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NOVA

The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine



**Don Henderson
Outstanding Ex, '80**

The View from the Hill

A quiet presence on this campus for two decades is trying to quietly retire.

If Halbert St. Clair, vice president for business affairs, had his way, he would simply not show up for work on September 1, 1980, and let that serve as notice of his retirement. But, of course he has had to tell his staff, and the word got out. The Prospector enterprisingly interviewed him and even took his picture. His assistant, June Marquez, organized a surprise reception for him last May and took him over to the Union under the pretext that she wanted him to see an art exhibit there. A lot of people were waiting to wish him well.

It took me a few years to break the ice with Hal St. Clair. In my early days here, when I sought advice on some matter having to do with NOVA, or the News Service budget, or interpretation of some fiscal complexity for a reporter's query, I thought Hal a trifle frosty and remote, though he was always helpful.

Actually, the shortcomings of our early relationship were, I discovered, entirely on my side of the ledger. I believe Hal chooses his friends carefully. He helps and advises—drawing on a definitive knowledge of the labyrinthine fiscal structure of the University—anyone who seeks him out; he warms up to people he identifies as professional and loyal to the University.

He is, I believe, a "book man" (go by the book and stay out of trouble), and his insistence on this method has probably kept UT El Paso out of money trouble for the 20 years of his service here. He is a coolly efficient man, never at a



St. Clair

loss to cope with a situation. A tribute to his mastery of his job is the fact that former president Arleigh Templeton, as shrewd a business brain as UT El Paso has ever had aboard, depended on Hal St. Clair's encyclopedic knowledge on a day-to-day basis.

But it is not a true picture to depict Hal as a cool, efficient, go-by-the-book, human calculator. Far from it: a warmer and more likeable man I have not known on this campus, nor one with a slyer sense of underplayed humor, nor one with a more abiding love and loyalty to this University.

Hal, we thank you for what you did for us; we will miss you.

by El Paso artists Henry Martinez and Mike Stiernagle, was constructed by the Hollywood firm which made the Disney and Flintstone characters. Inside the "Paydirt" suit is Jimmy Legarreta, Student Activities coordinator.

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Named professors emeritus of UT El Paso during the May, 1980, commencement proceedings were four distinguished, long-time faculty members, including one former president of the University.

President Emeritus Joseph R. Smiley (who headed Texas Western College 1958-60 and UT El Paso 1969-72), whose distinguished career in higher education began in 1935, was named Professor Emeritus of French.

John M. Hills, a member of the Geological Sciences faculty since 1967 and renowned for his work in petroleum geology, also retired in 1980 with emeritus rank.

Edgar T. Ruff, a member of the Modern Languages faculty from 1945 to 1973, and former chairman of that

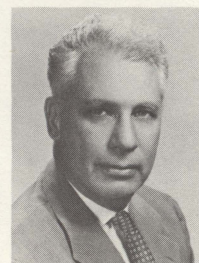
department, retired in 1973 and was awarded his emeritus ranking last spring as was Wiltz Harrison.

Prof. Harrison served in the art faculty from 1948 until his retirement a few years ago.

NOVA extends its sincere congratulations to these four distinguished gentlemen and its gratitude for their exemplary service to our institution.



Smiley



Hills



Ruff

September 1980 NOVA

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Editor: Dale L. Walker

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Alumnnotes: Sue Wimberly

Cover: 1980 Outstanding Ex Don Henderson. (Photo by Russell Banks)

Back Cover: "Paydirt Pete," who made his debut Sept. 6 in the UTEP-Texas Tech game, performs at a pep rally on campus Sept. 12. The mascot, designed

Forthcoming in NOVA: The University's 1981 Convocation tie-in with El Paso's Four Centuries '81 celebration . . . How Trost & Trost contributed to our Bhutanese architecture . . . The worst El Paso movie ever made . . . "Relics," a photofeature . . . C. Sharp Cook on nuclear fission/fusion . . . An interview with President Monroe . . . The "Orange & White" controversy . . . Elroy Bode on "Royal Bob" Ingersoll . . . and a lot more!

— Editor

"I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. Life is no brief candle for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

The words of George Bernard Shaw echo precisely the philosophy of Donald S. Henderson, UT El Paso's 1980 Outstanding Ex-Student. A man whose private as well as public contributions to his city have more than qualified him as the recipient of the University's highest alumni distinction, Don Henderson applies Shaw's sentiments with an earnestness and intensity that are indeed rare.

A 1956 graduate of Texas Western College, Henderson is perhaps best known for his term as mayor of El Paso from 1975 to 1977, during which time his administration established the city's public transportation system, revitalized the downtown area through the El Corredor Project, paved the way for the present-day Emergency Medical Services, and set up the Organization of U.S. Border Cities to focus attention on problems on the border.

In 1965 he started the Don Henderson Insurance Agency with Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, recognized by that company as doing the most outstanding job over a ten-year period in building a new agency in the entire 130-year history of Penn Mutual. The agency received the President's Progress Award for 1968 as the most progressive in the company. From his offices in the Tres Palmas Building at 1401 Montana, Henderson continues his service to the community through his active participation in diverse civic affairs and through his devotion to UT El Paso Alumni Activities. Last year he served as chairman of the Wade Hartrick Fund for the College of Business Administration, the first endowment that College has ever received. "We've worked for many years," Henderson says, "to get funding for the business school so we could offer and develop M.B.A.s, encourage professorships, and have the money to augment the staff and faculty, books and equipment, as well as student scholarships. We've got that now. The construction of the new Business building is on the way. It's a great thrill for those of us who've worked for that and have been working for years."



Don Henderson, Outstanding Ex, '80

by James Stowe

Born and raised in Alamogordo, Henderson lettered in football, basketball and track at Alamogordo High School, and was a member of the state championship teams in football in 1950 and track in 1951. Upon graduation from high school in 1952, Henderson hoped to attend college somewhere in New Mexico on an athletic scholarship.

After being accepted by New Mexico Military Institute, he came to El Paso to spend the weekend with his father, who had recently moved back to town from California. A friend of Dale Waters, then basketball coach at Texas Western, Howard "Bud" Henderson suggested his son consider going to school in El Paso. One Saturday Waters called Don and

asked to see him play, and the two of them went out to Holliday Hall. "He had the basketball," Henderson remembers. "I dribbled it around the floor and took a few shots and Waters said he'd give me a partial scholarship—not room and board, but he'd pay for books and tuition." "Bud" Henderson said Don could live with him for a year, but the final decision to stay in El Paso was a difficult one. Not only were most of his friends going to New Mexico Military, but, Henderson says, laughing, "I had an uncle in Alamogordo who looked upon Texans as he would the Ayatollah Khomeini. He wouldn't speak to me for a year because I decided to go to school in Texas."

But Henderson decided to stay. He made the team his freshman year and during that year, from 1952 to 1953, he says, "I had the distinction of playing on the worst basketball team the Miners ever had. We won three ball games out of twenty-five. The next year, though, they decided to bring in some good players and my basketball career was over."

Henderson's first intention was to become a civil engineer. There was a certain glamour to that profession, he recalls, and relates how he once envisioned himself wearing a white Palm Beach suit, smoking long cigars and building bridges in Bolivia or somewhere. The vision quickly faded with his first calculus course. Although the class was difficult, he remembers fondly the teacher, Mrs. Bulah Patterson. "I sat on the front row and Mrs. Patterson put up a formula on the board. I asked her, 'How did you get the second step?' And she said, 'Everybody knows that's not the second step, that's the *third* step. I left *out* the second step.' " That's when Henderson realized that calculus wasn't for him, and went across campus to the School of Business.

Other teachers and staff members he remembers are: Dr. William Strain ("A great teacher, and very interesting. He had a knack for creating curiosity, and had a great influence on me as a freshman"); Eugene Thomas of the Engineering Department ("A fine manager and leader who expected the best out of his faculty and students"); Dean Anton H. Berkman ("I could give you a hundred stories of Dean Berkman and what he meant to a lot of people. He was a truly dedicated person"); Judson Williams ("He was one of my leaders and a person who had a tremendous influence on my life"); Mrs. Lelah Black ("She taught me typing and business let-



The Hendersons: Don, Camile, Sandra, Marjorie; at right, Don and Camile behind the eight ball in a pool lesson.

ters"); Don Freeland ("He taught accounting and is still a good friend; he was popular and was actively involved with the business students"); Dr. Pearl Ponsford ("My English instructor and the finest teacher I ever had because she could make her subject *live*"); Dr. Joseph Smiley ("He had a large influence on me when I was president of the Ex-Students Association"); Dr. Joseph Ray ("He helped me with the Excellence Fund work"); Mrs. Carter ("Our dorm mother who put up with me and all the other 'lamps' in Benedict Hall"); and "Ma" (Mrs. Joe) Ramsey ("Our dorm mother at Hudspeth Hall").

The man who probably made the greatest impression on Henderson next to Judson Williams was Wade Hartrick. "There are few people who are willing to give that something extra to their students, apart from their in-class time. Dr. Hartrick is one of those people who took that extra interest in his classes and in his students."

Of his campus days, one of Henderson's most vivid memories is of his stay at Benedict Hall, particularly his first night there. Some of the mining engineers living in the dorm brought in a nine-foot alligator they had taken from the pond in San Jacinto Plaza downtown, and later put it under Dr. Howard E. Quinn's desk. "It was a shock but Dr. Quinn recovered all right. That was my initiation to living in a dormitory."

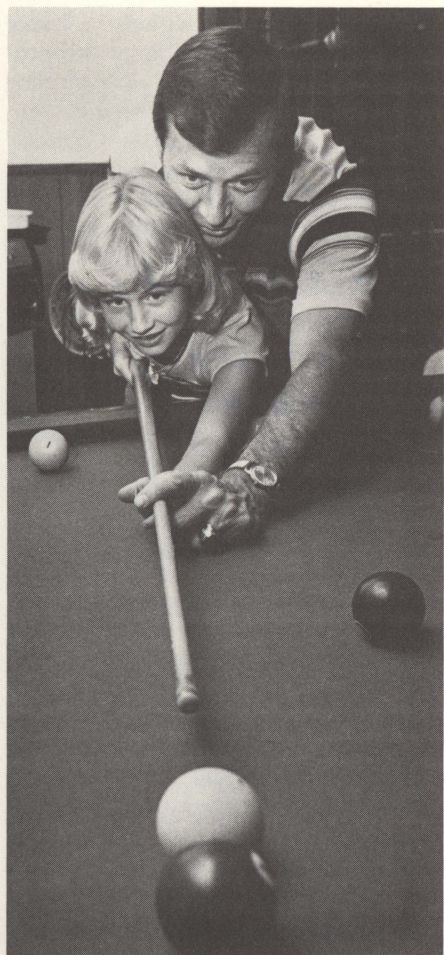
While attending Texas Western, Henderson was a member of Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity. He was Intra-Fraternity Council chairman and

Student Intramural director. He joined Tau Kappa Epsilon and served as president in 1953 and 1954. In his senior year, with the help of Harry Drenes, Al Ortiz and Jim Peak, Henderson ran as an independent for president of the student body, and won. "It was a great experience serving as student body president. I learned a great deal about interpersonal relationships. It was like having another year of college." In 1956 he was elected to Men of Mines and graduated as one of the Top Ten Seniors with a B.B.A. degree in May.

The February before graduation, Henderson married Marjorie Crawford, then a freshman. "I was a big man on campus," Henderson says wryly, "and she chased me all over the place. She chased me all over campus until I caught her."

Marjorie, a journalism major at the time, who later worked for the El Paso *Herald-Post* as a copy girl, remembers being introduced to Don by Jo Hovious, then secretary of the student body and her Big Sister in Chi Omega. She says their September-to-February romance was a "whirlwind thing. We were pinned, engaged, and married in six months. Our marriage picture even appeared in the *Prospector*."

The Hendersons live in the Upper Valley with their four children: Donald Berry, 24, who is with the Halliburton Oil Company in Artesia; Keith Alan, 20, a UT El Paso business major with an interest in music; Sandra Elizabeth, 14,



a ninth grader at Lincoln School; and Camile Christine, 10, a fifth grader at Zach White.

Marjorie herself has been involved in many civic affairs. For ten years she did publicity for the Sun Carnival—as a volunteer helper for Polly Harris. This is her second year as vice president in charge of the coronation, a job that entails overseeing all coronation activities. Marjorie has been president of the Hotel Dieu Auxiliary and did hospital volunteer work for ten years. She was also president of the West El Paso Republican Women's Club. In addition to her civic activities, she finds time to belong to two bowling leagues, the Early Birds and the Coronado Mixed, and has been bowling for the past ten years. "I've tried to talk Don into bowling," she says, "but he tells me that if I won't play golf with him, he won't bowl with me."

After graduation, Henderson went to work for the Popular Department Stores, selling men's clothing. "I knew my future really wasn't there," he says. "A lot of people got upset because I was color blind. I think that's why Marjorie married me. She felt sorry for me when I'd have one green and one red sock on.

She'd see me walking across campus wearing a blue shirt and purple pants. It was so bad I made Bing Crosby look coordinated." And looking back on his military service, Henderson adds, "I would have ended the war in Korea if they would have let me fly those airplanes, but they wouldn't because I was color blind."

Marjorie says, "I still have to put out his clothes every day."

Henderson entered the army in November, 1956 as a 2nd lieutenant. In ROTC, he recalls the influence of Col. John Alfrey and Col. G. U. Ford, his professor and assistant professor, respectively, of Military Science and Tactics. He went through four months of Officer's Basic Training at Ft. Bliss, after which he became one of eight men out of 60 to stay on as instructors. He spent two years there as an artillery instructor, teaching anti-aircraft gunnery and the HAWK missile. "I have a couple of war stories that involve falling off the platform and gouging myself with a pointer, but that's about all."

When he completed his military service in 1958, Henderson intended to go to law school, but changed his mind when Col. Hank Holman suggested he consider the life insurance business. Holman thought Henderson would do well, and encouraged him to talk to Charles Gibson at Connecticut Mutual. "I spent one afternoon talking to Charlie and decided, 'I'm going into the life insurance business.'"

During his time at Connecticut Mutual, Henderson finished second nationwide among the company's first-year agents in the number of policies sold in 1959, and qualified for the company's top sales club—Leader's Round Table—in 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1963. He was appointed agency supervisor in 1962 and that same year qualified for both the top supervisors' club and Leader's Round Table.

He stayed with Connecticut Mutual for six-and-a-half years, then decided he wanted his own agency. "I came to the conclusion that I didn't want to leave El Paso. I could have had my own agency with Connecticut Mutual, but not in El Paso. Marjorie and I talked it over and decided we had too many friends here. I'm a multimillionaire in friends. They're very important to me, and so is my life style here in El Paso. I have a tremendous love affair with this community, and I just couldn't leave."

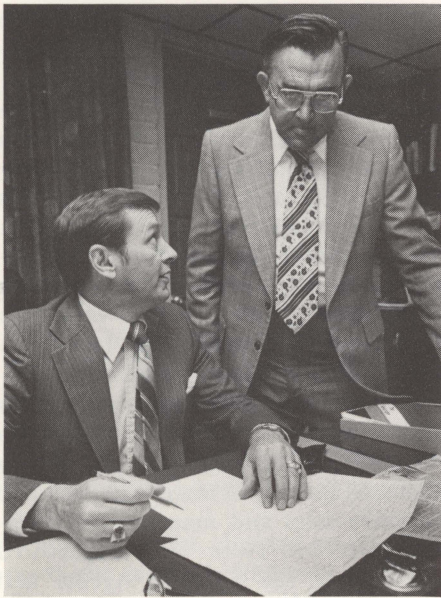
Through Jim Baker at Penn Mutual, Henderson began his relationship with that agency that has lasted fifteen-and-

a-half years. He started the agency in 1965, the same year he received the coveted C.L.U. (Chartered Life Underwriter) degree, conferred by the American College of Life Underwriters in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. The agency received the President's Progress Award for 1968. The distinction given the Henderson agency is "awarded annually to that central agent with less than five years service who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and agency building qualities."

That same year the agency moved its offices to the Tres Palmas building on Montana. Henderson has since been a featured speaker at many company and industry sales and management meetings. He has twice been a featured speaker at the General Agents and Managers meeting in Miami, and five times at Penn Mutual's Management Conference in Philadelphia. In the years since its inception, the El Paso Penn Mutual agency has grown to over \$25 million in annual production. With his partner, Charles "Chuck" Luciano and Chuck's daughter, Diane Gass, Henderson opened a casualty agency that has been growing steadily.

Since his start in the insurance business, Henderson has served as president of the El Paso Association of Life Underwriters, president of the General Agents and Managers Association, and president of the El Paso Chapter of Chartered Life Underwriters. He is a 19-year recipient of the National Quality Award; a life and qualifying member of the National Management Award; a life and qualifying member of the Texas Leader's Round Table; and a fully qualified member of the Million-Dollar Round Table. He is also the only person from El Paso to be president of the Texas General Agents and Managers.

The same hard work and dedication Henderson applies to his industry is also evident in his involvement in civic affairs. He is active West Texas Governmental Affairs chairman for the Arthritis Foundation; he is chairman for a six-year term for the Texas Proprietary School Advisory Commission; he is on the boards of directors of the Association of the U.S. Army, the Chamber of Commerce, the State Planning Council, KCOS-TV, the Boys Club, and the Coronado State Bank. In addition, he is a member of the Texas Life Insurance Advisory Commission; director emeritus of the El Paso Zoological Society; honorary life member of the El Paso Association of Home Builders; and a member of the El Paso Humane Society



Don and his business partner, Charles "Chuck" Luciano, in their Tres Palmas offices on Montana.

and the El Paso County Historical Society. In 1977 he was presented the Brooks Travis Memorial Award for Man of the Year "in recognition of his total dedication to his clients and to community service."

Henderson's "love affair with El Paso" doesn't end with his deep involvement in civic affairs. He entered politics in 1973 when he was elected alderman in charge of Parks and Recreation. He served until 1975, when he ran for mayor, and was elected—20 years, almost to the month, after being elected student body president of Texas Western. Although he was always interested in politics, he admits that there is nothing that can prepare one to become mayor. "They don't have remedial schools for prospective mayors, you know." He set about preparing himself by deciding what criteria were transferable from one position to another. "To me, it's a product of a lot of experiences. In my own case I had the advantage of being the head of my fraternity, president of the student body, the head of my own agency. And certainly the greatest asset is the interpersonal play you have in dealing with people. As mayor, when I was dealing with a group of people who said we have to improve public transportation, I would think back to the days when I was president of the student body and we were dealing with the subject of what booth we were going to have at the spring fiesta. The exchanges and the way you handle people are the same. Of course, you hope after 20 years that you have more maturity; you try to keep your sensitivity and your feeling and

your understanding." When asked if there was any one lesson he learned from serving as mayor, Henderson says sincerely, "I learned about people."

One of the pitfalls he sees as being mayor is the tremendous responsibility placed on an individual. "You get all pumped up. People make over you and expect things from you and, yes, you've got a lot of power. But if you're sensitive you soon realize that you're not going to be in that job forever. Some people forget that they are *appointed*, not *anointed*. I made some mistakes early on, but I quickly realized what was going on."

Henderson speaks highly of the achievements of his administration, and justly so. He places a great emphasis on the unity of his council in determining what jobs had to be done and how to do them. "We didn't discuss *why* something needed to be done, because we already had a program. I think that's a problem with a lot of administrations. They don't know where they're going." While admitting that about 25 percent of the time he and his council might not have been in agreement, he says there was that 75 percent when they were. He believes his administration ran smoothly because of the council's ability to establish a platform to let the people know what they hoped to accomplish. "We knew we had to straighten up the public transportation system, and we made the decision to set up what is now SCAT. We knew we had to do something to revitalize the downtown area. There are cities all over the country where the downtown area is decaying. Most of the time they have to come in with some massive urban renewal program that costs billions of dollars. We were fortunate to receive \$8 million through the Economic Development Administration to do things like revitalize the downtown area through the El Corredor Project, which beautified the area and focused attention on the need to renew downtown districts." Henderson's work on the El Corredor Project drew the recognition of the Texas Society of Architects, who presented him a citation of honor. The plaque, which hangs in the agency's foyer, reads: "To the Honorable Donald S. Henderson, in appreciation of the daring leadership he displayed in support of El Corredor, a project which has brought new life into downtown El Paso."

In other areas, the Henderson administration was responsible for appointing the Crime Commission for

dealing with problems within the Police Department, for establishing word processing, the K-9 Corps, a complete Juvenile Bureau, and the Crime Prevention Unit. The first senior citizens' center was set up at Memorial Park, and the Convention and Tourist Bureau was established. During Henderson's administration the Organization of U.S. Border Cities was initiated to focus attention on problems on the border. Nestor Valencia and Henderson flew to Washington to talk about the extension of the Appalachia Bill, which led to the establishment of a regional commission for the four-state area—the states contiguous with Mexico. "It was necessary to point out to Washington the problems that face the cities and states along the border."

In addition to these accomplishments, Henderson was responsible for getting the money to build the new city hall. "We got the money for it," he says with a smile, "but we just weren't going to build it where it finally got built."

Probably the most exciting time during Henderson's term as mayor came during the Bicentennial celebration. "There wasn't a night in two years that I wasn't somewhere making a Bicentennial speech. Even my daughter said, 'Daddy, I'm so tired of you talking about George Washington and Thomas Jefferson!' I'm sure other people thought that too, but it was a tremendous lot of fun."

A question looming in the minds of many El Pasoans is whether Don Henderson will ever run again as a candidate for mayor. His answer is an unqualified, "Yes. I'll run again as a candidate one day. I don't know when, but I will."

Henderson is truly dedicated to his political calling. If there is any one activity he buries himself in other than his business, it is politics. "I've seen a lot of candidates that were unhappy where they were; they had more money than they could ever spend, and so politics gives them something to do. But that's not my case. I enjoy doing what I'm doing. I have a family to take care of, and I have a business I love to come to, a clientele I love to take care of and love to work with. So I'm not running *from* something. I don't have the Kennedys' wealth so that I don't have to worry about dollars and just be concerned with politics." A slight smile forms, and he elaborates: "I say that because I'm *jealous*! I wish I *did* have the money so that I could be involved in politics

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Haldeen Braddy (1908-1980)

The Shady Side of Parnassus

By John O. West

I can see them now—old “Half-Dane Brandy” as Haldeen Braddy often signed his notes, and Homer, and Mark Twain, and Jeff Chaucer, and Abe Lincoln and one or two other liars. They’re sitting up on the shady side of Parnassus, high enough for a good breeze, and they pass around the mead jug, and spin yarns of the places they’ve been and the people they’ve seen. Of course, Homer and Abe and the others are glad to have a new audience—but Haldeen has the floor just now, and he’s spinning a good one, maybe about Emil Holmdahl and the head of Pancho Villa. And he’ll keep ‘em listening for half a century or so before he lets up. That would be an appropriate way for Haldeen Braddy to go through eternity.

Of course, Haldeen was used to having a captive audience. In his half century of teaching he doubtless had a few students who grew restless in class despite his enthusiasm for the subject at hand. And there are those who’ll say that no matter what course you took from Dr. Braddy, you got a mixture of Chaucer, Shakespeare, Poe, and Pancho Villa. Well, I contend that a course in Haldeen Braddy would indeed include all those elements. And it should. He was excited about them all, and whatever project he was immersed in at the moment had to bubble its way to the surface in whatever class he was teaching, course descriptions be damned.

I think that one of his dearest subjects—Geoffrey Chaucer, tale-teller and poet of the 14th century—captured his type in the Clerk of Oxenford. Of that scholarly man whose love was books, Chaucer said, “gladly wolde he lerne, and gladly teche.” Haldeen took to scholarly study and research like a sailor recently escaped from a six-month cruise takes to the sinful pleasures of a waterfront dive. He ate, breathed, thought—and talked—only of the subject at hand. And, although I never sat

at his feet as a student, he was forever teaching me new facts, new ways of looking at ideas, new reasons for challenging somebody’s sacred cow.

Curiously enough, however, he had limits on what he thought was a proper field for scholarship. He and his friend and colleague Ray Past had a number of “discussions” over the modern language studies known to the unwashed as linguistics. “I remember one time he was expressing his outrage at a new (and very good) linguistic analysis of the language of Chaucer,” says Ray. “‘What,’ he asked, ‘is all this crap about phonemes, morphemes and such idiocies?’ I asked him if he understood what a morpheme is, and he contemptuously answered ‘NO!’ So I suggested that it is rather sophomoric to reject things you don’t understand. ‘Are you calling me a sophomore?’ he screamed, and flew into one of his famous rages. When we met the next day he was as affable and friendly as ever.”

And also curiously enough, Haldeen had a deep and inquiring interest in the field of folklore, which has often been maligned as unscholarly, undefined, and probably improper for adults to concern themselves with. His *Cock of the Walk* had as sub-title, as Ray past justly points out, “The Legend of Pancho Villa.” Cold, dry-as-dust history is one thing; Braddy’s portrait of Pancho reveals the man, the rooster crowing on whatever hill he found himself on.

Maybe the crowing rooster Braddy took for the symbol of Villa also stood for “Half-Dane Brandy.” Short, Irish, given to loud sport coats and unrestrained “crowing,” Haldeen was very much like the banty rooster who thinks he’s a foot taller than God.

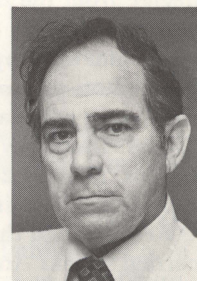
The image of Braddy as a banty rooster needs to be softened, however, by the remembrance of his willingness to share. When he found out that I was doing a piece of writing about Tom Lea, he immediately dug out and gave

me one of his articles on Southwestern illustrators; another day, when we discussed one of my students who was interested in the language of the underworld, he pulled out several of his articles, plus a fat folder of his collected observations on the subject. But he could be generous in other ways, too. Ray Past recalls another detail from their 28-year friendship: “About my earliest memory of him concerns a dinner at some downtown hotel with some big-name literary speaker. I don’t even remember who it was, but I know that the price was pretty stiff and as a new, junior faculty man there didn’t seem to be any way I could afford tickets for Frannie and me. Braddy must have figured out my situation—I certainly didn’t tell him—and he gave me a couple of tickets he said were extra comps he had come by. I am sure he lied, and that he bought those tickets. I think this kind of quiet generosity was characteristic of the man.”

One day we were talking about the removal of Pancho Villa’s body from the *panteon* in Parral to a monument for Mexican Revolutionary heroes in Mexico City, and we irreverently laughed about the “translation” of the “sacred relics” to a “holy shrine”—talk Chaucer’s Pardoner would have taken quite seriously. We vowed then that we

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Professor John O. West became Haldeen Braddy’s colleague on the UT El Paso faculty in 1963 and served several years as English Department chairman. They shared interests in both literary pursuits and folklore; both are past presidents of the Texas Folklore Society.





First Prospector Editor:

John J. O'Keefe Class of '20

by Jo Freeman Crum

The former editor of the *Prospector* thought the question over for a little while. Why had he, of the 61 students attending the Texas School of Mines, been chosen in early 1919 to head up the publication when it changed from magazine to newspaper format?

Then John J. O'Keefe Jr. remembered.

"I could type real well and my uncle, Thomas O'Keefe, was editor of the *El Paso Times*."

He thought it over for another minute and smiled. "The typing was probably more important."

Now 80 and retired in Long Beach, California, where he lives with his wife, Mildred, John O'Keefe looked back on his long career in petroleum engineering and reminisced about his brief fling into TSM's fledgling journalism efforts and his days at his "home town" college from 1917 to 1921. O'Keefe was born and reared in El Paso, where his ancestors' names are very much remembered. He grew up in a house at the corner of Chihuahua and Overland streets, and threads of his family's story weave in and about the entire area.

O'Keefe not only edged into journalism, he had edged into college, being accepted as a "temporary student" in 1917 after spending three years at El Paso High School in 1914-17. ("I never did graduate from high school," he recalls.) His "temporary status" was resolved when he received his EM degree from the hand of Dean Stephen Howard Worrell in a ceremony lightened somewhat by O'Keefe's playing a graduation solo on his clarinet. There were eight graduates.

The University of Texas yearbook, *Cactus*, allotted 20 pages in 1920 to its little School of Mines out in West Texas. O'Keefe leafed through the copy he has carried about through a lifetime of moving on oil jobs. It shows the faculty outnumbering the junior class, where O'Keefe appears with the seven others

who graduated with him the following year. They were Ramon M. Concha, Richard W. Tighe, John P. Savage, Ernest C. Kennedy, James E. Crenshaw, Ralston W. Cooper and Leopoldo E. Maldonado. So far as he knows, two others of the class survive, Savage and Kennedy. Crenshaw, his lifelong close friend, died two years ago in Palos Verdes, California, and Concha died recently in Parral, Mexico.

Beside O'Keefe's name in the *Cactus* is listed his then-nickname "Deacon" — he hardly remembers where he got it, but thinks it was because he took up for a "fellow they were picking on" — plus the following: Scientific Club; Ed. *Prospector*, 1917, 1918, 1919; Sec.-Treas., Student Association, 1918, 1919, 1920; and Sec.-Treas., Senior Class, 1920-21, and the comment, "There is only one drawback to Johnny, he passes all his math. His good humor is surpassed only by his good looks."

Still good humored and good looking today, Johnny O'Keefe was obviously a BMOC in his college years. The campus he remembers and shows proudly in the *Cactus* photo numbers exactly three buildings, stark Bhutanese stuccos that clung to separate promontories on the rocky foothills that since have been covered with buildings and roads. They were Main, Old Geology (formerly Chemistry) and the dorm, now called Graham (formerly Burges). Two more buildings just out of camera range to the west were a mechanical laboratory and a practice mill.

"In 1918, you know, there was no football field," O'Keefe said as his finger traced the rocky hill above Main and the dorm, where eventually the gymnasium was to be located. "I helped survey for the construction of the field right about here, with some of the other students of course, and they named it Kidd Field." That grassy athletic field was inaugurated in 1920, and now is home for the national champion Miner

track team.

Details of O'Keefe's three-year editorship of the *Prospector* escape him now, although he remembers he did a lot of typing and that his editor uncle provided no help of any kind.

O'Keefe still has the "Adios" number of the *Prospector* from 1920, which claims to be "a souvenir of a year spent in TSM" and not an annual. The first yearbook, the *Flowsheet*, did not appear until 1922.

It was in February, 1919, that the *Prospector* was numbered Volume 1, Number 1, when it changed from the format of a little magazine, used for four years, to that of a newspaper, measuring 8.5 by 11.75 inches, with four pages, at a price of five cents.

According to Francis Fugate's 1964 history of the institution, *Frontier College*, the staff members of the *Prospector* "were John O'Keefe Jr., editor-in-chief; John P. Savage, associate editor; Richard Tighe, Ray E. Gilbert, Mary Bryan, and Charlotte Ormsbee, assistant editors; Howard Fleck, exchange editor; Frances Foster and Leopoldo Maldonado, artists; George Matthews and Hanlon B. Dubose, business managers. John Fielding Jr., professor of English and economics, was faculty adviser." The most important item was the announcement of the formation of the Student Association on February 4, with Savage elected president and O'Keefe, secretary-treasurer. An editorial called for school spirit and support for a baseball team.

Here one detects John O'Keefe the baseball pitcher speaking through John O'Keefe the editor, for baseball was a passion in those days. He had played youth baseball with the John Hart Team and later with the Overland Team, as well as sandlot ball with the Twilight League and the Cathedral Catholic team. He was pitcher on the TSM team, which played the University of Arizona at Tucson, New Mexico A&M, New

Mexico Military Institute and Fort Bliss Army teams.

"We really got shellacked over in Tucson," O'Keeffe remembers. Time has mercifully erased the score, however.

A vivid memory is his service as a bugler in the Student Army Training Corps in the fall of 1918.

As he had edged into college and journalism, so he edged into the field of petroleum engineering.

"In those days there were no graduate petroleum engineers," he recalls of the days after graduation. "Those were hard times; you could hardly get a job. My sister, who was in Los Angeles, invited me out and said maybe I could find something." His sister, Aileen F. O'Keeffe Elder of Los Alamitos, California, lives just seven miles from him and they visit regularly. After moving to California, he joined the American Association of Engineers and a few days later was hired as draftsman in the geological department of Petroleum Midway Co., later becoming chief draftsman. He also worked for the Bureau of Power and Light, City of Los Angeles, and the Southern California Gas Co.

That background qualifies him for senior membership status (reserved for those with 40 or more years in the oil business in California) in Petroleum Production Pioneers, an organization which interests itself in the history of the state's oil fields, as well as social and charitable work. He is also a member of the Petroleum Club in Long Beach, where he has lived fairly continuously since 1952, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Mexican Association of Petroleum Geologists and the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, Society of Petroleum Engineers.

During a ten-year stint with Richfield Oil Corporation, he became chief division petroleum engineer. Later he worked in production engineering with Western Gulf Oil Co. in Bakersfield, and as superintendent of the Northern Division of Kern Oil Co., Ltd., of Los Angeles, when he supervised the drilling and producing operations of some 400 producing oil wells with 5,000 barrels per day production, and drilled an average of 50 wells per year to 2,000 feet.

Among his most interesting jobs were service as manager of oil field operations in Mexico for Edwin W. Pauley and later as general field superintendent of the Texas Petroleum Co., in

Bogota, Colombia. There his Spanish heritage and El Paso upbringing were important, as he learned to speak unaccented Spanish from his grandmother, Benancia Stephenson French Leahy, before he spoke English. His coloring and face, however, are pure Fairhill County, Galway, Ireland, though the voice and language are from Spain, for he was the son of John O'Keeffe and his wife, Julia French, great-granddaughter of El Paso pioneer Juan Ascarate.

Juan Ascarate, a general in the Spanish army, had crossed the Atlantic to serve in New Spain. By the time of his death in 1851, he had become an influential rancher with land holdings on both sides of the Rio Grande. A section of El Paso still bears his name. One of

"There is only one drawback to Johnny, he passes all his math. His good humor is surpassed only by his good looks."

(Cactus, 1920)

his six children, Juana, married Hugh Stephenson, one of the earliest English-speaking settlers in the valley, and they lived at a large ranch called Concordia. The Concordia Cemetery, now in the busy central part of El Paso, marks part of the site of that ranch. The Stephensons' daughter, Benancia, in 1865 married Captain Albert H. French, who had come to the area with the California Volunteers. It was their daughter, Julia, who became the wife of Irishman John O'Keeffe. After French's death, Benancia married County Judge J.B. Leahy.

On the Irish side, O'Keeffe's grandmother, Margaret Joyce, at 15 married another Johnny O'Keeffe in Tipperary. "If you ever go back to Ireland," she told her grandson, "tell them you're a Joyce and there will be lots of celebrations." But he never did. The O'Keeffes crossed the Atlantic to New York three years after Lincoln's assassination. Their two sons, John and Thomas, moved from Buffalo to El Paso when John was about 18, lured by Times publisher Juan Hart who hired John as

pressman and Thomas (later editor) on the editorial staff.

John's marriage to Julia French tied him to the vast network of Stephenson-Ascarate relatives on both sides of the border. O'Keeffe's uncle, Jose Flores, was mayor of Ciudad Juarez. Another relative, Antonio Bermudez, as head of Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX), negotiated an arrangement with a Los Angeles oilman to drill in northeastern Mexico to discover oil. O'Keeffe worked on this project in 1951 and 1952 as manager of oil field operations at Reynosa, Tamaulipas.

Before his retirement in 1967, he also worked as a mining and petroleum engineer for the State of California Corporation Commissioner, Division of Investments, and as a mining and petroleum evaluation engineer and real estate appraiser for the U.S. Treasury Internal Revenue Service in Los Angeles.

The traditional name of "John O'Keeffe, continues. He and his first wife, Josephine May Near O'Keeffe, who died in 1972, had two children: John Patrick O'Keeffe, engineer in the Rossmoor, California, fire department, who has two sons, John, 14, and Timothy Bruce, 12; and Nancy Joyce O'Keeffe Rogers, who has a son, Robert John, 17, and a daughter, Carly Mayre, 4. O'Keeffe and his present wife, Mildred, were married seven years ago.

His niece, Aileen Mehle of New York, former El Pasoan, writes a syndicated jet-set column under the byline Suzy Knickerbocker.

About a year ago two well-dressed men appeared at the O'Keeffe door and asked Mrs. O'Keeffe if her husband was in. They were from McDonnell Douglas Corporation and wanted to offer him a job. When they found out he was 79 and retired, they wanted to meet him anyway.

O'Keeffe, at 80, claims he's not in the market for a new job in any branch of engineering.

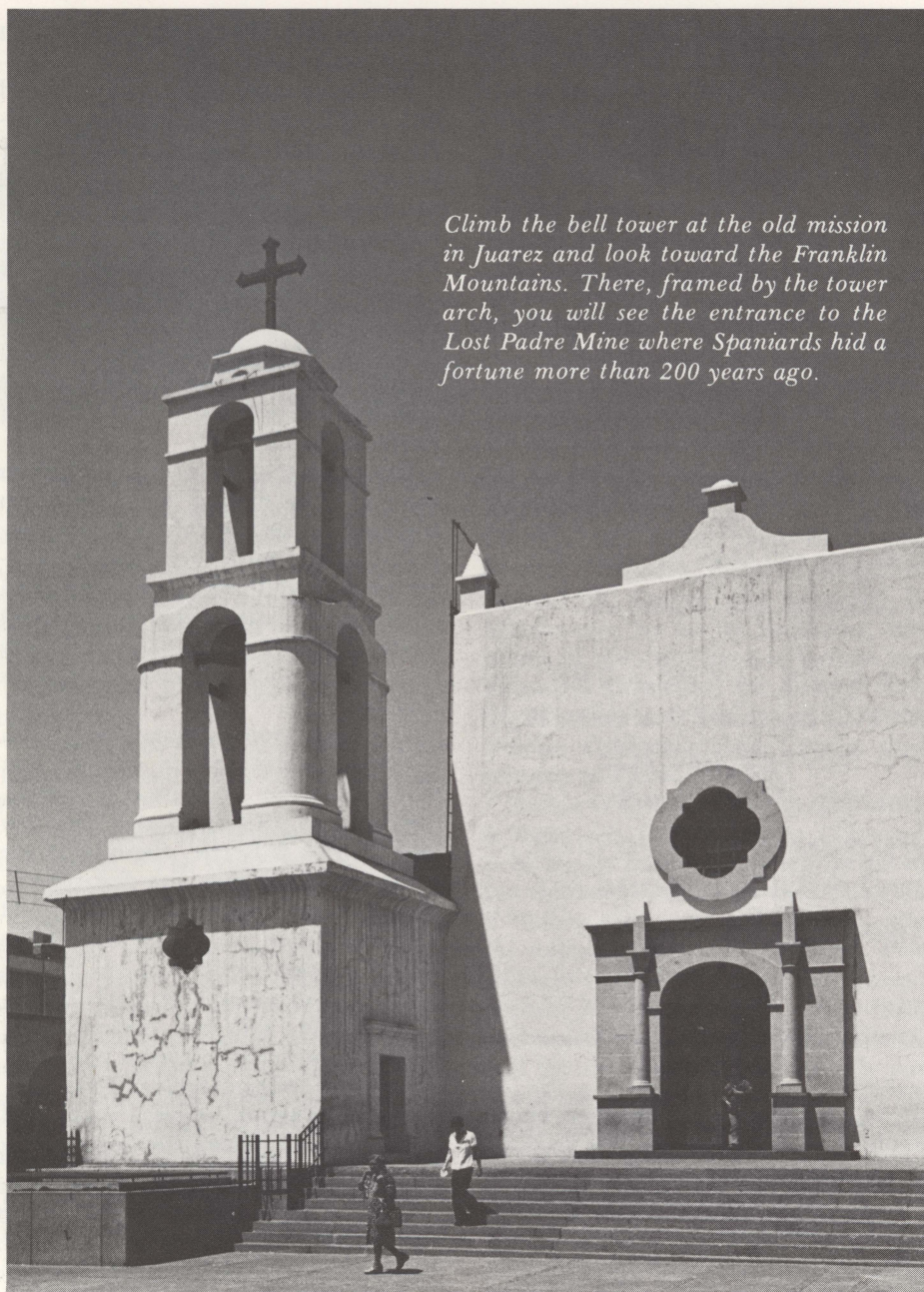
"After all," he says, "I haven't kept up with new developments for the past three or four years." □

Jo Crum ('49), whose previous appearance in NOVA was in the December, 1977, issue, worked as a staff writer on the El Paso Times, 1946-51, later for McGraw-Hill Publishing Co. in San Francisco. She lives in San Diego, teaches Spanish and journalism, and continues her freelance writing.

Restoring the

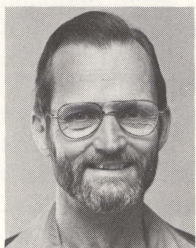
Misión de Señora de

Climb the bell tower at the old mission in Juarez and look toward the Franklin Mountains. There, framed by the tower arch, you will see the entrance to the Lost Padre Mine where Spaniards hid a fortune more than 200 years ago.



This story and variations on its theme—Pancho Villa's gold also was said to be hidden there—have lured treasure hunters to the rugged limestone cliffs of the Franklins for many years, although the Lost Padre Mine remains lost.

Maybe, says Rex Gerald, that's because the bell tower was not built until about 1800, somewhat later than the legendary hiding of the Spanish treasure. Tree ring studies confirmed that dating during research he conducted on the old mission several years ago. Dendochronology, the science of studying tree rings, has established reliable dates for the American Southwest, based on counts of annual growth layers of trees used in construction or for firewood.



Gerald

Dr. Gerald, an archeologist and associate professor of anthropology at UT El Paso, is often asked to examine old bones that are unearthed during construction work. When a comprehensive restoration of the mission was undertaken by Mexican authorities in 1968, burials were found under the floor and Dr. Gerald was summoned. He began working with Felipe Lacouture, then with the Museo de Arte e Historia in Juarez, on other aspects of archeological research which included not only the tree-ring dating of wooden beams in the building, but also what

was for him the more fascinating study of plaster murals on the walls. These were preserved behind the main door opening to the north. When the door was open, it protected that portion of the wall.

"Decorated plaster from the Spanish Colonial period is very rare in this part of the country," explains Dr. Gerald. "I know of only two sites in New Mexico, one of them a kiva near Albuquerque and the other the Hopi mission of Awatovi where wall murals similar to this were found. At Teotihuacan and that area of Mexico, there are a lot of murals on adobe or plaster and one late prehistoric pueblo room near El Paso bore a painted design, but the painted plaster in Juarez mission was the first I had heard of for that period in this immediate area."

In order to remove samples of the plaster for study, he says, "we cleaned the surface as well as we could. Then we applied acetone soluble glue and muslin cloth, lifted off the layer of plaster onto the cloth, and preserved it."

Nearly seven square feet of material was preserved from three layers of plaster. Not much of the third, the most recent layer, was left. It is believed to date from the years immediately after the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, when Spaniards and some Indians from northern New Mexico fled south from the Indian tribes that resisted the Spaniards' domination. That layer was in red and white with a flower pattern at the top, a triangle at the base, and white leaves, similar to the *fleur de lis*.

The earlier second layer showed a crisscross black outline with white and yellow triangles alternating and red at the top of the pattern. A tassel design also was found. The first layer, probably dating from the earliest years of the mission, according to Dr. Gerald, was in white, red and yellow. It featured the compass rose, a European pattern, in alternating red and white petals, and diamond shapes. The pigments were made of local products, he says.

During the restoration of the build-

Nuestra Guadalupe

ing, lime plaster was applied to the walls. Contemporary paints were used to reproduce patterns from the original murals to a height of four feet up from the floor.

The building had many problems of old age—cracks in the walls, broken roof beams—which were corrected during the restoration. Reinforced concrete and steel beams were introduced into the structure, channels were cut in the walls for reinforcement, and air conditioning and heating ducts were hidden under the floor. All this was done without altering the appearance of the building.

Dr. Gerald not only researched the burials under the floor and the plaster behind the door; he spent some time 30 feet in the air taking core samplings from the *vigas*, the huge beams supporting the roof, to use in tree-ring dating.

"It was scary on that scaffolding," he recalls. "The beams for years had been covered with so much varnish that you couldn't see the original patterns that had been carved into them. They were found to be the compass rose patterns identical to those on the earliest layer of wall murals. We detected no evidence, however, that they had been painted the same colors as the walls."

The half-inch cores were sent to the dendochronology laboratories at the University of Arizona at Tucson, along with some samples of wood that were trimmed off large beams as part of the restoration process. Well-preserved wood and sizable pieces of charcoal may be used in a dating system which shows when the tree was cut by charting the growth layers of the trees.

"The chronology of tree-rings in some parts of the Southwest is complete back to the time of Christ," says Dr. Gerald. "Very few trees live more than 200 or 300 years; therefore, the ring patterns from many trees must be overlapped to build a chronology. From the mission we had samples of Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine. The beams from the bell tower could be confirmed at a date of about 1800, but some earlier ones

could not be dated with as much precision because we lack comparable samples for the El Paso area. The tree-ring chronology we have for this area goes back to about 1700; those from the mission were cut before that date. We hope some day to find some old buildings at Mesilla or in that vicinity with beams that were cut long enough ago to make an overlap in the tree-ring chronology for a more complete dating picture."

The original mission of Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe was begun with the laying of the foundation in 1659 under the direction of Fray Garcia de San Francisco y Zuniga and Fray Francisco de Salazar. Fray Garcia, in a document dated 1663, wrote that he was permitted to build "a little church of branches and mud and a monastery thatched with straw" when the Mansos and Sumanas Indians accepted him for their preacher and minister. When the church was completed he named and dedicated it "to the most holy Virgin of Guadalupe with the above name of El Paso" and placed her image there during the ceremony on December 8, 1659.

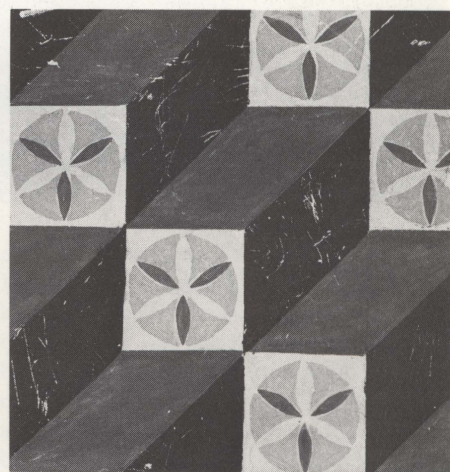
Old records reveal that there was no timber available to build the small church. Fray Garcia, it was said, led his followers in prayer on the matter. Some Indians then led him a league and a half (about four miles) to a grove of pines from which timber was cut and carried to the Manso pueblo with minimal problems. When Fray Garcia was building the convent, Fray Blas de Herrera remarked to him that it had too many cells. Garcia then correctly pro-

phesied the revolt of 1680 and the moving to El Paso (now Ciudad Juarez) of the Spaniards from New Mexico, noting that the cells would not be enough for the number of people at the convent.

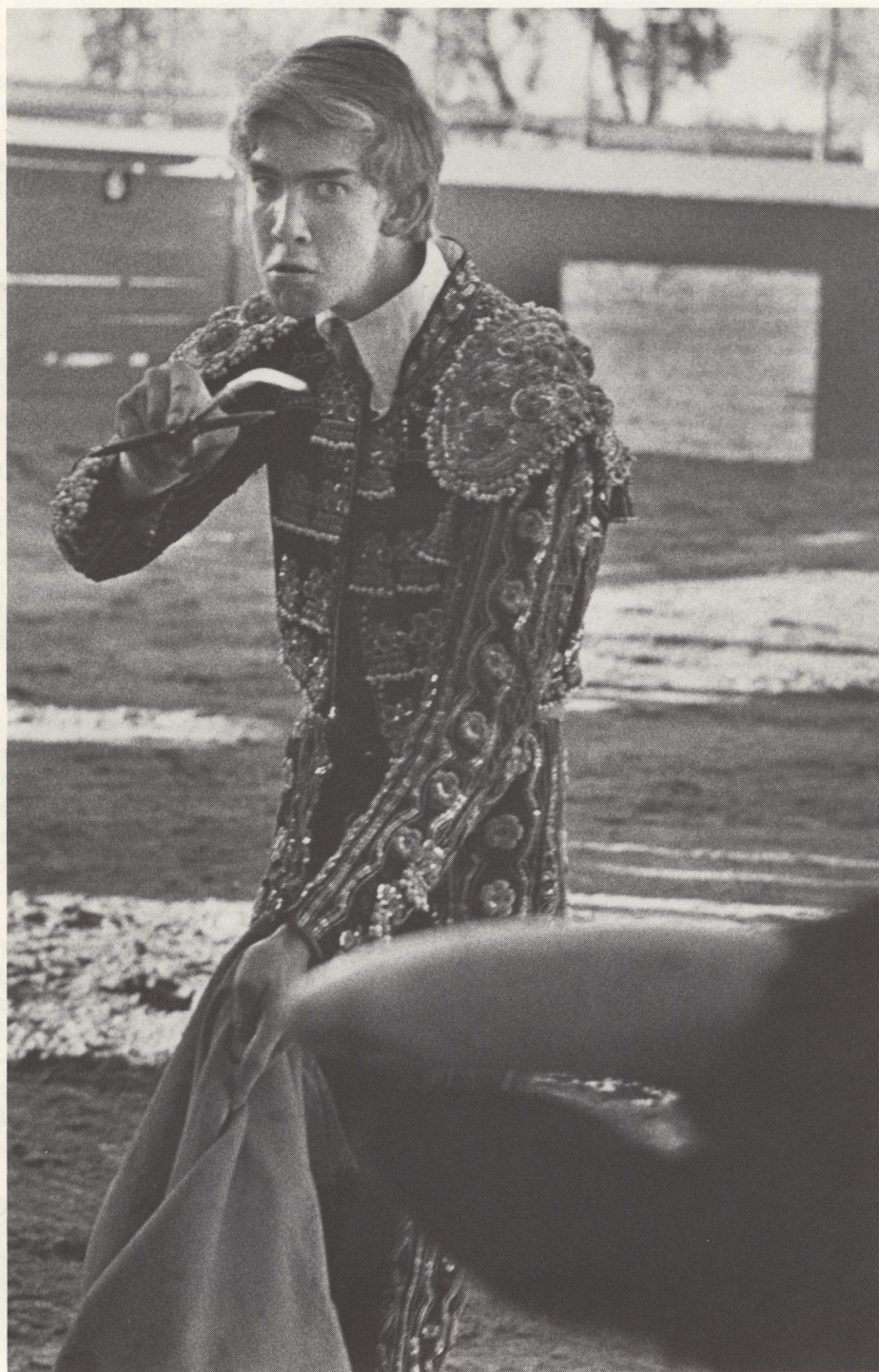
The temporary mission buildings were soon replaced by more substantial structures. The church cornerstone was dedicated on April 2, 1662. The church, located half a league (a little more than a mile) from the Rio Grande, was completed in 1668 and dedication services were held on January 15. Fray Juan Talaban, later to become a martyr at Santo Domingo during the Pueblo Revolt, presided at the dedication.

The mission building is now a small section of the Juarez Cathedral complex. Dr. Gerald expects that it will come in for special attention during the observance of Four Centuries '81 next year. The year-long celebration will commemorate the 400-year history of development in the El Paso-Juarez area. The first Europeans came through the pass in 1581, the Pueblo Revolt brought an influx of settlers in 1681, the Presidio of San Elizario was relocated to its present site in 1781, and railroads were completed in 1881, linking the area with the east and west coasts of the United States and southward into Mexico.

While many El Pasoans identify the old mission with the legend of the bell tower, Dr. Gerald hopes they may also become more aware of the historical significance of the founding of that mission and its community as a link on the trade route between Mexico City and Santa Fe. □



The compass rose pattern is carved into the ceiling beams (left) of the 17th century mission building in Juarez. The same pattern, discovered in decorated plaster from the Spanish Colonial period, was used in restoring the walls in recent years (above).



Fred Renk's son David is a

MATADOR!

by Nancy Hamilton

Fred Renk and his family lead a double life.

Nine months of the year, the 1956 UT El Paso graduate and his wife Barbara operate a water softener business while their sons, David, 17, and Binker, 13, attend school. The



Fred Renk

former El Pasoans moved over a year ago to suburban Houston where they restyled a 20-year-old brick house into their dream home with extra-large rooms and a second kitchen for canning foods.

During the summer and many week ends, they are closely involved in David's two-year-old career as a professional bullfighter in Mexico. Fred, who was involved in bullfight circles in Juarez for several years, serves as David's business manager and publicist, drawing on skills developed as a journalism major under the late John J. Middagh. David lives in Mexico all summer, staying with family friends, working out at ranches, and appearing in as many *corridos* as he can. Barbara keeps an eye on the business.

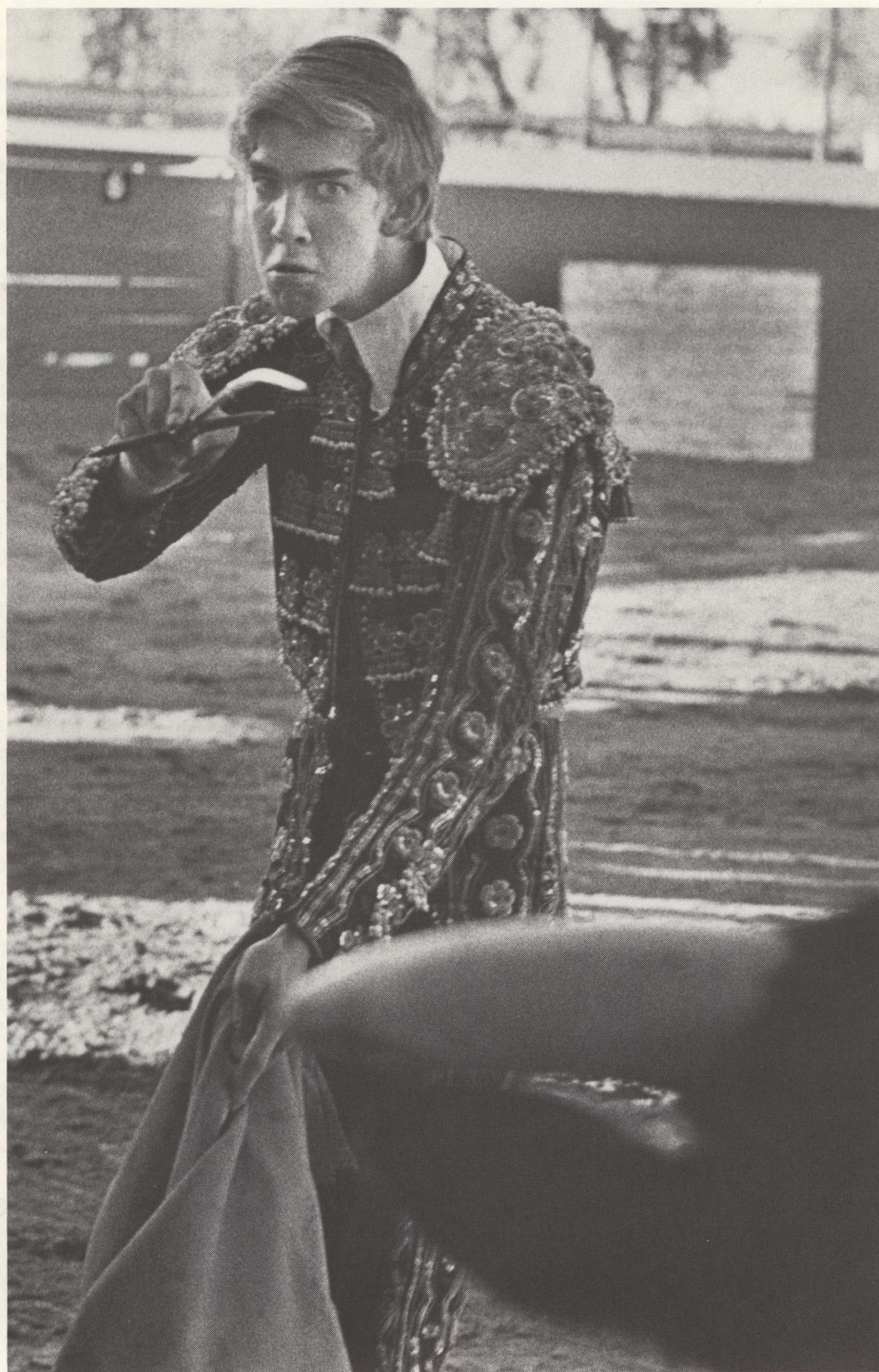
When he was only 15, David Renk became the youngest American ever to be accepted in the Mexican union of matadors. Currently classed as a *matador de novillos* (killer of small bulls) or *novillero*, he hopes this fall to take his *alternativa*, the ceremony marking him as a full-fledged *matador de toros*.

"He's the talk of Mexico," asserts Fred. "Hundreds of Americans have aspired to the profession but very few have ever made it."

Fred numbers himself among those hundreds. He had five professional bullfights before a serious *cornada* (goring) in 1967 ended his participation in the arena.

"The first time I saw Fred, he was in the bullring in Juarez," recalls Barbara. She lived in Las Cruces and had gone with friends to her first bullfight. "The matador kept trying to talk to me, but I didn't pay any attention to him. Later I discovered my friend had given him my phone number. It turned out he lived in Cruces, too, and he called me the next day to go to coffee. We got together again that evening for dinner, and three weeks later I married him!"

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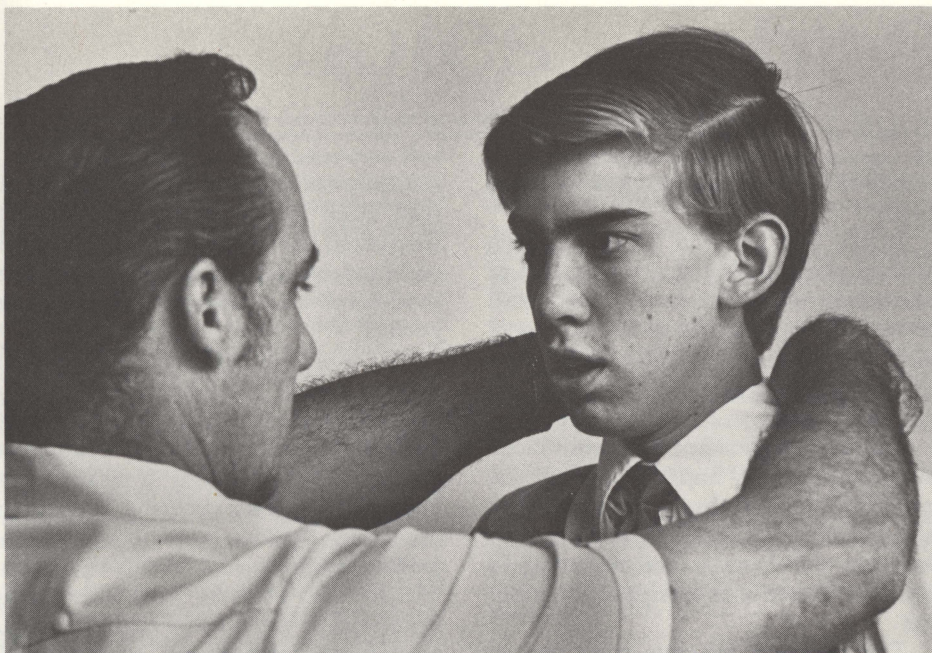
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Fred Renk helps David dress in his suit of lights before the bullfight.

interest in the bulls.

"He saw his first bullfight at two-and-a-half and never missed another one in Juarez for seven years," says Fred. "We also traveled to Nogales or Tijuana or Chihuahua to see bullfights."

Six years ago they moved from El Paso, spending some time in Ohio and the Lower Rio Grande Valley before settling in Houston. During part of that time, Fred's work kept him on the road in 11 western states. Now, with his own business, he is able to devote more time to David's career.

The family returned to El Paso last May for David's first appearance in a Juarez bullring, his 30th professional bullfight. He had set his heart on making a good showing because it was in Juarez that his earliest interest in the *corrida* had been stirred. To many of their longtime friends, the event on May 4 seemed little short of a miracle. The last time they had seen David, when he was 11, he was unable to walk, confined to a wheelchair.

"David was born with two club feet," explains Fred. "From the time he was nine until he was 11, he underwent surgery in El Paso and wore casts and braces to correct his condition. He wanted to be a bullfighter since he was a small boy, and was determined that one day he would be able to walk and run in the arena."

Adorned in his black *traje de luces* (suit of lights) with heavy gold embroidery, David offered another surprise to friends who remembered him as a small child. He now stands 6 feet 2

inches tall, towering over many of his fellow *novilleros*. Like his mother, he is blond with fair complexion. By virtue of his birth in Odessa and current residence in Houston, he is dubbed "El Tejano" on bullfight posters.

His first Juarez appearance was at the Charro Association arena. Having known disappointment as a child with crippled feet, he is able to take setbacks with seeming aplomb. May 4 brought him several to cope with. First, the union members who were supposed to assist as his *cuadrilla* (retinue of helpers) failed to show up and substitutes had to be found on short notice. His close friend, Lonque Mendoza, volunteered to act as a *banderillero*, but could not find a suit of lights to wear, so he placed the barbed sticks and did cape work attired in jeans, an orange shirt and sneakers. The picador did not have a standard lance and the two other men who placed *banderillas* slipped and fell in the muddy ring. David's first bull was erratic and, lacking an experienced set of helpers, he was unable to achieve what he might have with it. He even had problems with the moment of the kill, although his career has been remarkable for his success with the sword.

Things went better with the second bull of the afternoon, an ideal, full-sized *toro bravo*. It charged well and straight, but was blind in one eye, limiting the ability of the matador to work with it as effectively as he wanted. In the last part of the *corrida*, after dedicating the bull at his mother's box to "la mas bonita familia," he per-

formed several good passes with the *muleta*, the small red cape. He felled the bull with a single stroke of the sword and was awarded an ear. As he took a turn around the arena, spectators cheered and threw flowers and hats to him.

The rest of the spring was spent alternating between school and the bullrings. As summer started, he had *corrida de toros* engagements on the calendar for every weekend.

"Our first priority is for David to finish high school," Barbara says firmly. "When he has to leave Houston we arrange with his teachers for him to turn in make-up work when he comes back home. It isn't easy, when he has press conferences and special performances and travel time to put in, but he is very good about trying to keep up."

When his senior year is completed, he expects to devote full time to his career until, approaching 30, he becomes an "old man" in bullfighting terms. Then, says his mother, he will study for another profession.

So far, David's career has not been self-supporting. In bullfighting, as in many other forms of entertainment before the public, the stars make plenty of money but the apprentices on the way up have heavy expenses. The Renks are so sure of David's ability to succeed, they are willing to take the financial risk. In addition, their second son's aims represent a similar problem of footing the bill for years of education before he can realize a return: Binker wants to become a veterinarian.

Being a matador in a Texas high school is not always easy, David has found. He took a ribbing regularly for a while. Then last January a busload of his school friends went to Reynosa to see him perform. "They came away impressed by his accomplishments in a very difficult business. Now he is a celebrity in his school," says his mother.

While he has been written up in *People*, the New York Times, the Times of London and *Argosy*, David is far from having a swelled head. His own severest critic, he is not satisfied to relax after being awarded an ear for a good performance. His face reflects his concern about the things he did wrong that must be corrected next time, and his talk is of the future.

"We are hoping," says Fred, "that David can realize the potential he has shown already. He has the inner spirit, he has had the best training available, and I think he has what it takes to reach the top." □

By Elroy Bode

In the Chicken Yard

After cutting weeds in the chicken yard I rested a while and looked about at the back lot: yes, the home place had seen better days. Rabbit cages were in angles of collapse, their doors rotting in a mulch of hackberry leaves. Rusted rakes leaned against the tool shed wall. In the cow lot weeds grew taller than my head. Everywhere I looked there were old lanterns, paint cans, coffee pots, rolls of wire.

Yet the debris and neglect of recent years did not matter because the chicken yard that morning was also a pageant in the sun. Ragweed towered elegantly beside the garden fence. The young pecan tree smelled clean and bitter-fresh. Flies, wasps, bees sashayed around in mid-morning odysseys, and white butterflies kept drifting in among the orange-and-pink lantanas—neat ships becalmed in a port of flowers

—before setting sail again across the yard.

In the hen house a White Leghorn walked about within the shining rust of the screen wire. Her smooth white tail moved like a shark fin in the depths of the hen house light-and-dark: now gleaming, now gray. She was serene, effortless, perfect.

I sat sweating in the bright ten o'clock sun until I finally understood what the moment was all about. Everything in the chicken yard seemed perfect simply because the human act of seeing is perfect. To see is to complete a perfect act.

The blade of Johnson grass against the cinder block wall, bending and tapering—was perfect. The red-brick chimney rising above the roof of the house, with the blue of the sky and the green of trees behind and beside it—was perfect. The sun—shining, creating

shadows and depth—made each oak leaf, each flash of bird wings, each weathered board perfect. The life-force within a hummingbird, poised at the mouth of the cow lot faucet, was perfect.

The morning gave me intense visual delight simply because I was acutely aware of what I was seeing at the moment I was seeing it. I saw each object clearly, as if through a magnifying glass, and almost became the thing perceived, almost participated in its private being.

...In the chicken yard everything dramatically *was*—every edge of board, every bug on the ground, every stem of every weed and plant. Ordinary back yard sights and surfaces existed superbly in the sun and I saw them—dish pan, broken flower pot, purple verbena—radiant with the presence of themselves. □

Truth

Buzzards were circling in the seven o'clock sky as I drove down the West Texas highway. I still had a long way to go and Sunday night was closing in on me.

I dialed idly past a few stations on the radio until I began listening to a Baptist church service in Lubbock. As I listened—and as I continued to look out the window—the radio and the San Angelo-Big Spring land began a strange little tug of war for my allegiance: Whose side are you on? each seemed to ask...listen, look, know the Truth.

"Thee...Thou"—said the voices from Lubbock. "Our Father...Jesus." The

sound of baritones and massed sopranos filled the car.

Miles of greasewood. More red cows eating. More shimmering green fields.

Prayers and preaching, the Holy Spirit...*churchliness*. Ushers and hymnals. Red ribbons pinned on visitors.

Goats, windmills, knolls. The leisured ending of a long afternoon.

"I love to tell the sto-o-ry...of Jesus and His glo-o-ry."

The sun dying impersonally in the wide white west.

"I was sinking deep in sin...."

Sin—that puzzling word. I looked around, trying to catch a glimpse of something sinful along the highway.

"Love lifted me (even me)...Love lifted me (even me)"...."And Jesus sayud, 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'...." Jesus with a Lubbock accent...."You ask me how I know He lives; He lives...within...my heart."

Mild green mesquites leaning almost neighborly over a fence at sundown. (But they do not know Jesus as their Savior.)

"He walks with me and He talks with me."

Night comes, envelops my car.

The preacher in Lubbock invites us now to come forward. His voice is full of ministerial quiver and power.

The night, huge and silent, stretches toward Saturn. □

Moment of Pleasure

I get up from the dining table, take the dishes into the kitchen, pick up the book I had laid aside, and walk into the living room and sit down.

I do not need to move briskly. It is a holiday, and I have plenty of time to do whatever it is I want to do.

The living room windows are open, and the barest hint of a breeze moves through the back yard trees and comes on into the house.

Cars pass steadily on Sunset Road, and the sound of their motors and tires makes an unobtrusive ebb and flow.

...What I am saying is that the house is at peace with itself and so is the day. So am I. I have eaten, the chair is comfortable, the book is a good one. Three o'clock on this casual summer afternoon is so pleasant it is as though I were born just to experience it.

Yet I cannot handle such peacefulness—or rather, I cannot let it alone. I cannot just let it be. I sit, I look toward the door where the outside light is reflecting the front yard grass and fence, framing them—eternalizing them—within the glass, and before long I lay my book aside and am muttering

to the air: God, this is a good moment—too good to let go unnoticed....Now, what can I *do* with it—this timelessness of the universe stilled so neatly here in my living room.

And with the book open on the table and the cars still moving rhythmically by, I ruin, once again, a moment of pleasure. I sit staring, listening, trying to grasp the shape of pleasure—trying to plumb its depths—and it disappears before I can get around to enjoying it. Out of some need to understand and make mine that which is special in life I manhandle bliss until it melts away. □

NOVA received the following letter from **Fred M. Johnson** (B.A. '62), a geologist in Durango, Colorado. It is sure to bring back many memories for the geologists, engineers and alums of the 1960s. He writes:

"Reading a recent issue of NOVA brought on a wave of nostalgia, a flood of memories and raised a number of questions. I retain a vivid picture of being rounded up 23 years ago with a number of other proclaimed freshmen geology and mining majors and being taken to the El Paso Mine and Smelter Supply Company by a forgotten upper classman. There we acquired miners' hard hats, carbide lamps, carbide and prospecting picks. We were informed by this same upper classman that the school we had enrolled in was the Texas College of Mines and that if the administration and Dean (Eugene) Thomas thought that it was Texas Western College, they were sadly misinformed. Other memories include initiation on Engineers' Day at Oro Grande, initiation into Alpha Phi Omega, denim jackets with the words Texas Mines on the back, Coors beer and classmates that all intended to pursue a career in mining. I remember a green and white line, painted secretly in the night, to separate the West Side from Mickey Mouse Land. I remember Professors (Howard) Quinn, (L.A.) Nelson, (William) Strain, (Guy) Ingersoll, (Henry) Ehrlinger and others. I also have memories of endless days of classwork and long nights of study but these do not bring on a feeling of nostalgia. I have lost track of all but a few of those classmates and my travels seem to take me farther and farther from El Paso.

"Is the campus still awakened on Saint Patrick's Day with a blast of dynamite at the portal of the school mine? Is there still a school mine? I think that I can answer both of these questions. I am sure that MSHA, OSHA, the USBM and others would no longer allow such dangerous nonsense. Is there still an initiation of freshmen engineers? Is it still held in an old mine drift at Oro Grande? I also know the answer to that one. Does the 1919 Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity still exist?

"I occasionally see Pete Rogowski, a consulting

mining geologist in Steamboat Springs, Ed Sandell, a mining engineer with the U.S.G.S., and I heard from Ted 'Indio' Bolich that he was doing exploration in Sonora, Mexico. Whatever happened to the many others: Jack 'Beady' Rhoades, Jay Reynolds, Orville Paulk, Ronnie 'Rats' Paulk, Wendel Whitley, John Schmidt, Wilbur Stone, Ronnie 'Road Runner' Martin and Tom 'Stump' Foster? When I was in school I imagined that we would cross paths in mining camps from Bolivia to Alaska. I know that many did not make a career in mining and are probably better off because they did not lead the life of a mining tramp. I wonder if any of them ever feel the same wave of nostalgia?

"I enjoy the NOVA magazine which has miraculously followed my changes of address through the years. Almost every issue stirs memories of good friends, good times and good teachers."

1920-1949

Royal Jackman (B.S. '30), a recent visitor to NOVA's office, is retired from business and makes his home in Ojai, California. He was recently elected chairman of the City of Ojai and also serves on the planning and architectural commission.

James G. Braden (1933 etc.), a retired court reporter, has returned to live in El Paso.

Gaylord B. Castor (B.A. '37) has recently returned to El Paso to make his home and is eager to hear from his former classmates.

Howard B. Wiley (B.S. '40) and his wife are enjoying their retirement in Friday Harbor, Washington.

Bervette Williams Williams, (B.A. '43) and her husband **George** (B.S. '53), live in Moscow, Idaho, where she is the only female high school principal in the state. Before assuming her present position three years ago, she was a school psy-

chologist. The Williamses are parents of three children.

Mary Virginia "Jigger" Olsen (B.B.A. '43), a high school counselor in Alamogordo, is the first woman to be elected to the city commission and is in her second year as Mayor Pro Tem. Her husband, **Eddie**, is vice president of Security Bank and Trust.

1950-1955

Robert L. Duke (B.B.A. '50), administrative coordinator for Conoco, Norway Research & Development, lives in Oslo.

D.H. "Dave" Elliott (B.S. '50) has been elected national director of the Board of Realtors. He and his wife, **Kathleen** (1946 etc.), make their home in El Paso.

William J. Bienemann Jr. (B.S. '50) is assistant general manager and project manager for development with the Ertzberg Copper Mine in Indonesia.

Kenneth Chesak, Col./USA, (B.B.A. '51) is chief of the Advanced Systems Concept Office, Missile System Research & Development for the U.S. Army Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

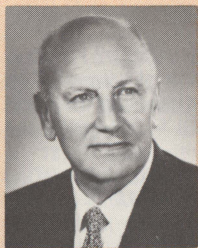
Dorothy Beall (B.S. '51; M.Ed. '61) retired from the El Paso Independent School District in April. A registered nurse, she served as an Army nurse in World War II and was associated with the Menninger Clinic. She joined the school system in 1951 as a school nurse and teacher of mentally and physically handicapped students.

Philip Cole (B.A. '51) is a U.S. magistrate in El Paso.

Daniel W. Foster, M.D., (B.S. '51), professor of internal medicine, UT Health Center, Dallas, is the author of a new book, *A Layman's Guide to Modern Medicine*, released in June by Simon and Schuster.

Lindsay B. Holt (1953 etc.) has been named to the board of directors of the West El Paso National Bank.

Outstanding Exes in the News...

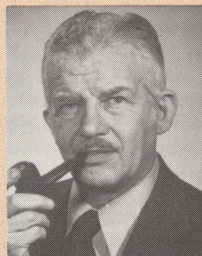


Joseph F. Friedkin (B.S. '32), Outstanding Ex 1962, U.S. Commissioner of the International Boundary and Water Commission, was presented the Department of the Army's Certificate of Appreciation for Pa-

triotic Civilian Service on July 17 by Gen. James C. Donovan, division engineer of the U.S. Army in behalf of Lt. Gen. J.W. Morris, chief of engineers. The award was presented "in appreciation for his service to the Corps of Engineers as a major assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station during WW II and his support and enhancement of the corps' capabilities and stature in the water resources field in his later years." He received the Department of State's

Superior Honor Award in 1964 and was accorded the rank of Ambassador by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968.

Sheldon P. Wimpfen (B.S. '34), Outstanding Ex 1954, retired on February 29 as chief mining engineer and assistant director of field operations for the U.S. Bureau of Mines. An internationally known authority on mineral supply and demand, he began his career as a miner in Colorado and Arizona, worked in the Philippines and Bolivia, and during World War II was a construction officer in the Pacific Theater. In private industry he has served as vice president of Glen Alden Corporation, Pennsylvania, and vice president and director of Reynolds Mining



Corporation, Virginia. He was president, general manager and director of Southern Peru Copper Corporation before joining the Bureau of Mines ten years ago.



Robert Stevenson (B.A. '36), Outstanding Ex 1963, has been selected as UCLA's Faculty Research Lecturer for 1980-81. The Senate Faculty Research Lectureship is the highest honor the faculty can give to one of its own. Professor of music at UCLA, Dr. Stevenson joined the faculty in 1949. He is a graduate of Juilliard School of Music, a Ph.D. in composition from the Eastman School of Music, and holds degrees in theology from Harvard and Princeton. He is the author of 23 books on music.

James P. Malone, Brig. Gen./USA, (B.S. '54) and his wife, **Mariwyn (Blythe)** (1951 etc.), live in Alexandria, Virginia. He is presently stationed at the Pentagon.

Paul Huchton, M.D., (B.A. '54) is president-elect of the El Paso Rotary Club.

Evelyn R. Donges (B.M. '54; M.Ed. '65) teaches school in Shell Beach, California and enjoys oceanside living.

Dolores Acosta Vega (B.B.A. '54; M.Ed. '78) has been teaching at South Loop School, El Paso, for the past 18 years. She was chosen Teacher of the Year in 1978.

George E. Maynes, Col./USA, (B.A. '55) is director of U.S. Military Attaches in Latin America and is assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C. He is married to the former **Delia Fernandez** (B.A. '54).

1956-1959

Priscilla Winslow Tremayne (B.A. '57) and her husband, **Ernest**, live in Madison, Ohio, where he is president of Goodwill Industries for the area. They are parents of two children.

Kenneth George (B.A. '57; M.Ed. '60) has been named principal of Irvin High School, El Paso.

Herbert Blue (B.A. '57), who lives with his family in Salt Lake City, is doing freelance writing. He was formerly with Thiokol Corporation.

Manuel X. Aguilar (B.A. '58) has been named superintendent of the Gadsden Independent School District, Anthony, Texas.

Robert J. Benford (B.A. '58) has been promoted to director, personnel and human resource development for Norwich-Eaton Pharmaceuticals. He and his wife, **Lee**, reside in Norwich, New York.

Fromona Brey (B.A. '58), a teacher at Our Lady of Assumption School, lives in Chaparral, New Mexico.

1960-1965

John A. Fitzgerald, LTC/USN, ret., (B.A. '60) has been appointed chief, Special Program Security Unit, Advanced Development Projects, Lockheed California Company, in Burbank.

Maria H. Bedoya (B.S. '60; M.Ed. '69) is an assistant principal with the El Paso Independent School District.

William H. Welsch (B.B.A. '60), an insurance counselor with Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, was among the top one per cent of 4,000 agents in sales. He resides in Palo Alto, California.

Paul S. McLeod (B.A. '61; M.S. '68) is a research physicist for the Solar Division of Chevron Research Laboratories in Richmond, California.

Linda Elizabeth Haughton MacKenzie, Ph.D., (B.A. '61), recently married to **Donald E. MacKenzie** of Marquette University, is a professor of Spanish at the University of Milwaukee.

Donald A. Shearer (B.B.A. '61) has joined the staff of El Paso Regional Academic Health Center. He was formerly administrator for the El Paso Orthopaedic Surgery Group.

Raymond J. Dunn (B.S. '61) was recently promoted to lead engineer for live operations, First Stage Trident Missile Program at Thiokol, Brigham City, Utah.

Harry R. Lamberth (B.S. '62) is senior systems

engineer with Hughes Aircraft Company in El Paso.

Allen K. Tolen (B.A. '62), a 14-year veteran of the FBI, has been appointed to serve as assistant special agent in charge of the Philadelphia office.

Margarita G. Burciaga-Kanavy (B.A. '63; M.A. '69) is the first woman instructor at the Air Defense School, Fort Bliss, where she teaches communicative arts. She is also a part-time lecturer in the English Department at the University.

Sandra (Karlsruher) (B.S. '64) and **B. Philip Boswell**, D.D.S., (B.A. '64) make their home in El Paso. He is in private dental practice and president-elect of the El Paso District Dental Society. She is a teacher at Carlos Rivera School.

Herb Marsh Jr. (B.A. '64) is in private law practice in El Paso and also serves as the presiding judge of El Paso's Municipal Court.

Anne Fuchlow (B.A. '63) is assistant to the vice president/finance at Hughes Airwest, San Mateo, California.

James R. Psaki (B.B.A. '64), formerly a vice president with Chemical Bank in New York, is a real estate developer in Stamford, Connecticut.

Luis M. Chacon (B.S. '64) is a civil engineer with the Tennessee Valley Authority nuclear power plant in Knoxville.

Clyde E. Jeffcoat Jr. (B.B.A. '65) is the first civilian to hold the position of principal deputy commander of the U.S. Army Finance and Accounting Center at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. A senior executive in the career civil service, he assumed his post on June 1. He will also serve as the Army's senior civilian accountant, with responsibility for career program management for all civilian professional finance and accounting personnel in Army finance and accounting field activities around the globe.

Robert McGraw (B.M. '65; M.Ed. '70), former percussionist with the El Paso Symphony and recently with the Cape Town Symphony, is now a freelance musician in San Francisco.

Bert Almon (B.A. '65), a faculty member at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, has just published his fourth collection of poems, *Blue Sunrise*. He is married to the former **Barbara Rich** (B.A. '65).

Yolanda Delgado (B.A. '65) is a child development specialist with the Texas Department of Human Resources, El Paso.

1966-1969

John Gasper (B.B.A. '66) received his M.B.A. from Hardin-Simmons University in May.

Angelina Gallegos (B.A. '66) has begun her second term as president of District XIX of the Texas State Teachers Association.

Kenneth Calabrese, D.O., (B.S. '66) and his wife, **Jan (Coffin)** (B.S. '67), live in Tulsa where he has been in practice for the past three years. He was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the State of Oklahoma and voted Outstanding Professor at Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. They are parents of two children.

Jeannie K. Todaro, LTC/USN, (B.A. '67) has been transferred to Washington, D.C., as director, Officer Task Analysis Division, Navy Occupational Development and Analysis Center.

Robert Glanville (B.S. '67) is a member of the legal firm of Patterson, Sargent and Glanville, in El Paso. His wife, **Fritzie (West)** (1965 etc.), is a registered nurse.

Linda Covar Harbeck (B.S. '68) and her husband, **Earl**, (B.S. '80) reside in El Paso. She is an English and reading teacher at H.E. Charles School.

Mark Regalado (B.A. '68) is coordinator of the Commercial Art Department at El Paso Community College. Working with him are **Trinon Crouch Jr.** (B.A. '74) and **Jim Wagnon** (B.A. '70).

Patrick B. Wieland (B.S. '68) is an accredited member of the Farm and Land Institute of the National Association of Realtors. He is the only real estate agent in El Paso to hold the designation.

Stephen L. Metzger, Maj./USA, (B.A. '69; M.A. '79), former professor in the Military Science Department at UT El Paso, has been assigned to the United Nations Peace Keeping Force in the Middle East, stationed in Tel Aviv.

Richard Pearson (B.A. '69), Alumni Association president, won the chili cooking contest in May sponsored by the El Paso Advertising Federation for his "Turn of the Century Chili."

J. Roberto Oaxaca (B.A. '69; M.B.A. '75), who received his law degree from UT Austin in 1978, is the attorney for students at UT El Paso.

Bill Gage (B.A. '69; M.Ed. '76) and his wife **Anita (Hepp)** (B.S. '69), live in El Paso. He is chairman of the Health Education Department at Bel Air High School and she is chairman of the First Grade Level at Glen Cove Elementary.

T.T. Kelley, Maj./USMC, (B.A. '69) is assigned to Quantico, Virginia, as chief, Advanced Tactics Section, Officer's Basic School, Development and Education Command. He is married to the former **Cynthia Blanchard** (B.A. '69).

1970-1975

Carl E. Payne, P.E., (B.S. '70; M.S. '72), who retired from the Air Force in October, 1966, after 21 years of service, will retire again in August, 1983, from Federal Civil Service. He is presently chief environmental engineer with the Western Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Headquarters in San Bruno, California.

Jesus Cortez Jr., Ph.D., (B.A. '70; M.Ed. '73) received his doctorate in June from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Doug Conwell (B.S. '70) is editor of *FOCUS*, the newsletter for the State of New Mexico Environmental Improvement Agency in Santa Fe.

Kerry W. Hipps (B.S. '70) has received a two-year research fellowship from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. He is assistant professor of chemistry and chemical physics at Washington State University.

Jean H. Allen (B.S. '71; M.Ed. '77) is vocational adjustment coordinator at Socorro High School, Socorro, Texas.

Richard A. Ruggirella (B.B.A. '71) has been named vice president and controller of the American Bank of Commerce, El Paso.

Mary Ellen Botter (B.S. '71) has been named news editor at *The Denver Post*.

Robert G. Geske (B.S. '71; M.Ed. '77) and his wife, **Jeanne (Floyd)** (B.A. '71), live in El Paso. He is assistant director of the Intramurals and Recreation Service at UT El Paso. She is a teacher at Western Hills Elementary School.

Gary A. Zimmerman (B.A. '71) is a food service executive with Foleys Department Store in Houston.

Kathleen Love Bell (B.S. '71) is completing her Master's degree in counseling at Georgia State University. She is married to Dr. Frank Bell, an eye surgeon at Emory University.

David Wehrly, M.D., (B.S. '71) is senior resident of internal medicine and flight surgeon at Brooke Army Medical Center, Ft. Sam Houston. He will be studying for his Master of Public Health at Harvard during the coming academic year.

David J. LaBrec (B.A. '71), former first assistant city attorney in El Paso, has been named general counsel for the Texas Municipal League in Austin.

Rene O. Casavantes, D.M.D., M.P.H., (B.S. '71) was a speaker at the Second International Orthodontic Congress in Caracas, Venezuela, last November.

Bruce Yetter (B.B.A. '71) is corporate counsel for Bowen Industries Inc. in El Paso and also an assistant professor of management, Webster College Graduate School. His wife, **Jackie (Guadagnoli)** (B.A. '71; M.A. '77), is a psychological associate for Southwestern Community House.

Grace L. Roberts, Col./USA, (M.Ed. '71) is currently assigned as commandant, U.S. Army Institute of Administration, Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

Armando Saucedo (B.B.A. '71) is terminal manager for Pacific Intermountain Express in El Paso.

Wendell H. Gregg (B.A. '71) and his wife, **Vernell** (B.S. '71), live in El Paso where she is a teacher at Crosby Intermediate and he is a manpower specialist with the El Paso Department of Human Development.

Joseph H. Gross (M.S. '72) is a plant protection and quarantine officer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in El Paso.

Sarah Frances Ellsworth (B.S. '72; M.Ed. '80) is a math teacher at J.M. Hanks High School in El Paso.

Rex C. Crawford (B.S. '72; M.S. '74) has completed his M.S. in Forest Ecology at the University of Idaho and has begun his work toward a Ph.D. in Forestry, Wildlife and Range Science.

Nicolo Santangelo, LTC/USA, ret., (B.B.A. '72) is chief of the Economic Analysis and Information Services, Southwest Regional Office, Bureau of Labor Statistics in Dallas.

Sidney F. Putnam, Col./USA, (M.Ed. '72) is presently assigned to Ft. Gordon, Georgia, as director of the Officer's Department, Signal School. His two daughters, Lisa and Linda, are undergraduates at UT El Paso.

Robert H. Woolley Jr. (B.B.A. '72) is a partner in the CPA firm of Bixler, Carlton, Pittenger and Rister in El Paso.

William W. Mason (B.B.A. '73) was promoted to commercial loan officer at El Paso National Bank.

Louis R. Miccio, Capt./USMC, (B.S. '73) has been promoted to his present rank while serving with the First Marine Division, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California.

Patricia Douglass McCracken (B.B.A. '73) is a systems representative with IBM General Systems Division in Houston.

Two UT El Paso alumni were awarded their Master's in education at Prairie View A&M in May. They are **Barbara Jean Folk** (B.S. '73), in elementary education, and **Louie B. Hawkins** (B.B.A. '73), in guidance.

Vicki Black Walker (B.A. '73) and her husband **William A. Walker III**, who were married in August, are employed in management at Black's Nursery Inc., El Paso.

Chuck Emerson (B.A. '73) has been with Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company in El Paso for the past four years.

Elizabeth A. Lashus (B.A. '73) is an English teacher at Burges High School, El Paso.

Chester J. Callahan (B.S. '70; M.S. '73) is with the Marathon Oil Company in Houston.

Victor M. Renteria (B.S. '73), an electronic design engineer with GUS Manufacturing, El Paso, is currently working on his M.B.A. at UT El Paso.

Leticia Fierro (B.S. '73) has been a second grade teacher in the bilingual program at

Burleson School, El Paso, for the past six years.

Stephen Lee McDuffee (B.B.A. '74) is president of Mesilla Valley Lincoln-Mercury Inc. in Las Cruces.

Cliff R. Richards (B.S. '74) has been named director of pharmacy at Root Memorial Hospital in Colorado City, Texas.

Lenn M. Lanahan, Capt./USMC, (B.B.A. '74) is with the Marine Corps (Helicopter) Air Station in Tustin, California.

Jose Luna Jr., M.D., (B.A. '74) who received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, in May, will serve a residency in family practice at the University of New Mexico Affiliated Hospitals in Albuquerque.

Eileen Head (M.S. '74) has established a computer company, Head Computer Systems, in Fairbanks, Alaska. She and her husband Tom Head are parents of a son, Michael.

Kathy B. Shafer (B.A. '75), who is completing a graduate studies program in bilingual education this year at the University of Houston, will head a junior high school bilingual center in the Houston Independent School District. She formerly taught bilingual studies at Houston Community College and in the Houston Public Library foreign language program.

Alfred E. Saucedo (B.B.A. '75) is a variety merchandiser with Safeway Stores Inc. in the Odessa district office.

1976-1979

Rita Rodriguez (B.S. '76) has been admitted to the State Bar of Texas. She received her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Texas Tech University School of Law.

Steven Gandy (B.A. '76) has been appointed loan officer at the Fidelity Bank, Philadelphia.

Donald D. Lang, 1st Lt./USMC, (B.S. '76) is on duty at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, Santa Ana, California.

Pamela Nimmins Coe (B.A. '76) and her husband, Gary, are living in Grafenwohr, Germany.

Manuel Barraza (B.B.A. '76), former County attorney, is in private practice in El Paso.

Katherine Kennedy Sheriff (B.A. '76) is manager of the mortgage department of Carlisle Building & Loan Association in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Kenneth H. Boll Jr., 1st Lt./USA, (B.A. '76) is attending the Defense Intelligence School in Washington, D.C.

Robert M. Waterman (B.B.A. '76) and his wife, **Jeanne** (B.S. '71), live in El Paso. He is employed at White Sands Missile Range and she is a teacher in the Ysleta Independent School District.

J. James Rohack (B.S. '76) received his degree in medicine from UT Medical Branch, Galveston, in May and has begun postgraduate training in internal medicine there. He has been elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, National Medical Honor Society, and nominated to Outstanding Young Men in America 1980.

William S. Smith, Ens./USN, (B.S. '77) was commissioned in his present rank upon graduation from Officer Candidate School, Newport, Rhode Island, in May.

Rosalia Solorzano (B.A. '77), has been awarded a three-year minority competitive doctoral fellowship to complete her Ph.D. in Sociology and Industrial Psychology at Michigan State University. **Patricia E. Rojas** (B.A. '77), also at Michigan State University, is working toward her Master's degree in social work.

Margaret C. Teal (B.S. '77) has joined Forest Oil Corporation in Midland as a geologist.

Mario Hankerson (B.A. '77) has been promoted to deputy director of Project Bravo in El Paso. He previously served as the agency's research analysis evaluator.

Salvador R. Villa (B.S. '79) is an electrical engineer with Western Electric in Denver. His wife, **Sylvia (Solis)** (B.B.A. '78), teaches vocational business with Adams County District XII.

George J. Spiligh, Ph.D., (M.A. '78), assistant professor of psychology at Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland, received his doctorate in psychology from the University of Pittsburgh this year.

Johna C. Gerasch (B.A. '78) has completed her Master's in educational psychology and is studying toward her Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

Sarah Stepanovich Tiefa (B.A. '78) and her husband, Kurt, live in Los Alamos. She is associated with the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory and he is with the Department of Energy.

Charles Draper (B.A. '78) is a graduate student in business administration at Indiana University.

Steven J. Hanly, 2nd Lt./USMC, (B.S. '79) has completed basic school at Quantico in preparation for assignment to the Fleet Marine Force.

Joquin A. Rosales (M.S. '79) is employed as a project engineer with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Dallas.

New Address?

New Address

Old Address

Name _____

Number & Street _____ Apt. Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Year Graduated, attended _____

Mail to: Development Office, UT El Paso, El Paso, Texas 79968

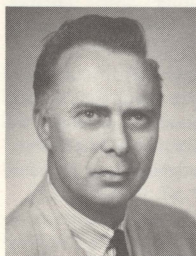
Braddy...(from page 5)

would collaborate on an article about the event, and set about gathering materials. But we never got around to it. Our separate duties and obligations got in the way, as they often will. I'll always regret that we never found the time for that one. And now there's no time left.

Edgar Lee Masters, in *Spoon River Anthology*, had a character named Fiddler Jones, who devoted his life to playing his fiddle for other folks. When he died, he admitted he'd not built up much of a bank account nor store of this world's goods: "I ended up with forty acres;/ I ended up with a broken fiddle—/ And a broken laugh, and a thousand memories,/ And not a single regret."

I think Haldeen's loyal and supportive wife Virginia—friend and helpmeet for a lifetime, without whom he would have done much less—would agree. He truly ended his days with at least a thousand memories, and not a single regret. □

Deaths



J. Edgar Simmons, in Jackson, Mississippi, November 26, 1979. A noted poet, he was director of the Creative Writing program at UT El Paso from 1966 to 1969, and faculty advisor for the University literary publication, *Goodbye Dove*. His book, *Driving to Biloxi*, won the Texas Institute of Letters Award and was a finalist for the National Book Awards. His poems appeared in 14 anthologies and over 75 journals. At the time of his death he was at work on his third book. He is survived by two sons.

Richard Crandall (B.B.A. 1964), July 19, 1979. He is survived by his wife, Leslie (B.A. 1971).

Paul J. Briesh Sr. (1947 etc.), in Des Moines, New Mexico, August 7, 1979. Survivors are his wife, Annette, two sons and two daughters.

Ramon Concha (B.S. 1921), in Parral,

Chihuahua, Mexico, November 9, 1979. He was safety engineer with the San Luis Mining Company, president of the Parral Accion Nacional party, and councilman and director of public works in Parral. He is survived by a daughter and three sons.

Francis Linwood Pierson (B.S. 1951), in an automobile accident near Nashville, Arkansas, January 28. A mining geologist, he was formerly with the Potash Company of America in Carlsbad, New Mexico, and at the time of his death was employed by Weyerhaeuser Company as a mine engineer at Briar Plant, Nashville. Survivors include his brother, Max D. Pierson (B.S. 1950).

Ralph F. Brewster (B.A. 1952; M.Ed. 1969), in Albuquerque, March 21. He taught in the El Paso schools for 17 years and was assistant principal at H.E. Charles Junior High School and Fannin Elementary before becoming assistant principal at Andress High School. Survivors are his son and four daughters.

William E. Neill Jr. (M.A. 1952), superintendent of the Tornillo School District, April 2. He is survived by his wife and one son.

Isabel C. MacFadyen (B.S. 1954; M.Ed. 1957), in El Paso, April 19. A member of the Retired Officers Association and the Retired Teachers Association, she is survived by her husband, Robert.

Walter G. Kingelin (B.S. 1929), in April in San Angelo, Texas. He was a licensed engineer for Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company. He is survived by his wife.

Jerry H. Longenfeld (B.S. 1963), in El Paso, April 22. A project engineer with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, he is survived by his wife, one son and daughter.

Edna Mae Hoefner (1949 etc.), May 20, in Houston. She is survived by two sons.

Berta Lee Matthews (1947 etc.), in Vista, California, May 21. A retired teacher, she taught at Socorro and Clardy schools. She is survived by her son and daughter.

Pearl Crouch (M.A. 1956), May 25 in El Paso. She was journalism coordinator for the Ysleta Independent School District and a long-time Ysleta High School journalism teacher, vice president of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, founder of the Southwest Scholastic Press Association and a director of the Texas Association of Journalism Directors. She also served as regional director of the Journalism Education Association and a member of the National Education Association. Survivors include her husband, Trinton N. Crouch (B.A. 1953), a son, Trinton L. Crouch (B.A. 1974), and two daughters.

Clifford James Farah (B.B.A. 1979), in an automobile accident in which his wife and daughter were also killed, near White Sands, New Mexico, May 25. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Virginia Farah.

Richard C. Lynch, Capt./USA, ret., (M.Ed. 1970), April 2. He taught at Scotsdale Elementary in El Paso. Survivors are his son and two daughters.

Dorothy Faye Fitzpatrick (B.A. 1947), in El Paso, June 18. A first grade teacher in the El Paso Independent School District for 35 years, she is survived by her husband, Charles, a daughter and two sons.

Dr. Haldeen Braddy, professor emeritus, August 16, 1980. An article about his teaching career and writings appear elsewhere in NOVA.

Homecoming 1980

October 23

7 p.m. *Reunion Party for Outstanding Exes*; attendance limited to former Outstanding Ex-Students. El Paso Club.

October 24

9 a.m. *Homecoming Parade*, beginning at 3333 N. Mesa, proceeding to campus.

10 a.m. *Pep Rally*, Union Plaza, Union Building on campus.

10 a.m.-1 p.m. *Student Activities and Amusement Booths*, Library lawn.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. *College of Business Administration Reception*, for Business faculty, staff and alumni; honoring Outstanding Ex. Chaparral Room, Union Building.

6:30 p.m. *Outstanding Ex-Student Recognition Banquet*, \$17.50 per ticket, cash bar, semi-formal. El Paso Country Club.

October 25

8 a.m.-noon *Department of Geological Sciences Breakfast*, hosted for Geology alumni and "Gold Rush" classes 1917-1930. Union Building, Faculty Dining Room, \$3.25 per person.

(Time to be set) *College of Engineering Breakfast*. Call Dean's office, 747-5460, for information.

9 a.m.-noon *Open House & Tours of UTEP*. Starting at Alumni Office in Administration Annex (Old Zeta House) with coffee and donuts, sign guest register. Tours courtesy Office of Admissions & Records, Diana Guerrero. Open to all alumni & visitors.

9 a.m. *Open House: Biology, Geology & Physical Science Buildings*. For more information, call Dean of Science at 747-5537/5737.

10 a.m.-noon *KTEP tour of remodeled facilities in Cotton Memorial Building*; call 747-5152 for details.

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Library: Gen S.L.A. Marshall Military Collection Room. Open for special exhibition, Room 139, first floor, South Wing. Displays of memorabilia, medals, photos. For information, call 747-5686/5697.

10 a.m.-noon *Modern Languages Reception*, Liberal Arts Room 211, hosted by Joan H.M. Bornscheuer, chairwoman. For information, call 747-5281.

12 noon *Gold Rush Anniversary Luncheon*, hosted and open to grads and classes 1917-1930 inclusive. University Suite, 3rd floor, East Wing, Union Building.

3-4 p.m. *Political Science Reception*, honoring faculty, alumni and staff, to be held in the home of C. Richard Bath, chairman; 5420 Nastase. Call 747-5227 for information.

4 p.m. *Billy Crystal Show*, \$4 admission, \$2 discount to Alumni Association members with cards; free to faculty and staff with ID. Tickets available at University Ticket Center, Baltimore at Mesa. For information, call 747-5481.

5:30 p.m. *Class of 1940*, pre game, no-host cocktail party. Rodeway Inn, 6021 Gateway West. For information on 1940 class activities, call Winston Black, 778-9211, Paul Carlton, 532-7448, or Salvador Del Valle, 566-0225.

7:30 p.m. *Homecoming Game*, Miners vs. University of New Mexico. For ticket information, call UTEP Ticket Center (915) 747-5234. □

because I love it. But only when my business and my family are in a position where I think I can do it, then—yes, I'll run."

Marjorie Henderson fully supports her husband's political endeavors. "He's a people-oriented person," she says, "and is equally suited for politics as he is for the insurance business. And because I'm so used to his being away from home with the business, it wasn't hard to adapt to his hours as mayor. Don's the classic example of a workaholic. I don't see how anybody could have gone sixteen hours a day for two years. It was an unbelievable pace." And if her husband runs again, Marjorie plans to support him as she did before. "I'm a very independent person. I take care of everything at the house and any outside problems that may arise so that he can get on with his work."

Henderson's one outside activity, other than politics, is playing golf. "I play with some of the craziest, most wonderful people in El Paso: Jim Speer, who's a lawyer; Wayne Windle, also a lawyer; Vince Kemendo, a builder; Bob Dunbar, who's in the clothing business; and young David Hughes, who's headed for the PGA tour if he decides he wants to go. We get together because we've got a lot of competitive spirit. We don't get out there just to play for our health. You don't play Jim Speer for your health," Henderson says, jovially. "You want to kill him. For a dollar you'll kill him. And Dunbar you'll kill for 50 cents. But we have a good time; we play in all the club tournaments they have. I like the environment of golf, of being with friends. I love the camaraderie that exists."

For the past 29 years, Henderson and his friend, Dr. Mike Finerty, a neurologist in San Francisco—and the first person Henderson met at Texas Western—have met in Cloudcroft to play what they consider is the ultimate grudge match of the year. Don Spradling has joined them for the past nineteen years, and over the years they pick different people to participate. They take the game "very seriously," and are thankful that they have been able to stay well enough to continue the ritual, which, Henderson says, ends up being "a great four days."

When Henderson isn't on the golf course and has time off from work ("one of the beautiful things about the insurance business is having time off"), he and Marjorie like to travel. They have been to western Canada, Palm Springs,

Florida, the Bahamas. Last year they went to Las Hadas, Mexico, where the movie "10" was filmed. Henderson describes it as "absolutely the hottest place I've ever been in my life. I can empathize with Dudley Moore, hopping around on the sand."

Occasionally the Hendersons visit Marjorie's family in Gainesville, Texas. Henderson relates a humorous story about Marjorie's father, Bo Crawford, a quiet man who rarely speaks, but who found it necessary to make an observation to Henderson upon their last visit. "We were sitting there watching the television show 'Dallas,'" recalls Henderson, "and about half way through the show, he looked over at me and said, 'Don, you know that "Dallas?"' That show is so corny they should've called it 'Fort Worth.'"

What does the future hold for a man with Henderson's intense drive and his deep concern for his community? "Well, outside my business and family goals, which have to come first, I think it's important for me to continue to be involved in what's going on in El Paso. We have to talk to people around the country and show them what El Paso's all about. We've got to provide the necessary education so that new, unskilled Americans can raise the level of their abilities, and through that encourage industry to come in to El Paso, because that's one of the first things they look at—the educational level, the ability to draw a pool of skilled people—and we want to draw the industry in here. It's a matter of education working with industry to create more jobs. And that's what I'd like to work on."

When asked how he felt about being named Outstanding Ex of 1980, Henderson said, "I was bowled over. I've worked very closely with the University since my undergraduate days, so I'm familiar with the Outstanding Ex selection, but I had no idea I was being considered. I had heard from time to time that my name was on the 'look-list,' but I figured it would be another decade before it would be my time to be considered. I was very, very surprised, and consider it one of the greatest honors I've ever received."

The list of Henderson's UTEP Alumni activities is impressive. He was president of the Ex-Students Association (1962-63); chairman of the Alumni Fund for Excellence (1964-65); and charter member of the Matrix Society (1968-75). He was also the first recipient of the Business Leadership and Achievement Award from the College of Busi-

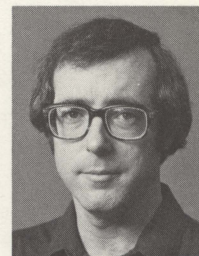
ness Administration in 1975.

Because of his continuing ties to UT El Paso, it is evident that Don S. Henderson is more than deserving of the University's highest distinction. "My Texas Western experience meant so much to me—the people, professors, everyone—and that's why I stay close to it over the years, in one capacity or another. So when someone like Judson Williams comes to me years later and twists my arm to run for city council, I have the same philosophy that carried over from being a student to a member of the community, to try to participate and to be involved in a lot of different things. That's my personality, that's my makeup. I enjoy doing that."

"I go out there on campus and I see so many people who are doing such a great job in educating and motivating people—future leaders of this community, state and nation—that when they ask me to do something, it's just a drop in the bucket. Because I know what it meant to me. It gives me that feeling in the bottom of my heart and the chills up and down my neck, but it means that much to me. So when I see Robert Schumaker, Milton Leech, Trudy Dawson, Lola Dawkins, Ed Leonard, Howard Neighbors, Melvin Straus, Wynn Anderson, and all these people that are doing such a tremendous job for the school, the only thing I have to do at times is hide, because if they ask me to do something, I can't say no."

Henderson himself sums up one of the most important reasons for his being chosen this year's Outstanding Ex when he says, "I have a basic philosophy that I want to try to make my community and things around me a little bit better than when I found them." □

Jim Stowe (M.A. '78), a member of the UT El Paso English faculty, is a native El Pasoan whose first novel, *Winterstalk*, was published by Simon & Schuster last year. He was the subject of a September, 1978, NOVA profile.



For his story on Don Henderson, Stowe conducted numerous interviews with Henderson and others, working closely with the News Service office. The result is one of the most detailed Outstanding Ex biographies to appear in NOVA.



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