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# NOVA: The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine

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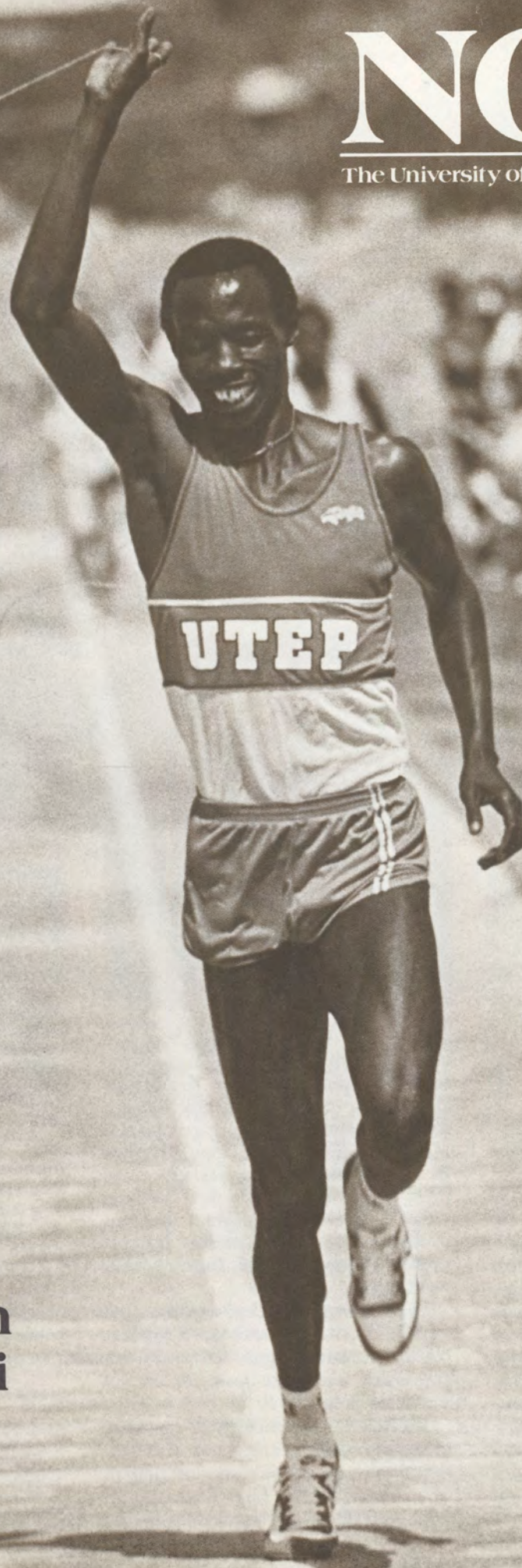
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# NOVA

The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine



**Suleiman  
Nyambui**



# The View from the Hill

Elsewhere in this summer NOVA will be found some details on how the University honors its most meritorious students. Next issue, in September, the NOVA cover story will be our annual demonstration of the University's honoring its most meritorious alumnus — the "Outstanding Ex-Student."

Until recently, UTEP honored a single faculty member a year with its Faculty Research Award. No awards were given by the University for superior teaching, and except for longevity certificates and interoffice thank-yous, staff members received no special honors, nor did those who made special contributions to student life on campus outside the faculty ranks.

This situation has now changed, thanks to President Haskell Monroe and Vice President Joseph D. Olander. At the Honors Convocation held May 2 in Magoffin Auditorium, the first six "Distinguished Achievement Awards" were presented, and also honored were eight faculty members from the University's six colleges and Graduate School for sustained achievement in teaching, research and service to the University.

The Distinguished Achievement Awards were presented for teaching merit to faculty members **Philip J. Gallagher** (English), **Cyril Parkanyi** (Chemistry), **John Poteet** (Health & Physical Education), and for research to **William C. Herndon** (Chairman, Chemistry). For service to students, the award went to **Jesus R. "Sonny" Castro**, Union Services Director; and for service to the University, **James M. Peak**, Director of Development, received the first of these annual awards, the recipients selected from open nominations by a committee of faculty, staff and students.

For sustained achievement in teaching, research and service, the eight faculty members receiving special awards from Vice President Olander were: **Z. Anthony Kruszewski** (Graduate School), **Darrell Schroeder** (Engineering), **Timothy Roth** (Business Administration), **Sharon Pontious** (Nursing and Allied Health), **William C. Cornell** (Science), **Bonnie Brooks** (Education), and **Lawrence J. Johnson** and **Joseph A. Perozzi** (Liberal Arts.)

We now have meaningful ways of honoring students deserving honors —

and faculty and staff as well.

If you want to know who is being singled out for special contributions to this University of ours, attend the annual Honors Convocation. Not everybody deserving of an honor gets one, but we are a lot closer to that ideal situation now than we ever have been in the past.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"All the academic programs of the University are now available to the disabled, both on the main campus and at the College of Nursing and Allied Health. UTEP ranks at the top among institutions in this state in its response to requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973."



Now, speaking of honors, here is a very fine one. The person who made the statement above was John B. Morgan III, acting regional director of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. Mr. Morgan came to UTEP from Lubbock in May to present a certificate of appreciation to President Monroe and was joined by Robert C. Brown, supervisor of the El Paso Office Central, and Arthur V. Power, counselor for the UTEP Field Office.

These gentlemen cited some of the steps UTEP has taken to make it possible for the handicapped to attend this University and take part in all its academic programs:

Increased handicapped parking areas; permanent ramps and curb cuts for wheelchair accessibility; installation of an elevator in the Liberal Arts Building; modifying a freight elevator for

handicapped use in the Physical Science Building; lowered elevator control panels and raised letters on them for visually handicapped; lowered water fountains; special telephone for hearing impaired; special registration procedures for disabled students; policies of relocating classes to accessible classrooms for disabled students; special services in the Library including special reading equipment for visually handicapped.

UTEP has played a genuine *pioneering* role in making its services and facilities available and accessible to the handicapped. Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the University did not have to install elevators in its multi-storied buildings or make any special changes so long as its programs were "available" to the handicapped.

But elevators were installed anyway, and other things done to make the programs not only available but as easily available as is humanly possible.

It is something UTEP will continue to work on, but if we cannot exactly rest on our laurels, we can certainly be proud of them.

—DLW

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*Cover:* Sulieman Nyambui wins the 5,000 meters (fourth time in four years) at the WAC outdoor meet, Kidd Field, May 8.

*Back Cover:* Regent Jane Weinert Blumberg of Sequin and UTEP President Haskell Monroe on the windy April 17 ground-breaking of the new University Library. Dr. Monroe holds Mrs. Blumberg's gift copy of the historic April, 1914, *National Geographic* containing the photos of Bhutan from which the original Mines buildings were patterned.

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# SULEIMAN NYAMBUI

## At the Finish Line

by Julio Lujan



**O**n the eve of the 1978 national cross-country championships at the University of Wisconsin, the weather for a long, endurance run was not ideal. There was snow as far as the eye could see.

To Suleiman Nyambui, raised where pleasant weather and green trees are the general order, the freezing temperatures and snow-covered terrain formed a picture totally foreign to everything he had left his native Africa for: sunny skies, warm weather, productive training and an American education in

Texas. It was too much to endure, he thought; it was not possible for man to run in such below-zero conditions.

Three months after his arrival at the University of Texas at El Paso, Nyambui gave serious thought to calling it quits and returning to Tanzania. "Everywhere," Nyambui says, opening his arms to show the immensity of the snow, "it was white. It was so cold I told Coach Banks I wanted to go back home . . . When I touched my ears, I felt pain. Everything was ice by then."

Ted Banks, who resigned in February

after nine years as UTEP's ultra-successful track coach, and Nyambui had a man-to-man talk. The emphasis, the Miner runner recalls, was that everyone else was cold, too. Such words made Nyambui go out into the freezing weather and give it his best. "I jogged and wouldn't sweat," Nyambui says laughingly. "After the first three miles I was still tight. But I came in fourth in my first NCAA race." (He won in 1980.)

That conversation between Nyambui and Banks proved productive. UTEP captured the 1978 national cross-country championship, marking the first of four straight NCAA team crowns in the sport.

And it also meant the beginning of a star-studded career by the Miner trackman from East Africa.

Nyambui's decision to make El Paso his "adopted home" has been a fruitful endeavor for him, the University and the community as well. The smiling runner cherishes his trophies, plaques, medals and watches but he says his greatest treasure has been the infinite memories during his four-year expedition with the Miner Express.

This article, plus "Kristal" and "Long Night at El Chichonal" are the work of journalism professionals, all with *The El Paso Times*, all Mass Communication-UTEP people.

Molly Fennell ('81) covers the University, among other assignments; Kathy Satterfield ('74) is among the best of the paper's feature writers; and Julio Lujan, a UTEP senior completing his journalism degree, is a sports writer for *The Times*.

NOVA takes special pride in presenting the work of these young writers, done especially for our magazine, and we hope to present more such work in future issues, by alumni-professionals with the *El Paso Herald-Post* and other news agencies, and from creative writing alumni.

— Editor





With Nyambui's presence, UTEP has established itself as the No. 1 power in national cross-country, indoor track and outdoor track. Entering the month of June, 1982, the Miners had winning streaks of four, three and three, respectively.

After 13 individual NCAA championships, Nyambui is not yet packing up his bags for Tanzania. There still is much to do. For one, he says, he needs two more semesters to gain his degree in physical education. And the most important reason keeping him in the Southwest is his love for UTEP and El Paso.

"I love El Paso," Nyambui exclaims without hesitation. "Nobody bothers us when we are training. The people are very nice and friendly. Usually they give us encouragement."

That's not always the case in other parts of the country, he knows through conversations with other African countrymen. He proudly says: "I've never seen people saying, 'Hey, you guys from Africa, I don't like you running here.' That's why I want to stay here, and get training for the Olympics."

Once his collegiate career is over, Nyambui will turn his attention to running in Europe and training for the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. "It could prove a good thing for me, not running in college . . . only major meets," he says, a reflection of his team-oriented attitude to "run for points, not for a fast time." But Nyambui hardly can forget the Olympics, his silver medal performance in the 5,000 meters, where he lost to Miruts Yifter by just fractions of a second.

Obviously, the 1980 Olympics is Nyambui's greatest memory, the year when he ranked third in the world after his 5,000-meter time of 13 minutes, 18.6 seconds. Another moment he thinks about often is when he was clocked in 13:12.29, the second-fastest 5,000 ever run. That speedy time in Stockholm occurred in 1979, the same year Nyambui was tearing up the NCAA record book for the Miners.

During the indoor season, Nyambui shattered Jim Ryun's mile record of 3:58.6, which had gone untouched for 12 years until the Miner thinman sped around the Detroit woods in 3:57.89.

"I felt great," says Nyambui, who just turned 30. "I felt sorry, though, that I didn't get a chance to run more serious. So that was a little disappointing. If I had run 3:55 or 3:56, the record might last longer." This past 1982 indoor season, Nyambui completed a collegiate





sweep by winning the mile during each of his four years of competition.

On June 1, 1979, Nyambui had another record-breaking day. This time he erased the 10,000-meter record with a calculated pace that led to a winning time of 28 minutes, 1.30 seconds. The 10,000 at the NCAA outdoor championships has been a race dominated by UTEP distance runners since 1978.

The personable runner, who is visited by countless friends — African and otherwise — in his room at Burges Hall, recalls that he had an opportunity to head for the United States or the Soviet Union. Moscow gave seven scholarships to "learn physical education" but he chose America because of better coaching and better exposure to competition.

In 1977, he says the "coach from the University of New Mexico was working with me a lot" but he was not doing it directly. Instead, he recalls that school was recruiting him through his coach from Tanzania. But that all changed that summer when Nyambui met and talked to Wilson Waigwa and Michael Musyoki (then current members of the UTEP program) during summer competition in Europe. Once at the British Commonwealth Games in London, then Miner assistant coach Ted McLaughlin (now the head coach at Southern Methodist University) contacted him personally.

"New Mexico people were getting Tanzanian officials to order me to go to New Mexico," Nyambui explains. "And Coach McLaughlin talked to me, told me I had a chance to do better, to improve like other guys — like Waigwa and Musyoki."

A little personal touch, that's all that Nyambui needed to head West.

Once in El Paso, he faced culture shock, leaving his home in the Ukerewe

Islands, just off the Tanzanian coast of Lake Victoria. "I didn't like El Paso at first," he says. "I thought I'd be quitting and going back home. I missed fresh food. At home, food comes straight from the farms and I had never eaten fish which wasn't fresh. So those things made me homesick."

But all that has changed. Now he takes the desert in stride, as well as the hills on Mesa Street, and the endurance runs through Scenic Drive and Alabama Avenue. "In individual sports like track," the Tanzanian says, "you should take every race serious, no matter what it is. When you're ready to perform, you should do it. When you are fit, run for it, go for it. You don't know what will happen tomorrow."

It might be hard to tell if the 140-pounder — the school's all-time best runner in three events (1,500 meters, 5,000 and 10,000) — is a religious man. But he does not hide the fact he loves people, likes to be around them, and adores children.

The same holds true of his teammates. Tanzania countryman Gidamis Shahanga says he looks up to Nyambui and is pleased when he places behind him, as he did during May's Western Athletic Conference outdoor meet at Kidd Field in the 5,000 finals. And Yukon Tomisato, star high school runner at Cathedral and El Paso High, says he has no ill feelings about Nyambui wearing the Orange and Blue jersey. On many occasions, Tomisato (his eligibility concluded last year and finishing school) sits alongside Nyambui when both of them eat at the University Commons.

Somehow Nyambui transmits a sense of friendship and goodwill. That's why UTEP interim Coach John Wedel calls him, "The kind of guy you'd like to clone and have about 14 or 15 of them around, not just because of his athletic

ability, which is stupendous, but because of his attitude and dedication."

Nyambui, one of a family of six brothers and sisters, and his foreign mates have been criticized for being much older than their American-born competitors, who generally are 18 through 22. But Nyambui says education is quite different in the African continent, where entering school is



based not on age but on proximity of a school to any village. His mother, now 60, and father, 70, could not send him to school until he was old enough to take care of himself — and able to withstand

*(Continued on page 17)*







**KRISTA!**



A beauty queen's title used to be as hotly pursued as an MBA is today. But the rhinestone-studded crowns came off and the love beads went on in the 1960s and 70s. Where once there was sequin-spangled satin, there now is a T-shirt with a protest slogan. Pageants became about as popular as prickly heat.

But beauty is back, wearing a new reputation of elegance, and UTEP cheerleader Krista Lutz is part of that movement. The 20-year old sophomore was named the 1982 Miss El Paso in the April pageant.

The former Army "brat" finds no incongruity between beauty and brains. It is a natural combination for the art major who maintains a 4.0 grade-point average.

Although pageants that center around women's beauty are regaining the popularity they once had, there are still shreds of the protest-era animosity, Krista says.

When Krista told a college acquaintance she was competing in the 1982 Miss El Paso Pageant, the woman replied icily, "They don't care if you have anything 'upstairs.' They [beauty queens] are airheads."

"It hurt me that she didn't have enough faith in me. Either a scholar or a beauty queen. It was like I couldn't be both," the spritely blonde says.

The role of myth-slayer suited Krista just fine, though. And on April 10, in the Crystal Ballroom of the Airport Hilton Inn, she proved her point by adding the title of Miss El Paso to her other accolades, which include an academic scholarship.

The same dedication that earned Krista that 4.0 now will be channeled for one year into doing her "job," as she refers to her reign as Miss El Paso.

"I'm like the goodwill ambassador," she says. Putting the rest of her life on hold for one year is a small price to pay for the richness of the experiences she expects to have.

"It's just one year out of my whole life and I want to concentrate on doing the best job," she says.

In addition to representing the city at a wide variety of functions in El Paso and elsewhere, she also will participate in the Miss Texas USA Pageant in August.

The dearest price she has had to pay

was in giving up her position on the cheerleading squad. Being a member of that team for two years has meant more to Krista than just leading yells and kindling spirit.

"It was the greatest learning experience" of her life, she says. "It teaches you about life, being on time, working with other people." And, she grins, it is where she met her boyfriend, fellow yell leader Martin Koster.

Since the squad practices one or more hours a day and usually attends several games each week, Krista told pageant producers Richard Guy and Rex Holt of GuyRex Associates she would be unable to continue cheerleading if she were to

do a good job at either task. And a good job is the only kind Krista ever does.

The men had hoped Krista would be able to continue cheerleading, keeping her before the public eye and helping her to stay in top shape.

The afternoon following the pageant it was obvious that Krista already had made the transition from college cheerleader to city representative. She breezed into Guy and Holt's den, a blue fox jacket that had been one of her prizes slung over her shoulder.

Pageant participants were still recovering from the rigors of the night before, and they had staked out spots on the carpet for an afternoon snooze.



Left: Krista in headphones in the campus Language Lab; above, sorting through the card catalog in the Library.



Among them was Gregg Marx, a regular on the television soap opera "Days of Our Lives," who had served as a pageant judge.

Krista was oblivious to the human clutter. She stepped over the bodies, balancing crown, banner and fur coat, bubbling on about her experiences at the race track that day — one of her first official appearances as Miss El Paso.

It is as though she has "majored" in transitions all her life. The daughter of an Army general, "moving is second nature," she says. Between the time she was born in Germany and eventually





*Krista in a friendly chat with UTEP basketball star Fred Reynolds in the Liberal Arts Building.*

settled in El Paso, her family lived in 15 cities.

Exposure to those different areas proved to her that El Paso was the only place for her, and when her father, Brigadier General Joseph Lutz, was transferred to North Carolina she remained here.

"The people are like the climate" — warm and friendly without the taint of prejudice that she experienced in other areas.

Cliques were so pronounced in some schools she attended in other parts of the country, that "I ate lunch by myself every day and I would sob my eyes out," she remembers. She soon learned that in El Paso a smile was the passport to friendship.

The rest of her family agrees with Krista about El Paso. Her sisters — Karla, a 21-year-old mass communication/public relations major; and Joan, 19, a general studies major who is a gemologist with a local jeweler — also attend UTEP. When her father retires from the service, he plans to return to El Paso with Krista's mother, Joyce Ann Lutz, and Joe Joe, 14, Krista's brother.

When Krista's victory was announced

in the local media, she was deluged with greetings from friends. A huge bouquet of flowers arrived from former Miss El Paso and fellow Burges High School graduate Jody Bowen and her family. The card read: "Burges still has the most beautiful girls!"

On campus the reaction was similar. "I went to the SUB (Student Union Building) and I was bombarded by friends who said, 'UTEP did it again!'"

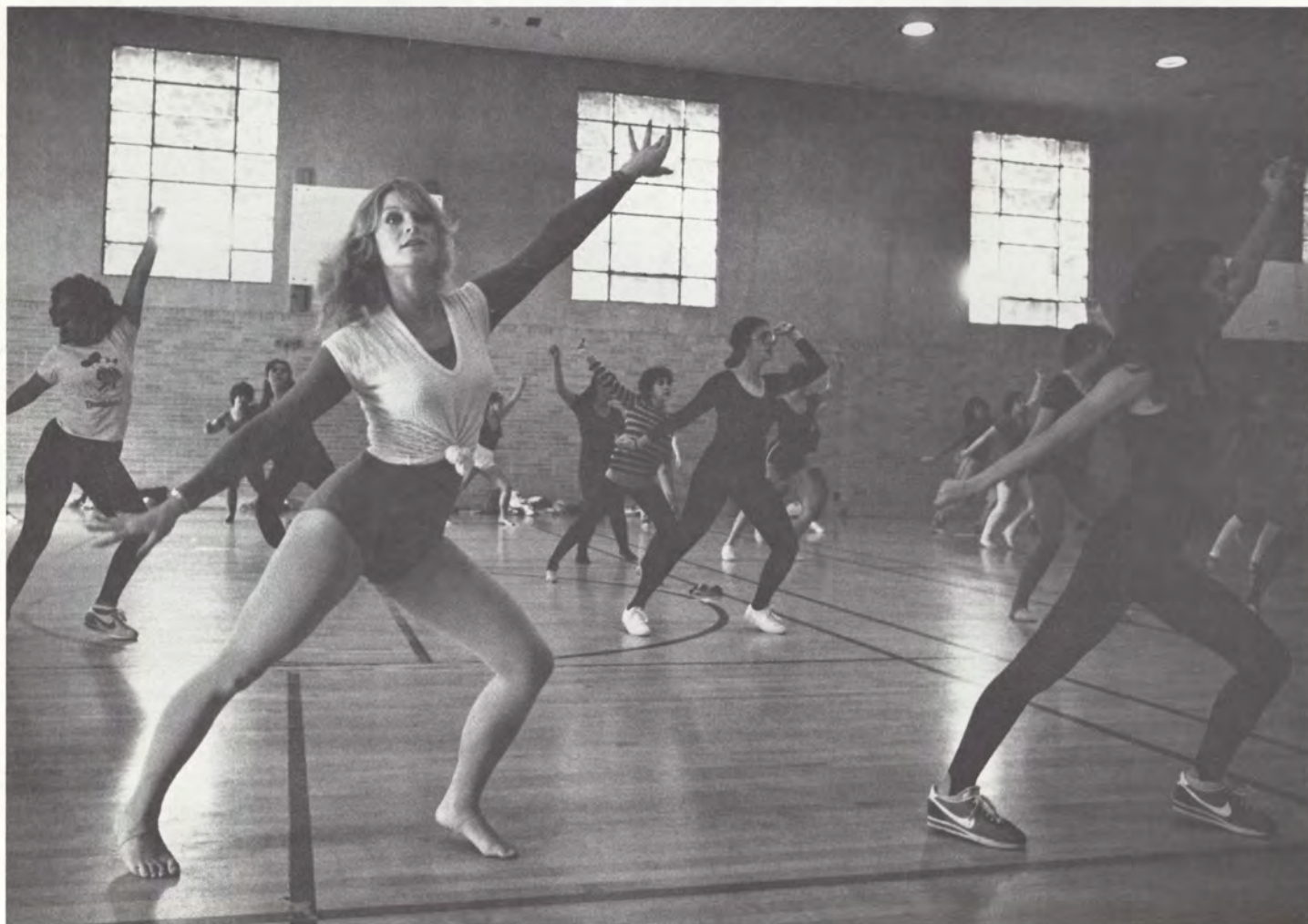
Friends who have predicted that the bouncy lady will change as a result of her title are just flat wrong, Krista counters.

The biggest change most people have noticed, she says, is that she has stopped wearing sweatsuits to class and has started wearing dresses.

She plans to take a reduced course load this year, slightly delaying her plans for a commercial art degree, a degree which is not offered at UTEP. "I will have to switch to another school to get my major, but doors may open on a different career" this year, she says.

And when will she finish school?

"I'm on the 12-year plan," she laughs. □





# SCHOLARS and HONORS

engineering major, is among UTEP's Top Ten Seniors graduating in May.)

I assured Mr. Chin that his son had made the right choice, we shook hands, and drifted apart.

**Gilbert Ball Chin** of Parkland High School is among the eleven high school seniors selected for the prestigious UTEP Presidential Scholarships, awarded for the first time in the Union Building ceremony on April 13.

The Presidential Scholars, their high schools and majors at UTEP are: **Richard P. Aguilar** (Cathedral), Mass Communication; **David E. Bell** (Hanks), Physics; **Gilbert Chin** (Parkland), Electrical Engineering; **Beth Ann Dupre** (Chaparral, New Mexico), Industrial Engineering; **Paul M. Gillespie** (Parkland), Metallurgical Engineering; **Brian R. Kessel** (Burgess), Computer Science; **Jose Antonio Nava** (Riverside), Mechanical Engineering; **Jose Ignacio Oaxaca** (Bowie), Electrical Engineering; **Cynthia Sue Peak** (Loretto Academy), Electrical Engineering; **Leah Ann Selke** (Andress), Nursing; and **Laura Kristen Walker** (Coronado), Pre-Medical.

These young scholars met the most stringent academic requirements of any scholarship program offered by the University. The overall grade point average of the eleven is 3.90 and each must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 at UTEP to remain eligible for the scholarship. The recipients came from the top 2% of their graduating classes and each had accumulated many honors in high school: National Merit Finalists, National Honor Society, "A" Honor Roll, Junior Achiever, Who's Who, Academic Letters, Student Council activities, Salute to Teenagers, and awards from Optimists, the DAR, Interscholastic League, Kiwanis.

The Presidential Scholarship award is \$1,500 per year, renewable for four years. For the eleven recipients, the University's commitment is \$66,000.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A hundred students, ages 12-18, will be attending the Summer Scholars In-

stitute for Academically Gifted Students, June 18-July 10 at UTEP. The institute is an outgrowth of the Junior Scholars Program which began last fall with 43 students and last spring, with 75 students, on campus. Six courses will be offered — Print Journalism, Broadcast Journalism, Theater, Desert Ecology, Microbiology, and Parasitology. The students enrolled meet the same standards as Junior Scholars, including scores on college entrance tests and high academic records. University credit can be earned from the summer courses.

Of the 100 openings, half are reserved for local students, the others offered elsewhere in Texas and in other states.

The institute participants will live in University residence halls and will take part in field trips and other special programs.

Dr. Janis Cavin is director of the Junior Scholars Program.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Rounding out its first year is the University's Honors Program in which students attending UTEP — or those entering as freshmen — who have met certain academic criteria (3.50 grade point average, upper 15% of high school class, etc.), are offered special honors courses each semester. The classes are generally limited to 20 students, emphasis is on discussion and participation, and more reading and writing than in typical courses. Students who complete Honors Program requirements are given special recognition at commencement and Honors Convocation, their transcripts and diplomas carry special notices.

Students from all six colleges of the University are taking part in the program and of the 150 students who entered the program last fall, 40% were freshmen. While the majority were younger students, some 35 in the group had been out of high school longer than five years.

Honors Programs are offered by the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Engineering, and the Departments of Chemistry and Psychology.

—Dale L. Walker

**A**fter the ceremony in the Conquistador Lounge, Mr. and Mrs. Ball Chin were having a cup of punch while waiting for their son to join them. Mr. Chin signaled to me and I walked over. He glanced at the name-tag stuck on my coat lapel and I glanced at his.

"Mr. Walker," he said with a wide smile, "this was such a beautiful thing that was done here, and President Monroe's speech was wonderful — didn't you think so?"

I said indeed I did think so and that all of us were very proud that Mr. Chin's son, Gilbert, had decided to enroll at UTEP.

"He had a hard time deciding," Mr. Chin told me. "He had many other offers and opportunities. We didn't want to influence him, but we were hoping he would choose UTEP. His brother is here, for one thing. We were very happy he made this choice."

(Gilbert's brother, Bennett, electrical





# Long Night at El Chichonal

by Molly Fennell

Jerry Hoffer has studied a lot of volcanoes, but the University of Texas at El Paso geology professor says he never has seen anything as frightening as Mexico's El Chichonal.

The volcano, which has erupted seven times since March 29, 1982, has killed at least 21 people, injured about 500 and left more than 60,000 homeless. Patrols spent weeks searching for 4,800 villagers missing on the smoking slopes of the volcano, about 400 miles southeast of Mexico City.

"It was pretty hairy. The ash was coming down so thick it was like midnight. We had to use the headlights

when we took ash samples," Hoffer says. "People were coming out of the blackness in trucks, cars, on mules, yet there were a lot of people going in to get their relatives to safety."

Hoffer, who left for nearby Villahermosa on April 2 with geology students Filiberto Gomez and Pete Muela, took about 150 photographs of the area until ash deposits clogged his camera.

"One of the biggest problems we had was with transportation," Hoffer recalls. The three took a plane from Juarez to Mexico City but the rest of their flight was canceled so they rented a car and drove the rest of the way: "We went right by the volcano when it blew up Saturday (April 3)."

At about 7 p.m. they noticed a huge black cloud but the UTEP professor thought it was only a rainstorm heading their way.

"One thing we were very excited about was getting ash before it had been rained on," he says. "The rain strips some of the chemicals off the ash. Little did we know that the big black cloud was of ashes, not a rain cloud. It wasn't

until we got into the hotel in Villahermosa that we found out the volcano had erupted again."

When he went to Mount St. Helens after its 1980 eruption, the ash fallout lasted between three and four days so collecting samples was easier and he could get close enough to take an airplane ride into the crater. But the series of eruptions from El Chichonal made the fallout continuous and the cloud was changing directions constantly. "It was getting darker and darker," he remembers. Ash seeped through the surgical masks he and his students were wearing.

"It scared me when it started getting real dark. It seemed like we were going into the darkness when everyone else was coming out. One morning, visibility was less than five feet. It was never bright; I don't think we saw the sun the whole time we were down there."

At one point the three were going to try to walk to the volcano from one of the villages that had been evacuated. Soldiers guarding the towns from looters advised them not to go.





the plaza at Pinchucalco, April 4, 1982; people standing in line to be evacuated by trucks.

Although Hoffer and his students were near the base of the volcano, the walk there through the ash would have taken about seven hours and, he adds, "If the ash cloud changed directions, we'd be dead from suffocation."



Hoffer

The samples he collected on his first trip have shown several differences between El Chichonal and Mount St. Helens.

Volcanoes contain a molten material called magma. When pressurized gases inside the volcano get too hot, the gas blows the magma apart. As the magma blows through the air, it solidifies and turns into little pieces of glass — ash.

The UTEP trio collected 55 ash samples, ranging in size from a few ounces to two or three pounds, from 30 locations around the volcano.

The Washington volcano belched forth only one kind of ash, but Hoffer's samples from El Chichonal show the ash

was changing. Fallout from more recent eruptions is stickier and darker in color than ash deposits from early eruptions.

"The stickier it is the more explosive it becomes," Hoffer explains, "because the gas inside can't get out. That's what is happening now inside El Chichonal."

Chemical differences in the ash indicate there still is activity underground at the Mexican site and Hoffer believes the eruptions will probably continue.

The ash samples also show that the magma escaping from the most recent eruptions came from deep within the volcano.

"It's like the volcano is going through a cycle," Hoffer says. "The ash is getting more and more sticky — like drops of molasses getting cooler and cooler. If it continues, the damage will be devastating."

Hoffer has only processed about one-third of the samples taken at this writing. He first checks for common elements in the ash, such as iron and silicon. "We find out if the material was the same, like that at Mount St. Helens, or if it's changing. At El Chichonal, it's changing and showing more silica content," he explains. "That means the material inside the volcano is more explosive."

Studying the ash deposits also will help Hoffer determine whether El Chi-

chonal is related to other volcanoes in the area. "In Mexico there are probably more active volcanoes than in any other country in North, South or Central America," he says. "The whole area down there is extremely active."

Hoffer got interested in volcanoes while in graduate school at the University of Iowa in 1958. He began studying the nature of volcanic activity for one of his geology professors. He continued the studies when he went to Washington state to work on his doctorate.

"I saw a volcano erupt in Iceland in about 1970. It wasn't as violent as the one down in Mexico," he remembers. "I was standing on what I thought was a pile of rocks looking into the volcano, when I felt like I was moving backward. It turns out I was standing on a lava flow that had cooled over. We were in close enough that most of the stuff just flowed around us."

Volcanoes in Hawaii erupt even more peacefully, he says. "You can just stand on the edge of a volcano in Hawaii. It is a very quiet eruption. The lava is about 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit when it comes out of the cone and crusts over pretty quickly. In a matter of minutes, you can walk on it."

Recently Hoffer has been studying the rift along the Rio Grande. About 13 million years ago, volcanoes began erupting along this trench and there are volcanoes in the Southwest still considered "active" such as the Valley of the Fires near Carrizozo, New Mexico, a group of volcanoes a few thousand years old.

Hoffer has been trying to map a volcanic area 50 miles west of El Paso too. "I've been working in that area for 12 years now," he says, "trying to map vol-

(Continued on page 17)

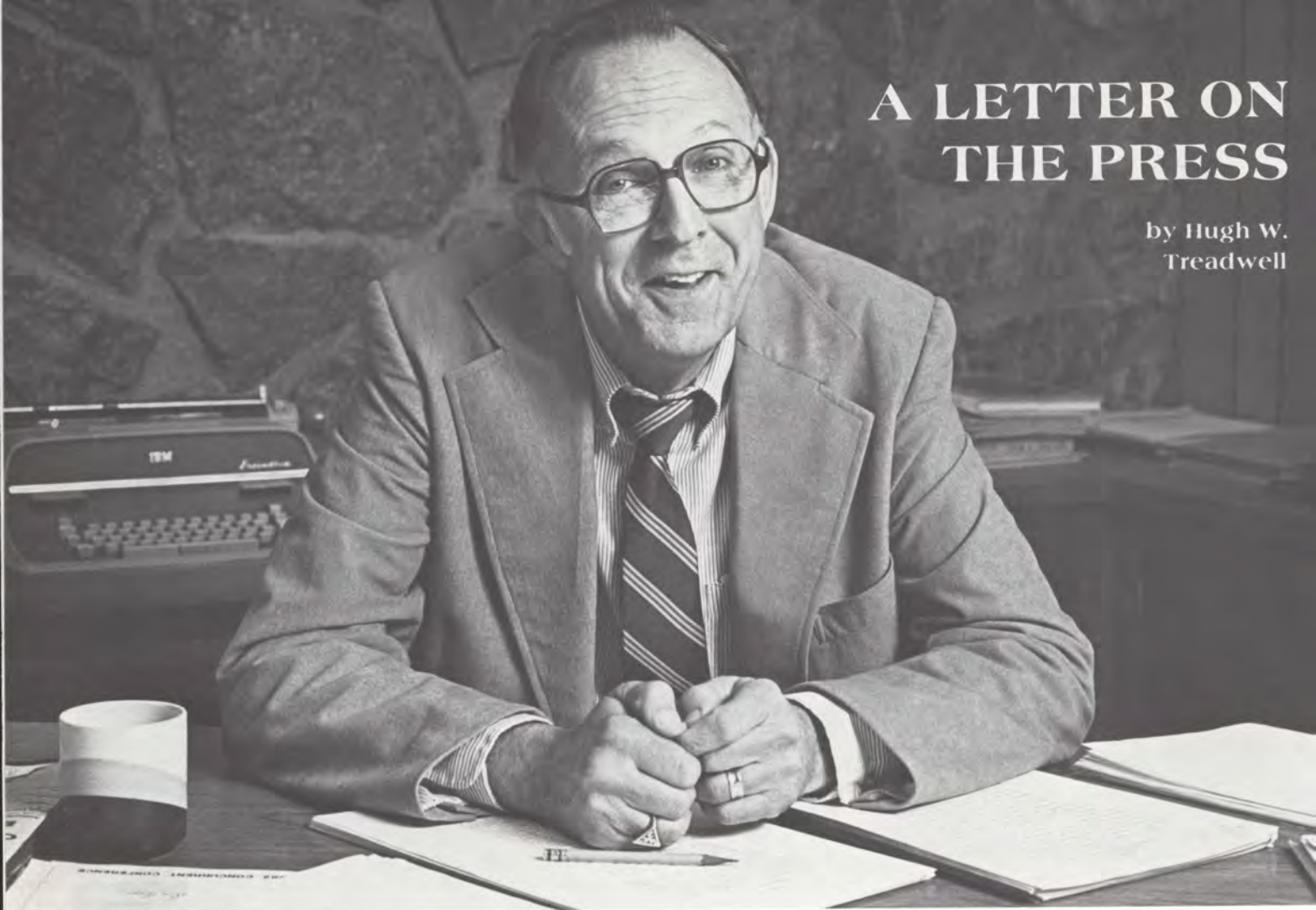


Filberto Gomez, left, and Jerry Hoffer, collect samples of ash in Pinchucalco. El Chichonal is 15 miles south of the town.



# A LETTER ON THE PRESS

by Hugh W. Treadwell



**D**ear Jean-Louis:  
I am sorry that our last state-side visit had to be by telephone. I wanted to get over to Tucson to see you, but just couldn't get away that weekend. We won't have any such problem this year, since you are planning to come to El Paso in July. You won't have to wait that long, though, to be brought up to date on my activities as the new director of the Texas Western Press. I'll take care of that right now.

As we all know, opportunities come in various guises and sizes. When I accepted the directorship of the Texas Western Press last summer, I knew that

there would be new opportunities and challenges for me here at the University of Texas at El Paso. At that time, I could only guess the size, shape and number of them, but I did look forward to my starting date with a mixture of anticipation and curiosity. Most of all, I wanted to find out how much of my previous experience I could turn to good account in this new situation.

One of the first things any new press director does is to study the backlist in an effort to become familiar with all the books published to date that are still in print. I approached this task with the hope that I would find some titles with good sales potential if translated and published in other countries — especially Latin America. I was not disappointed. There were five or six that looked promising, and I got copies off to Mexico's leading publishing house, the Fondo de Cultura Economica in Mexico City, offering them world rights in the Spanish language at current royalty rates. They responded quickly and favorably. Within several weeks a contract was signed in which the Fondo agreed to translate, publish and distribute throughout the Spanish-

speaking world a book written by a former citizen of the History Department here at UT El Paso, Dr. W. H. Timmons. Its title is *Morelos of Mexico*, a work dealing with one of the most important figures in 19th-century Mexican history.

The signing of our first contract with the Fondo de Cultura gave a boost to my spirits that will last a long time. A fine piece of historical writing was given its just due in Mexico, with the author, the Press and the University all sharing in the recognition involved in such an event. The Fondo has recently written of its intention to publish another one of our books in Spanish, *Higher Education in Mexico*, by T. Noel Osborn II. We expect this new relationship with the Fondo to be a mutually rewarding one and we hope to develop the same kind of contacts in Europe during the next few years. So tell your editor in Paris that we are looking his way, too.

You probably remember our discussion during your 1980 visit about our favorite Southwestern authors. As I recall, we were in complete agreement concerning the talent and abilities of T. R. Fehrenbach and Paul Horgan. I

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*Editor's Note:* When NOVA asked Hugh Treadwell, director of UTEP's Texas Western Press, for an account of recent developments at the Press, he was in the process of writing a long letter to a French author-friend, Jean-Louis Rieuepyrout, generally considered to be one of the leading writers in France on the American Southwest. Treadwell agreed to let us use his letter, slightly revised, letting it serve double duty as article and epistle.



know you will be glad to hear that the Press will publish a book by each of them later this year.

I had been after Fehrenbach for several years to do a brief book based on an article he wrote for *The Atlantic Monthly* in the mid 1970s titled *Seven Keys to Understanding Texas*. Last fall he agreed to write it and last week called to tell me that the manuscript would be in this month. It won't be nearly as long as his monumental histories of Texas and Mexico, but I expect it to attract as much attention. It should do a lot to dispel soap-opera images of the Lone Star State. I can assure you that it won't dwell on the antics of eccentric millionaires. It will be a book in which frequently overlooked historical perspectives will provide a clearer idea of what Texas is all about and how it came to be what it is.

Later this year the Press will reissue Paul Horgan's *Conquistadors in North American History* in a deluxe soft cover edition. As you know, I have long thought that one of the main responsibilities of a university press is to keep good books alive (i.e., in print) as well as publish significant new ones. This one was a "natural" for our list, and we were fortunate in being able to secure the reprint rights from Horgan's New York publisher. Horgan, who has twice won the Pulitzer Prize, has long been one of the Southwest's ablest and most sensitive interpreters. Works dealing with Hispanic influences in the history of the American Southwest remain popular, so it would appear that we really can't go wrong by adding *Conquistadors* to our list.

We will continue to publish the Southwestern Studies Series. To date we have published 66 of these little books, and they remain our chief claim to fame both regionally and nationally. They cover a wide range of subjects — from archaeology in New Mexico to prohibition in Texas — and provide publishing opportunities for authors of works that are too long for journal articles but too short to make a regular book. I believe we can increase interest in this series by publishing a greater percentage of works that deal with the 20th century, especially our part of the 20th century, and that is the direction we are moving in. We ought to add some titles in women's studies, for instance. Several subjects come to mind: Texas Women in Politics and the Professions, Chicanas of the Southwest, Women Artists and Writers of the Southwest, Texas Women on the Frontier. And we certainly ought

to add something on the Border Industrialization Program and the *maquiladora* (twin plant) operations that have become so prominent here in the El Paso-Juarez area.

The Press will, of course, continue to publish in its established areas of interest, but we do intend to expand into other fields as our staff size and financial resources increase. Thus far the mainstays of our list have been historical works about Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Mexico and the United States-Mexican Border. We have also published selected studies in the social, physical and life sciences. We hope to be able to do more in the sciences and also get into some new areas such as business administration and economics. There may also be opportunities for us in fields such as art, communications and environmental studies.

In your last letter you asked about our decision-making machinery. We operate in pretty much the same way as most of the other American university presses do. Everything that is published by the Press must be approved by a majority vote of our nine-member faculty editorial board one-third of whose membership rotates every year. You may think it a bit odd that I am not a member of this board, nor do I cast a vote. This is, however, a fairly standard arrangement among our Stateside university presses, and, in my opinion, it is a good one. The combination of a rotating faculty board and a non-voting press director provides a valuable cross-sectional sampling of faulty opinion when needed and it keeps press directors from imposing too many of their own personal likes and dislikes in the building of the list. All of us are better acquainted with certain disciplines than we are with others. As a result, we might tend to favor those we know more about. In any case, we sometimes need to be protected from the consequences of our own private enthusiasms. (Universities probably feel that they need that kind of protection, too.)

Texas Western Press celebrates its 30th birthday this year. Our first book, published in 1952, was Francis Fugate's *The Spanish Heritage of the Southwest*. Since that time, many interesting and significant works have appeared thanks to the dedication and determination of various authors, editors and board members whose efforts kept the Press moving forward in difficult as well as happy times. It is impossible to give all of them their just due here or elsewhere, but I do feel obliged to call your atten-

tion to several, even though you have not met them. These are Carl Hertzog, S. D. Myres, E. H. Antone and C. L. Sonnichsen — and that fabulous artist and illustrator Jose Cisneros some of whose work you have seen. I hope you can meet all of these men when you visit us this summer. They are your kind of people, believe me!

I feel that the decade of the 80s is going to be a good one for the Press, the University and the El Paso area in general. We have the good fortune to live in a region that is unique — a composite of the fourth largest city in Texas and the fourth largest city in Mexico. Our location alone provides us with an unusual opportunity to improve relations with our Mexican neighbors and at the same time gain a better understanding of our own fellow citizens of Hispanic origin. I believe the Press ought to participate in this endeavor and that it can, through its publications, make a significant contribution toward achieving that goal.

There will be opportunities of various kinds during the 80s. Some of these will be predictable; some will occur unforeseen. In either case, we must be quick to recognize them when they appear and to take advantage of them in such a way as to bring credit to the University and to the state which supports it.

I trust that my letter will find you in the best of health and spirits and that you are enjoying a pleasant spring in La Rochelle. I am looking forward to seeing you again and to doing what I can to facilitate the research on your new historical novel about Cynthia Ann Parker. Meanwhile I send you and your family — and our mutual friends — my very best.

As ever,  
Hugh

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A Southwesterner "by birth and inclination," Hugh Treadwell became director of Texas Western Press last September.

He has held managerial and editorial positions in New York with Random House-Knopf and Holt, Rinehart & Winston and for seven years prior to coming to UTEP, was director of the University of New Mexico Press.

Treadwell received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Oklahoma where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year. He also holds the Diploma of French Studies from the University of Poitiers, and has taught French at the university level.



# COMING HOME TO MUSIC

by  
Nancy  
Hamilton

As a cellist in orchestras for Broadway musicals and Carnegie Hall concerts, Gabriel Morales looks to his El Paso years as the basis for an enjoyable career.

"Other cities don't offer what you can get here for free," the 1961 UTEP graduate advised music students during a panel discussion in the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall this spring.

"I remember when I rented a decent instrument from the El Paso Public Schools for three dollars a semester and had free instruction from a fine teacher in grade school," he recalled. "I doubt that I would have even learned to play an instrument without that opportunity."

He was one of six former El Pasoans whose musical careers have taken them all over the world, reunited for a homecoming concert with the El Paso Symphony Orchestra. They were invited to the campus by Music Professor Abraham Chavez, who is also the musical director of the orchestra.

Robert Stevenson, senior member of the group, was graduated from the College of Mines in 1936, before it offered music courses. He was named Outstanding Ex-Student in recognition of his achievements as a musicologist, pianist,

composer and professor of music at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Others on the panel were Henry Cobos, who attended UTEP in the 1940s and 1950s, now chairman of the music department at East Los Angeles College; Claude Kenneson, who was at UTEP in the 1950s, now a music professor at the University of Alberta, Canada; Richard Killmer, principal oboist for the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and scheduled to join the faculty of the Eastman School of Music; and Laurence Shapiro, formerly with the New York Philharmonic and now associate professor of violin at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.

Asked by Chavez about their beginnings in music in El Paso, the panelists uniformly praised the quality of teaching and community support they had experienced:

Morales: "There is an unusual situation in the public schools here, with tremendous support for music all the way down in the lower grades. Children can have tremendous access to music at almost no cost. And in all my travels it is rare to run across an inspiring man like Abraham Chavez."

Stevenson: "The public schools here always hired teachers of the highest idealism. I remember Virginia Link, L.A. Kirchner and many others. The private teachers shared in that idealism. Abbie Margaret Durkee saw that the college library had wonderful literature and recordings available to students, and Maud Sullivan bought important scores for the El Paso Public Library."

Shapiro: "The musical resources of this city are extraordinary. World class teachers were drawn to this community, remained and spawned other musicians. So far removed from other cities, this one must nurture and sustain itself. The wonderful support systems of the public schools here are important. I lived in a community where the public schools discontinued their string programs and after a few years they were no longer producing string players for the community. Be grateful you have them here. We gained inspiration from our teachers and our orchestral aspirations through the Youth Symphony, the college orchestra and the El Paso Symphony, where I began to play when I was 10 years old. Those evening rehearsals in my childhood were magic for me."

Kilmer: "We didn't know at the time what we had. The intensity of our musical experience was far greater than that of people I met at music schools. We could play chamber music in homes and had the opportunity at an early age to play in a professional orchestra. There's not another place like it."

Kenneson: "I had a very unusual education as a child in El Paso. In this room are people who taught me that music was of the humanities through literature, theater and singing. I was taught piano as a child, sang in a choir, played chamber music as a cellist. What I know is very firmly based in this city and the people who allowed me to develop in my own way, rather than manipulating my development."

Cobos: "I had the good fortune of studying with Claude Herndon and was

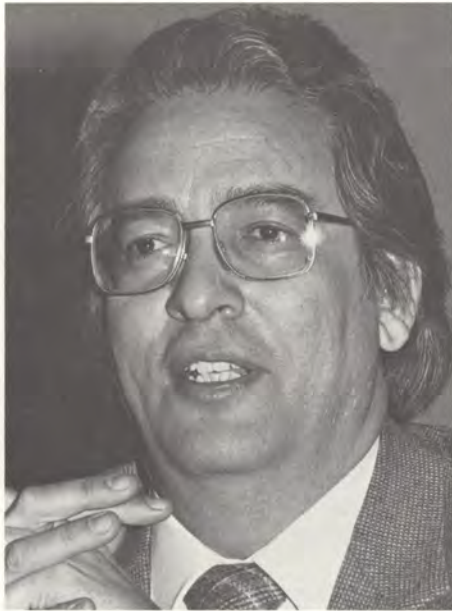


Abraham Chavez, right, professor of music and conductor of the El Paso Symphony Orchestra, welcomed Henry Cobos, pianist and ex-student, as he returned to the campus for a panel discussion on music. The panel guests also were featured in concerts with the El Paso Symphony Orchestra.



not aware at the time of his magnitude. He emphasized the importance of a general academic background. On his advice, I attended this University before moving on to specialize in music at Eastman. Now as an administrator in my college, I can handle things that this background prepared me for. The teachers of mathematics, science and other subjects here in El Paso also share in my own success, since they prepared me for it."

Chavez then asked them to describe their own definitions of music and their contributions to the field. Some responses:



*Gabriel Morales, Cellist*

Kenneson: "My main contribution is teaching children. My main definition is sharing."

Morales: "My contribution is that people seem to like what I do. In the New York City union directory, there are 12 pages of cellists. When I am invited to perform, I feel that my voice is worth listening to. Although I enjoy performing, I am sad not to be teaching any more."

Shapiro: "Music is my vehicle for touching the lives of other people. It is the same phenomenon whether playing a performance or working with students. You learn by teaching, enriching your own role as performer. I never want to give up either one."

Richard Henderson, chairman of the Music Department, also took part in the panel discussion. He joked that he had invited Killmer to stay in his home so he could "take a music lesson from him."

The Symphony's homecoming concert, performed twice, featured one of Stevenson's compositions, *La Frontera*



*Former El Pasoans Larry Shapiro, violinist; Richard Killmer, oboist; and Claude Kenneson, cellist, who now teach at universities in Wisconsin, New York and Canada, took part in the discussion of El Paso music at UTEP's Music Department.*

*Suite. Cobos, El Pasoan Michael Goldman, and Kenneson performed Beethoven's Triple Concerto for Piano, Violin and Cello. The Bach Double Concerto for Violin and Oboe was performed by Shapiro and Killmer, and Morales was featured in the Saint-Saens Concerto for Cello. The program was broadcast later on KTEP-FM, the University's public radio station.*

An added bonus for El Pasoans was an afternoon concert by Stevenson, who during his periodic visits usually arranges for a program at the UTEP Music Department. This time, to his surprise, he became the first performer on the department's newly-acquired Bosendorfer Imperial Grand piano,



*Robert Stevenson, Composer-Pianist*

handcrafted in Vienna by Kimball International. The largest sized grand piano currently being manufactured, it measures 9 feet 6 inches and has 97 keys. A faculty member who had been scheduled to introduce the piano became ill, thus the opportunity was given to Stevenson.

Summing up their experiences in returning here, Shapiro observed: "The city has changed dramatically in growth during the 20 years I have been away. My friends have changed, too. But what has not changed, and what is most precious to me, is the fantasy of this unique, beautiful confluence of desert-mountain-river, of cultures coming together. I feel the lack of it keenly everywhere else I travel." □



*Richard Henderson  
Music Department Chairman*



# FINDING WORK

## The Liberal Arts in the Job Market

**C**an a starry-eyed Liberal Arts graduate find happiness and success in the business world?

Yes, but it's not easy.

That was the message at a symposium offered by the College of Liberal Arts this spring to inform students and faculty advisers about the job market outlook ("challenging") and ways of beating the odds against finding employment.

The main bearer of the message was a 1978 UTEP graduate, Robert Molder, who now heads Rice University's Joint Venture Program for Business and Humanities. That program, funded by an Andrew Mellon Foundation grant, is designed for the training and placement of humanities graduates who seek careers in business.

Last year, said Molder, 33% of new college graduates nationwide were from Liberal Arts, but they received only 4% of the job offers. Teaching, government service and law no longer offer the career opportunities they once did to the holder of a Liberal Arts degree.

He told students and advisers that these are some of the realities of the job market that Liberal Arts graduates face:

1—Chief executive officers of big companies often say they need more humanists and generalists in their companies. They, however, do not do the hiring; the department managers who do are looking for people to fill well defined jobs and to become cost productive immediately.

2—More career positions require technical expertise than in past years. Some understanding of computer science, for example, can be of great value.

3—Employers look favorably on a broad educational background. While the UTEP Liberal Arts requirements provide this type of broad background, many universities offer too narrow a field of study in Liberal Arts to satisfy many employers.

Emphasizing that a liberal education is "the best preparation for anything in life," Molder advised students to think ahead to careers by earning the Liberal

Arts degree from a good college, working for two years, then returning for a Master of Business Administration degree.

While demand for MBA holders is currently on the decline, continued Molder, within about five years it is expected to move up again. "The MBA" he added, "is expected to become a valuable credential in the business world."

Among courses he recommended for liberal education were mathematics including calculus, natural sciences, philosophy, history, political science, English, speech communication, economics, foreign languages, and accounting. "One of the best things for a resume is skill in foreign language, but a degree in that field is the worst for finding a job," he added.

An accounting course on a transcript tells the potential employer that a student has some understanding of business, Molder continued. Another "plus" is work experience during the summer, even if it does not pay well. Internship programs are also valuable for students seeking job experience.

"For Liberal Arts graduates," he stressed, "the problem is getting your foot in the door to get started in a career. After Liberal Arts majors have been out of school for eight or 10 years, their career experiences tend to be just as satisfactory as those of people with more specialized backgrounds."

He advised aggressive efforts by students to seek out job interviews, and persistence in the face of many turn-downs.

Joe Toro of Tucson, corporate college recruiter for IBM, and Greg Upp of Dallas, district staff manager-recruiting (Texas) for Southwestern Bell, joined Molder with advice for successful interviews. These were their suggestions:

1—Find out about the company you are interviewing for. The University Placement Office should have the information you need.

2—Have your resume on file in the Placement Office. That is where recruiters look for leads on potential employees.

3—Before the interview, assess your strengths and weaknesses, then point out the strengths to the interviewer.

4—Have in mind some idea of the kind of work you would like to do (but don't be *too* specific).

5—Decide before the interview what parts of the country you would be willing to move to if the job offer involves relocating.

6—Interview as often as you can find the opportunity. Every company does it differently, and the interview could be the most important 20 minutes of your life.

7—If you are interested in a particular company, learn where the local or regional office is. Send a resume and ask for an interview.

The symposium was arranged by Briane Carter, director of University Placement Services, and J. Henry Tucker, director of speech-communication, under a Faculty Development grant. Participants were welcomed by Liberal Arts Dean Diana Natalicio. □



Robert Molder, Joe Toro and Gregg Upp (from left) tell UTEP students about career opportunities for Liberal Arts graduates.



# Alumnotes

by Sue Wimberly

## 1920-1949

**George A. Dunaway** (B.S. '31), semi-retired from mining engineering, lives in Cushing, Oklahoma, where he is associated in business with his two youngest sons.

**Charlotte Foster Hansen** (B.A. '33; M.Ed. '65) is retired from teaching in El Paso.

**Jonathan Lancaster** (B.A. '39), who retired in April from Denoyer Geppert Company in Houston, and his wife, the former Judith Pickle, who retired from teaching in May, plan to make Austin their home.

**W.F. Rike Jr.** (B.B.A. '41) lives in El Paso.

**Thelma L. Davis** (B.S. '46; M.Ed. '53) has retired in Big Spring, Texas, after a teaching career of 41 years.

**Frances Barton Springer** (B.A. '49; M.A. '50) lives in Albuquerque and assists in her husband's general contracting firm. Their daughter, Patricia, is hostess for "P.M. Magazine," television show, in Wichita, Kansas.

## 1950-1959

**Vic Clark** (B.A. '50; M.A. '51), retiring athletic director of the Ysleta Independent School District, was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Guadalupe Rodriguez** (B.B.A. '51), a teacher for the past 26 years, makes her home in El Paso.

**Mary Ann Porcher** (B.A. '52), who completed her doctorate at New York University in 1981 and served as assistant director of a day care training program, is on the faculty of City College of New York, College for Human Services. She is co-author of *The Play Group Book*.

**Elizabeth A. Fitch** (B.S. '52), who retired in 1974 after 22 years of teaching in the Ysleta Independent School District, is living in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

**Alfonso Oretga**, (B.S. '53), of El Paso, retired in 1979 after 26 years of teaching.

**Clinton Conger Ballard Jr.** (B.A. '53), prolific songwriter known professionally as Clint Ballard, has written the score for a country western musical, "The Red Bluegrass Western Flyer Show," which was presented off-Broadway and played a two-month engagement at Houston's Alley Theater. Recordings of his songs have passed the 29 million mark.

**Eduardo Crespo-Krauss** (B.S. '54; M.S. '69), president-elect of the Texas Society of Engineers, El Paso Chapter, owns and manages Perlite Industries.

**Estill F. Allen Jr.** (M.A. '55), of Early, Texas, is a retired Methodist minister.

**Betty Cruzan** (M.Ed. '56) has completed her 31st year of teaching at Jefferson High School, El Paso.

**Lora McElligott** (B.A. '58) is a teacher and varsity volleyball coach at Coronado High School, El Paso; her husband Tom McElligott, is production manager for Baltimore Spice Company.

**Rita Salazar Divis** (B.A. '58) is owner/manager of Aladdin World Travel, El Paso.

**Tom Trumbull** (B.B.A. '59) and his wife, Jeanne Trumbull, live in Kalispell, Montana.

## 1960-1965

**Norma Jean Hurst** (B.S. '60; M.Ed. '69), a first grade teacher in El Paso, is serving as South Central Regional vice president for Alpha Delta Kappa, International Honorary Sorority for Women Educators.

**Wayne M. Ahr** (B.S. '60), associate professor of geology at Texas A&M, presented two invited papers at the International Symposium on the Paleoenvironmental Setting and Distribution of the Waulsortian Facies sponsored in March by UT El Paso and the El Paso Geological Society. In a letter to UTEP President Haskell Monroe, he called the conference "one of the most intellectually stimulating, exciting, and profitable meetings that I have been to in many years. Dr. Dave LeMone (Geological Sciences) did an excellent job of coordinating the affair. The opportunity to climb into the Sacramento Mountains and study these enigmatic Mississippian reefs with some of the world's authorities was a tremendous opportunity." He found the campus improvements impressive since he left in 1960. (Waulsortian Facies are carboniferous mounds, named after a Belgian site, which occur in the Sacramento Mountains of New Mexico, France, North Africa, Ireland, England, Canada, and several states in the U.S.)

**Henry Zuniga** (B.A. '60) was recently named deputy special assistant to President Reagan for public liaison with Hispanics. A graduate of the University of New Mexico Law School, he served as regional director of the Minority Business Enterprises of the U.S. Department of Commerce in Dallas, and during the Reagan campaign as field director of the Hispanic Voter Group. After the election he was appointed as presidential transition team leader, and became vice president of Market Growth Inc., a market research firm specializing in Hispanic affairs and government procurement.

**Tom W. Barnett Jr.** (1961 etc.), who was a fixed wing pilot in the U.S. Army and served in Vietnam, is currently a customs inspector at the international bridges in El Paso. His wife, **Kaye Volking Barnett** (B.A. '65; M.Ed. '71) is an elementary school teacher with the Ysleta District.

**Juan M. Fresquez** (B.S. '61), of Dallas, is an engineering manager of electronic systems design and development.

**Leonard O. Genson** (B.S. '62) is a reliability component engineer on the Space Shuttle, Space Transportation and System Group, Rockwell, in Downey, California.

**Robert Navarro** (B.S. '62), president of Navarro and Associates, was named Engineer of the Year by the El Paso chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

**Michael M. Salzman** (B.M. '64), of Kurland-Salzman Music Company, El Paso, worked closely with UTEP's Music Department in placing their new Imperial Bosendorfer Grand piano in the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall. Handcrafted in Vienna by Kimball International, the 9-foot 6-inch piano is valued at \$60,000. The purchase was funded by the Music Department, a prominent foundation and a gift from the Southwest Pianists.

**Ann Reznikov Stargardter** (B.A. '65) is a consumer consultant in Sacramento, California. She has formed her own company handling customer

complaints, a process which she custom designs for each of her client firms.

**Pedro Lujan** (B.A. '65) recently exhibited his art at the Horgan Gallery, Roswell, New Mexico, where he is sculptor-in-residence. He studied at the San Francisco Art Institute, earned a Master's degree from Goddard College in Vermont, and has lived and worked in New York City for several years.

**Bobby Dibler** (B.A. '65) of El Paso was one of three referees officiating at the NCAA basketball championship game between Georgetown and North Carolina in New Orleans.

**Janet Schneider** (B.S. '65), who received her Master's in corrections in 1980 from Central Missouri State University, is housing unit manager at Missouri Eastern Correctional Center in Pacific, Missouri.

## 1966-1969

**William T. Worthington** (B.S. '66) has been appointed chief geologist of the mining division of Sharonsteel. He resides in Salt Lake City.

**Walter R. Johnsen** (B.A. '66), Alexandria, Virginia, is Washington regional manager for Informatics, Inc. He was formerly director for information systems for the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

**Bob Beamon** (1967 etc.), who holds the world long-jump record of 29 feet 2½ inches from the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, has accepted a position with the Metro-Dade Parks and Recreation Department, Miami.

**Aurelio Ray Barron** (B.B.A. '67) has been named a Life Millionaire for 1981 by Allstate Life Insurance Company in Texas. He will be honored at a national meeting of life sales leaders in the Bahamas this fall.

**Douglas B. Manigold** (B.S. '67), of Denver, who is with the U.S. Geological Survey, has transferred from the Arvada office to the Lakewood subdistrict office of the water resources division.

**Dorothy Rowland** (B.S. '67), a teacher with the El Paso Independent School District for 15 years, has joined the Socorro Independent School District as mathematics supervisor.

**Roger G. Dickson** (B.S. '68) has been appointed general sales manager, Western Region, Celanese Chemical Company, Inc., and will manage sales districts from the Midwest to the West Coast. He has held technical, sales, marketing and business positions with Celanese since 1969.

**Wilber E. Sanford** (B.S. '68), editor of *Air Defense* magazine for nearly 14 years, retired on Dec. 31, 1981, and resides in El Paso. Under his editorship the magazine, established in 1968, grew into one of the most prestigious of Army publications.

**Tony Sena** (B.A. '69) has joined the London Fog Rainwear and Outerwear Division of Londontown Corporation, based in south Texas.

## 1970-1975

**Sherri C. Petersen** (B.S. '70), an environmental geologist at Fishlake National Forest, Richfield, Utah, has accepted a position as



# Deaths



Neill

**Weldon C. Neill**, 56, dean of the UT El Paso College of Business Administration, May 19.

Dean Neill, who had announced his retirement from the deanship to be effective in August, planned to return to full-time teaching and research. "My true ambition all along," he said, "was to be an economist on the faculty of a fine

university. I wish to return to that primary commitment."

He joined the UT El Paso faculty in 1966 after teaching at UT Austin and serving as a research economist with the Federal Reserve Bank in Dallas. He received his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from UT Austin.

In his five eventful years as dean, Dr. Neill took an active role in implementing new programs for his College — such as those in commercial banking, the computer science business option, international business, master of accountancy, and management information systems — and in establishing stronger ties between the University, College of Business and the El Paso community.

During his tenure, the faculty of his College increased markedly and he participated in the planning of the \$6.2 million business administration complex, due to open this fall.

A "shirtsleeves" dean, Dr. Neill was always accessible, wry-humored and down-to-earth. He was conscientiously inconspicuous but well-known and universally well-liked, nevertheless.

He is survived by his wife, Maxine, of the UT El Paso Athletics Department staff. □

**Margaret Dawson Smith** (1940 etc.), in Houston, November 12, 1981, of cancer. A member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, she was co-founder with her husband, Sammy A. Smith, of SAS Development Company and Kimberly House Apartments in Alvin, Texas. Survivors are her husband and three sons, Sammy Jay Smith, Rodney D. Smith (B.B.A. '73) and Kimberly M. Smith.

**Burney Dale Meek** (1971 etc.), a photographer for KOA-TV, Denver, December 7, 1981. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Meek, and a brother, Fred, of El Paso.

**Sister May Visitation Bibby** (B.S. '57), a member of the Order of Our Lady of Charity Convent, December 16, 1981, in El Paso.

**Linda Kazin Brown** (1952 etc.), in El Paso, January 12. She had been associated with her father, K.K. Kazin, in the Fine Arts Studio, and was active in local drama and radio. Survivors are her parents, a son, Rolf Kazin Brown, and a sister.

**Winnie Davis Bailey** (B.S. '52), February 12. A long-time El Paso resident, she was a retired school teacher. Survivors are several nieces and nephews.

**Naomi Jameson** (B.S. '40; M.Ed. '42), February 25. She was a teacher in the El Paso Independent School District for 40 years, serving as principal of Rusk Elementary School for the last 15 years of her career. She is survived by two sons.

**Don Self Jr.** (B.S. '53), of Cocoa Beach, Florida, March 16. He is survived by his wife, Carol Self, two sons and a daughter.

**Alicia Lerma Madrid** (B.A. '77), a service representative for the El Paso Social Security office. Survivors include her husband, Frank Madrid, her parents and several sisters.

**Andrew Delaney Jones**, chairman of the Department of Civil Engineering, March 20. A professional engineer with the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation for 19 years, he was district construction engineer in El Paso from 1965 until 1970. He completed a doctorate in transportation and urban engineering at Purdue University in 1972, and was head of the Department of Civil Engineering at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, from 1972-1979, when he joined UTEP. Active in community affairs, he served on the Interim Transit Board appointed by the mayor to study the need for a city transit authority. He was a member of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers and Institute of Transportation Engineers. Survivors are his wife, Norene Jones, a daughter, Kathy, and a son Randal, his mother and one grandson. A memorial scholarship fund in his name has been established through the UTEP Development Office.

**Karl W. Klement**, chairman of the Department of Geological Sciences 1973-1977, March 20, in El Paso. He was a resident of Midland, Texas, where he was consulting geologist for Baker Fine Geological Services, Inc., and adjunct professor of Geology at UT Permian Basin. Born in Czechoslovakia, he was a graduate of the universities of Wurzburg and Tübingen, and completed his post-doctoral research at Scripps Institute of Oceanography, La Jolla, California. He was an internationally recognized authority in carbonate petrography and petrology, particularly in the fields of microfacies analysis, fossil algae and microplankton. He is survived by his wife, Naurene Klement, and two daughters, Tamara and Corinna Klement.

**Rudolph Sanchez** (1951 etc.), March 23, in El Paso. A school teacher for more than 30 years, he participated in a developmental lab in Austin that produced a math textbook for elementary teachers, and worked on student teacher manual revisions and evaluated social studies textbooks for the state at UTEP. Survivors include his wife, Angela Sanchez, and nine children.

**Paul R. Jackson** (1943 etc.), president of Jackson-Lewis Insurance Company and a board member of the Citizens Bank of Albuquerque, March 27. He is survived by his wife, Erna Jackson, a son, Steven, and his mother of El Paso.

**Jack H. Meadows**, professor emeritus of educational administration, March 31, in El Paso. He received his B.S. and M.A. degrees at Sam Houston State College and Ph.D. from Texas Tech. He taught and was superintendent in both Vanderbilt and Port Lavaca, Texas, schools, and after service in the Navy during World War II, returned to El Paso where he taught at Burleson School, then served as principal at Dudley and Mesita. Completing his Ph.D. at Lubbock, he joined the education faculty of then Texas Western College in 1954. He became the first person to serve as director of the Student Loan Program, was coordinator of teacher education, assistant dean of education and secretary to the Campus Planning and Building Committee during the period leading to construction of the Education Building. He retired in 1973.

**Phillip C. Holt** and **Sam J.H. Marchioni**, senior and junior mechanical engineering students respectively, April 1, in an automobile accident near Belen, New Mexico, while en route to Albuquerque to attend a meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Both men were honor students. Holt is survived by his wife, Terri Holt, his parents, two sisters and a brother. Marchioni's survivors are his parents, three brothers and a sister.

**Lewis Burton Cummings** (M.A. '67), who had served as an academic dean at Radford School, El Paso, and as a teacher at Gadsden High School, Anthony, April 7, in El Paso.

**Ben D. Roberts** (B.S. '36), metallurgical consultant and a former manager of Asarco, April 15. During his career he served as assistant manager of the Southwestern Smelting Department at Asarco and in the company's ore buying office in New York. Survivors are his wife, Hallie Roberts, El Paso, a son, Ben D. Roberts Jr. of San Jose, and a daughter, Carol Harlackner of El Paso.

**Anne Hubbard King** (B.B.A. '48), April 16, at Brooke Army Hospital, San Antonio. She was also a graduate of the Oklahoma State University where she completed her B.S. in accounting in 1956. She is survived by her husband, Samuel R. King (B.S. '50) of El Paso, one son and daughter.

## Alumnotes...Continued

engineering geologist with the Bureau of Reclamation, Bonneville Construction Office, Provo.

**Kenneth J. Johnson** (B.S. '70) has been appointed manager of systems engineering at Photon Power, Inc., El Paso. He was formerly acting manager of the project engineering department of Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

**John L. Wilson** (B.B.A. '70) is a tax auditor for the Texas Employment Commission in El Paso; his wife, Ellen Wilson (B.S. '71) is a fifth grade teacher at Sageland Elementary School.

**Oscar Amparan** (B.A. '71) has been appointed executive director for Sierra Medical Center, El Paso. He had been employed as a regional director for Hospital Corporation of America in Dallas.

**Ralph L. Klenik Jr.** (B.S. '71) is a project engineer with Union Carbide. His home is in Victoria, Texas.

**Donna Thomason Johnson** (B.S. '73), librarian at Magoffin Intermediate School, El Paso, and **Efren Yturralde** (B.S. '70), a teacher of English as a second language at Houston Elementary School, El Paso, have been awarded summer college study scholarships for 1982 by the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers.

**Robert Getz** (M.Ed. '73), vicar general of the Roman Catholic Diocese of El Paso, has been named pastor of a new parish in northeast El Paso. He was ordained in El Paso in 1961 and has served in various pastorates in West Texas and New Mexico. He is past president of the Priest Senate of the Diocese and Ministerial Association, was director of the Diocesan Social Action Office, chairman of the Communications Commission and executive priest of the Marriage Encounter Movement.

**Ernest L. Ingle** (B.S. '74) is an engineer in the Distribution Services Planning Center, Southwestern Bell, El Paso.

**Mark Klespis** (B.S. '74; M.S. '77), who has



taught mathematics at Anthony High School for the past three years, plans to enroll at UT Austin this fall to work on his Ph.D. in mathematics education.

**Gerard M. Walsh**, Capt./USA, (B.A. '74) and **Robert D. Shaw**, Capt./USA, (B.S. '79) have completed the adjutant general officer basic course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

**Edna Mae Walker** (B.S. '75) is a bilingual kindergarten teacher with the Socorro Independent School District.

**Dwain Johnson** (B.S. '75), a sergeant with the El Paso Police Department, was presented the Conquistador Award by the City of El Paso for his work in organizing and leading the highly successful Crime Stoppers program. He is a supervisor in the Crimes Against Persons Division.

**Betty Stage Sickafoose** (B.S. '75) is a teacher at Bassett School in El Paso.

**Eugene Semko** (B.S. '75) is a partner in the El Paso legal firm of Schwartz, Earp, McClure, Cohen & Stewart.

## 1976-1981

**Marcie Keller** (B.A. '76) was the subject of a recent feature in the El Paso *Herald Post*. Blind since birth, Marcie, who is certified to teach English and psychology and is a talented musician, is active in El Paso Pro-Musica and the El Paso Oratorio Society. Because she can't read Braille music, memorizing her part can be a tedious process. But, she says, "People tell me that once I get my music read, I know it better than most people in the choir."

**Duc Vinh** (B.A. '76), a cost accountant in Washington, D.C., has passed the CPA examination and is attending George Washington University, working toward his Master's in business administration.

**Shirley Devine** (B.A. '77) has joined the staff of KCOS-TV, El Paso's PBS affiliate, as promotion director.

**Charles R. Williamson**, Capt./USA, (B.S. '77) has been assigned to the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute at Bethesda, Maryland. He will serve as the operations supervisor of a "TRIGA" nuclear reactor, and will be engaged in research, testing, evaluation and development of nuclear systems. He received a Master's in nuclear engineering from the University of New Mexico in 1979.

**Timothy J. Hourigan**, Capt./USA, (B.A. '77), who completed advanced courses at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey, and Denver, is on a three-year assignment in Hawaii. He and his wife, Donna Hourigan, are parents of two sons.

**Michael C. Richards** (M.S. '77) has been named an associate of Camp Dresser & McKee Inc., a Boston consulting firm. He is a senior project manager in the Environmental Planning and Sciences Division, and resides in Arvada, Colorado.

**Robert C. Osborne Jr.** (B.A. '77) received his Doctor of Medicine degree in June 1981 from Baylor College of Medicine, Houston. He has entered residency in radiology at the Baylor College of Medicine affiliated hospitals. His brother, **Joseph M. Osborne** (B.B.A. '78), who graduated in May, 1981 from Texas Tech University School of Law, has entered practice with the legal firm of Shank, Irwin, Conant, Williamson and Grevelle in Dallas.

**J.A. Torres II** (B.A. '78) is an auditor for the Wichita Falls & Dallas Branch of American Interbank Corporation.

**Kenneth E. Raab** (B.B.A. '78) has been named

vice president and controller of Montwood National Bank, El Paso.

**Frank L. Kelly**, Capt./USA, (B.S. '78) is a company commander with the 82nd Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, North Carolina.

**Ramon Ortega** (B.S. '78) was recently appointed postmaster of the city of Lancaster, California.

**Sharon Binswanger** (B.B.A. '79) is employed by Cox Colton Stoner Starr, El Paso certified public accountants.

**David Burch** (B.A. '79) is state news editor for the Abilene, Texas, *Reporter-News*.

**Victor Vargas** (B.S. '79) is inventory supervisor for UTEP's Business Office; his wife, **Pat Vargas** (B.S. '71), is a lecturer in the College of Education.

**Nadia Sayklay Lopez** (B.S. '79) has been promoted to marketing officer at the El Paso National Bank.

**Gary J. Pero**, Ens./USN, (B.B.A. '79), an ad-

*Nyambui... (from page 3)*

the 20-mile run each morning to school along with some of his friends from nearby villages.

"We had to run in the interior and had to be there by 7 o'clock," Nyambui says, with a proud grin showing on his face. "I did it for seven years [beginning at age 13], every day with groups of people going to school. They wouldn't let us go to school before then because we were too young and because the school was too far."

Nyambui has lived and learned during his collegiate track career at UTEP. "Most of the people here are friendly," Nyambui continues. "But they are not as close to each other as they are back home. I miss the friendly atmosphere of home, where everyone knows each other and tries to help each other. Here the economic situation kind of builds a barrier. Few people help each other, unless they know one another real well."

The 6-foot-tall runner shows awesome strength and speed on the track, and incredible finesse away from it. In reviewing Nyambui's career, Wedel says: "He has not only been a leader — based upon what he does on the track — but also a leader off the track in that he will talk to other athletes.

"A lot of times athletes tend to look up to people like Suleiman, who's been a silver medalist and an NCAA champion many times. They'll respect his opinion a lot more than they'll respect a coach's because here's a guy who has done it all."

Or to phrase it differently, Ted Banks once said, "Nyambui is the best we've had at UTEP . . . and we've had some great ones."

So when Suleiman Nyambui thinks of that cold day in Wisconsin, he is grateful someone convinced him to stay. □

ministration officer assigned to the USS Fresno, is currently participating in exercise "Team Spirit 82" in the Republic of Korea.

**Marco A. Barros** (B.A. '80), advertising/business manager for UTEP's Student Publications, is also a free-lance public relations and advertising consultant.

**Juan Alaniz Jr.**, 2nd Lt./USA, (B.A. '81) participated in exercise "Kindle Liberty" in Panama.

**Martha Carballo** (B.A. '81) and **Nancy Chavez** (B.A. '81) are both students in Paris, France.

**Scott K. Warfield**, Ens./USN, (B.S. '81) has completed the basic civil engineer corps officer course at Port Hueneme, California.

**Roni Elaine Cox** (B.S. '81) has been named director of the Child Crisis Center of El Paso.

*Chichonal... (from page 9)*

canoes in relation to this rift." The rift extends from the area he is charting to southeastern Mexico but Hoffer says he does not know whether he will be able to chart the whole ridge. "In the first 12 years, we've covered 150 miles. The ridge is 1,500 miles long, so if we continue at the same rate. . ."

In the meantime, he says, he will continue testing the El Chichonal samples, then return to Mexico in January to get more ash and soil samples.

Hoffer has always wanted to study the volcanoes in El Salvador and Guatemala, but doing so would be twice as dangerous as the work at El Chichonal.

"Down there, you take your life in your own hands not only because of the volcanoes, but because of the political situation," he explains. "I'd literally have to hire a small army to protect us."

One advantage the team had traveling in southern Mexico was freedom of movement. "At Mount St. Helens, we spent a third of the time obtaining permits to get into the area," Hoffer recalls ruefully. "Any time they couldn't see the top of the volcano, they would ask us to leave."

In Mexico: "There was absolutely no red tape." The fact that student Filiber to Gomez is a Mexican national and had worked for one of the government agencies in that country also made a difference. As Hoffer puts it, "Political connections are very important in Mexico. I don't know, but if we had just been tourists they might have thrown us out."

"The village was beautiful," Hoffer recalls. "All original Spanish architecture with terrazo tile streets. The whole town was in there cleaning up and the women were cooking for all the workers."

"I purposely took samples from that area," the professor says with a laugh. ". . . So I can go back." □





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