore” 5 picks out of 5; because it is the silver lining that appeared right when the world needed it the most.

Thank you, Taylor Swift, you shined a light in these dark times. You are the one good thing that has happened in this horrible year.

Claudia Hernandez may be reached at prospector@utep.edu
Student organizations remain active despite COVID-19

Paulina Astrid Spencer

With over 200 student organizations, UTEP makes it possible for students to be involved on campus and access to professional opportunities. Ranging from art to science, students from all colleges can find an organization that matches their interests and future goals. Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic struggles, many organizations, clubs, sororities and fraternities continue to meet and engage with the community virtually. Here are a few organizations UTEP has to offer:

College of Business Administration Accounting Society

The Accounting Society at UTEP is an organization open to all students in the College of Business. Their mission is to provide all majors with an opportunity to learn about the profession of accounting, while providing students with internships and job opportunities. Some of the benefits of joining this organization include presentations by local accounting recruiters, field trips to local firms and development in social and communication skills.

Women in Business Association

The Women in Business Association at UTEP strives to advocate equality for women in the workplace through awareness, activism, education, and empowerment. The organization aims to encourage women to be confident and empowered through experiences designed to develop leadership skills, while providing members with the opportunity to meet accomplished professionals.

American Marketing Association (AMA)

The AMA is the largest marketing association in North America. It is a professional association for individuals and organizations involved in the practice, teaching and study of marketing worldwide. This year, the AMA will focus on helping members brand themselves to be more marketable when facing the business world.

College of Education
Bilingual Education Student Organization

B.Ed.S.O. is affiliated with the Texas Association for Bilingual Education and strives to help members develop support groups, grow professionally, network, and serve the community through volunteer activities. Joining this organization includes discussing topics such as policy, teaching practices, material development and research to help future educators.

Education College Council

The Education College Council at UTEP’s purpose is to enhance knowledge, participation, and understanding of UTEP’s College of Education. Joining the organization means serving as a representative to the student concerns between the student education population and the administration, faculty, and staff.

Higher Education Student Association

The purpose of HESA is to foster a sense of community among students interested in higher Education Administration including students, alumni, faculty, and staff. HESA aims to provide students with a forum for the exchange of ideas on current issues in higher education. HESA also aims to provide members with opportunities for professional and personal development.

College of Engineering
American Society of Civil Engineers

ASCE’s student chapter at UTEP is to be a good medium for exercising principles of personal and public relations, such as conducting chapter activities, holding office, and visiting engineering works under construction. Members are given the opportunity to actively participate in their civil engineering or technology education.

Association for Computing Machinery

The ACM student organization provides multiple activities that are fun and informative, while providing students with a head start in their careers. The organization is recognized as one of the best for emerging computing professionals.

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

ASME is committed to lead and inspire students with a common interest in mechanical engineering. The student organization has had the purpose to promote education and professionalism through various events dedicated to student engagement and development. The organization’s main goal is to develop future leaders by enforcing the importance of relationship and communications skills.

College of Liberal Arts
Black Student Union

Although UTEP campus is closed, resources as such have shifted to a virtual approach to still provide for students. From art to science, students from all colleges can find an organization that matches their interests and future goals.

Photograph by Claudia Hernandez | The Prospector

Amid the pandemic, UTEP continues to aid students with many resources

Victoria Kirsop | The Prospector

The current pandemic has changed everyone’s daily routines. Thankfully, there has been created for students, faculty and staff to have updated information on the re-opening of the UTEP campus. Shown at the top of UTEP’s homepage, the link provides space for frequently asked questions and the recovery level of the Coronavirus.

“Dedicated to students and their families, if you open that up, it’s refreshed, if not daily, multiple times a week with new content, new information,” said Associate Vice President and Dean of Students Dr. McGorry-Andalis. “So everything from the new course schedules out for the fall to international students linking directly to the officer national program, their support services.”

Although the UTEP campus is closed, following resources have shifted to a virtual approach to continue to provide for all students.

Counseling and Psychological Services

Originally located in West Union, CAPS is still providing their counseling services for students through video or phone. To set up appointments, students may call their number at 915-747-5302 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Although most workshops and sessions have been cancelled, students can use the service “CAPS to Go!” The service gives students online workshops to help with issues such as insomnia, isolation and self-care.

“I think that it’s incredibly important for them to be aware that there’s a place that they can go when they’re feeling stuck or they’re not sure, you know, what’s going on or if there’s something that’s having an impact on you, you know, academic success and things like that, that there is a place that they can go to someone and try and help them figure out what’s going on,” said Dr. Brian Smoed, Director of the Counseling and Psychological Services.

University Writing Center

A major help for students and their papers, the University Writing Center has implemented new features on their website to better assist students virtually. Students can share their screens with a consultant to better assist them with their essay by using a Synchronous system through Blackboard Collaborate. This service will be available to students Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Students may also e-mail their assignments to the UWC using an online form with a 72 hours turnaround.

Food Pantry

Set inside of Memorial Gym, UTEP’s food pantry provides free food to students who need assistance. Their hours of operations are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. If students cannot make it during hours of operation, they can contact the Dean of Students to set up an individual appointment.

Although UTEP campus is closed, resources such as have shifted to a virtual approach to still provide for students experiences and community outreach to their members. The Computational Science Student Association (CPSSA) CPSSA at UTEP aims to support the scholarly and professional interests of the current and future computational science students. CPSSA provides members with opportunities to prepare for graduate school and professional work through opportunities and civic engagement.

Chub Zero

Chub Zero is a social club hosted by the Mathematics Department with the purpose of providing students who are interested in mathematical sciences with opportunities to interact, make connections, and participate in activities to help members achieve future goals. Chub Zero provides research opportunities and possible support from the Math Department to attend research conferences.

To learn more about the various organizations found at UTEP, visit Meet/Need at minitracker.utep.edu.

From the Dean to the students, the Dean of Students Office is a place where you know who to ask, the Dean of Students Office at DOS@utep.edu.

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Miner athletes to watch in 2020 fall season

Isaiah Ramirez

The Prospector

In what is a whirlwind of events that have led up to the 2020 fall sports season, the possibility of sports taking place is still on the fence. NCAA President Mark Emmert remains concerned about starting the fall portion of collegiate sports and pushing back schedules, where a delayed start might make sense.

If a delayed start to college athletics is the eventual result, then it would allow collegiate athletics the ability to still showcase their talent and improve week in and week out. Teams including the UTEP Miners look to kick-off this season and improve upon last year's 7-6-1 record. The Miners have not battled in a regular season since 1997 and will be the first Miner team to do so.

This year's roster was assembled as a juggernaut in the starting lineup, with seven players returning from last year's squad with just three freshmen on the team.

Balogun said.

“Going into this season, my only expectation was that the culture our program would help develop would help us overcome the many questions and obstacles we were bound to face,” Balogun said in a press release. “I am proud to say that everyone buying into our culture helped us find our way.

After running a double-digit win total for the first time in three years, the team is looking forward to building upon last season in the upcoming 2020 year.

“Our staff put a lot of work into giving the team the resources they needed to be successful,” Balogun said.

One of the most important games that UTEP will have this season will be against Arizona State, a team the Miners have not battled in a regular season since 1997 and will be the first time that the Sun Devils will visit El Paso.

This year’s C-USA home schedule was minimized to three league home games due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Miners will play 16 games, started in six of them.

The 6-foot-8 228-pound forward Bryson Willimas to be the dominating big man he turned out to be. Williams was dominating on the offensive side of the floor last season, which was tied for the most assists making. Carlin was an anchor for UTEP women’s soccer team. It was a void that will be filled by other players from the program this offseason. Williams leadership will be on full display this season.

The Miners will host Louisiana Tech on Sept. 6, Mississippi Valley State on Sept. 27, and Louisiana on Oct. 4, and North Texas on Oct. 23.

This season brings with it some significant and unprecedented changes, but are we excited to host so many home games amidst the travel challenges our country is facing,” Balogun said.

This year’s roster was assembled as a young roster, featuriing 21 players from last year’s squad with just three seniors and eleven freshmen.

Some players who performed well and were among the best of the team last season, are sophomore goalkeeper Emily Parrrott, sophomore forward Tessa Carlin, junior forward Jojo Nguo and defender Lauren Crenshaw, now alumni.

Born in Frisco, Texas, Emily Parrrott was a very important element for the Miner’s performance last season. She played in all 20 matches, making 19 starts and cracked the UTEP top-10 single-season list for shutouts, minutes played, most wins and start. She also had 61 saves placing her sixth in the UTEP freshman season list. Her performance made her be in the C-USA Commissioners’ Academic Medalist and in the C-USA Commissioners’ Honor Roll this year.

Carlin’s resume included 20 games played with 19 in the starting lineup, leading the team, scoring five goals, pacing the squad with seven assists, and named to the 2019 C-USA All-Freshman Team. She became the first player in program history to post an assist as each of the first three matches of the season. Her five goals made her share the squad lead for most goals alongside alumni Lauren Crenshaw.

In her second season with the Miners Nguo also played in 20 games, 16 of those she was on the starting lineup, scored four goals and 5 assists making her the second-ranked of the squad in assists.

Ngozo was third for UTEP in goals and shared the team lead for game-winning goals with two. Ngozo improved her play compared with the 2018 season where she played 16 games, started in six of them, scored three goals and two assists.

In the upcoming season, the Miners will lose a player that was very important in last year's campaign.

Lauren Crenshaw was an anchor for the Orange and Blue as a four-year playermaker for the Miners in which she received a series of awards such as being in the 2016 C-USA All-Freshman Team, C-USA Commissioner’s Honor Roll in 2017 and 2018. Crenshaw even appeared on the C-USA Offensive Player of the Week on Sept. 5, 2018, while her original position is on the defense of the team.

In her last year as part of the squad, Crenshaw took part in 20 games in which she started in 19 of them. She also shared the team lead for goals with five and game-winning goals with two, lead the team with 53 outright shots and 23 shots on goal target, and shared the third-ranked for assists with three.

Crenshaw was an important player for Miners the past four seasons and her departure leaves a void that will be filled by other players from the program this offseason. Williams leadership will be on full display this season.

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Some players who performed well and were among the best of the team last season, are sophomore

Photograph by Claudia Hernandez/The Prospector

Miner junior Serena Patterson looks to be a major contributor for Miner Volleyball in 2020.

Isaiah Ramirez

The Prospector

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Crenshaw was a very important player for Miners the past four seasons and her departure leaves a void that will be filled by other players from this Miner team. It may be a difficult time for the team find someone to replace her in that position, but there is no doubt that Balogun has young playmakers at her disposal such as sophomore defender Lilly Mangano, senior midfielder Isabel Payne, and senior defender Isabel Trevino who lost last season due to injury.

The women’s soccer team schedule is still being finalized amid COVID-19 concerns. The ability of fans to attend games also remains in question until further details are released.

COACH WALLIS: "IT'S A GUARDIAN MODEL, A HELPING MODEL"
Defense looks to rebound from injury plagued season

Isaiah Ramirez

Editor’s Note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the world of sports is constantly changing and that includes college football. This article is included in a preview of the upcoming football season with the intention that the season will go as scheduled.

UTEP’s offense this year may have several question marks as to who will be under center and who will be leaned on to make trips to the end zone. Efficient offensive production will have to be met by the Miners as they averaged 19 points per game in the 2019-2020 campaign. Let’s look at the blueprint for the offense in the 2020-2021 season.

Who will be under center?

Starting with the quarterback position, Sophomore quarterback Gavin Hardison has the potential to be the starter this year. He showed some good things last season, throwing 335 yards in his two games played before redshirting. If Hardison improves his pass accuracy, he can earn the starting nod over redshirt freshman TJ Goodwin. Goodwin’s first year in the quarterback room.

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The 6-foot-5 Houston, Texas native has the mobility and arm strength to become the man under center for the Miners.

This offseason can be his opportunity to prove himself after suffering a season-ending injury prior to the 2019 season. Wadley was recently named to the Doak Walker Award List, an award that is presented to the nation’s top running back. In Wadley’s junior campaign he led the team in rushing yards and rushing touchdowns with seven.

His experience can help and improve this year’s offense alongside redshirt freshman and El Paso product, Demor Hankins, who already has a year under his belt. The city’s all-time rushing leader during his tenure at Parkland High School will look to be the powerful back alongside Wadley.

Other options for this position are redshirt junior and fellow El Paso native, product Reynaldo Flores, who can contribute to the run game, and on special teams. Senior Joshua Fields is an experience back that could produce meaningful yards for the Miners and can move the chains rushing for 312 yards last season.

The Miners will look to widen the offensive production by finding new playmakers and better explosive abilities. For Hardison to make an immediate impact will be helpful to the offense.

Offense plans to blend talent and experience

Isaiah Ramirez

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There are many aspects of the UTEP football team that needs some improvement, but one area that needs a revitalization is the defense. Last season the Miners allowed 35.9 points per game, which was towards the bottom tier of college football and the most points allowed in Conference-USA. This season the defense is switching to 4-3 defense in hopes of boosting the defense’s performance.

“One of our big goals is to create more pass rush and be able to get to the quarterback better,” head coach Dana Dimel said in a press release. “We feel like by getting our guys spread out and covering up defensive linemen a little bit more, that we’re going to be able to create some pass rush angles for our defensive ends.”

The 2019-2020 season resulted in just one win for the Miners and a large testament to that was the dismal defense efforts. A large part of that did come as a result of the offenses lack of production, which resulted in pressure for the defense to supply much needed relief. A mere 12 sacks were recorded for the Miners, which was third worst in the nation according to ESPN.

Unfortunately for the defense a much-needed improvement will have to come from fresh faces since its top tacklers, in Michael Lewis, Justin Rogers, and Adrian Hynson have completed their eligibility. A silver lining for the defense is the return of senior safety Justin Prince, who recorded 27 tackles in five games played before enduring a season-ending injury, as well as senior cornerback Josh Caldwell, who led the squad in pass breakups with 11 and 52 tackles in 11 games played.

Looking back at the Miners first year under head coach Dana Dimel in the 2018-2019 season, the defense was an aspect of the team that was reliable at times.

Statistically, it was a better defense in terms of points allowed at 32.75 points per game, and passing yards allowed per game at 264.8, which was fifth-best in Conference-USA.

Defensively, the Miners were blessed with the reliable playmakers All-Conference USA selection A.J. Hotchkins and all-timer leader in pass breakups in Nik Needham.

Fast forward to Dimel’s and defense coordinator Mike Cox’s third year in the program, the hopes of finding new playmakers will stem from the means of Junior College (JUCO) products. In what is a heavy defensive minded 2020 early signing recruiting class for the Miners with eight players playing on defense. A player that will loom to make an immediate impact will be junior defensive tackle Kelvin Moss. Moss excelled at Kilgore College, producing 59 tackles, five sacks, three forced fumbles, and was a Second Team All-America selection by the NJCAA in 2019.

Although the Miners will have several options to plug in to the defensive scheme from the JUCO outlets, experience in the Miner program will look to be another reliable factor.

Redshirt senior linebacker Jayson Yau Hook is another Miner to watch for as he started all 12 games last season tallying 52 total tackles, one of the squad’s rare sacks, and four tackles for losses. El Paso product and redshirt defensive tackle, Josh Ortega, is another veteran player the squad will value on defense as the Montwood High School alumni recorded 27 tackles and two sacks in 2019.

In the grand scheme of things, this UTEP football team will need to improve on both sides of the ball, and defensively with Newly acquired athletic playmakers, as well as veteran leadership in the mix, this defense has the ingredients to see progress.
The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) is the department at UTEP that helps students with a disability or a temporary disability get accommodations to help them be successful at UTEP.

CASS has a new online portal called AIM. AIM is an online software that we utilize as a way to process a 3 question application for students with disabilities or temporary disabilities. CASS will then meet with students virtually to discuss their case and determine what accommodations the student is eligible for.

AIM allows students to access or request services online from the safety and comfort of their home 24/7.

The system will allow you to log on with your single sign on UTEP credentials, so there will be no new passwords or usernames to memorize.

Log on at: utep.edu/cass
Minerpalooza, UTEP’s biggest back-to-school event, is going completely virtual for our 30th annual celebration. We’re gearing up to bring you an event that will bring Miner Nation together for one special evening. Save the date: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020.

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