

3-1983

NOVA: The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine

The News Service, University of Texas at El Paso

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.utep.edu/nova>

Recommended Citation

The News Service, University of Texas at El Paso, "NOVA: The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine" (1983). *NOVA*. 44.
<http://digitalcommons.utep.edu/nova/44>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the UTEP History Resources at DigitalCommons@UTEP. It has been accepted for inclusion in NOVA by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UTEP. For more information, please contact lweber@utep.edu.

NOVA

The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine



**Charlie Duncan
of the Union Rifles**

The View from the Hill

The late Strother Martin, a superb character actor, had a wonderful line in the Paul Newman film "Cool Hand Luke": "What we have here," Martin uttered in that high-pitched, psychopathic voice that was his trademark, "is a failure to communicate."

Since 1967, when the film was released, Martin's line has become a buzzphrase everywhere — and for good reason: We are forever failing to communicate. It is the human condition that we have all the *means* to communicate, even the will to communicate, but, as often as not, we fail to communicate.

The University is in the business of communication and internally does a good job of it, but how do we communicate what we do to people *outside* the campus confines? How do we "promote" the University, its people and programs, not by some counterfeit gimmickery or press agent gloss, but by a straightforward, concentrated, perpetual campaign to tell the University's "story"?

The story is a good one, worth the telling. How do we communicate it?

This, more or less, has been the subject of some interesting *ad hoc* committee work at UTEP and some provocative ideas from UTEP people, not appointed by anybody, who are getting together to talk it out and perhaps come up with some workable solutions.

Thus far we have talked about the business of student recruitment, how UTEP's Continuing Education programs can serve as a communicative means to reach out to the community,

the summer program and evening classes the University offers, the fostering of pride in the University on campus as well as off, and combining the resources and talents on the campus to communicate a clearer image of our strengths.

The unnamed (as yet, at least) committee welcomes ideas from alumni, faculty members, students and all others interested in this University. As of this writing, in January, the committee consists of Pat Mora (Assistant to Vice President for Academic Affairs), Bill Nelsen (Director of Admissions and Records), Ray Chavez (Editorial Advisor to Student Publications and Journalism faculty member), Robert Stakes (Director of Continuing Education), and myself.

If you'd like to communicate with any of us any of your ideas on how the University can better communicate outside the campus, we'd be pleased to hear from you.

Texas Western Press has a special fund honoring Professor Emeritus of English C.L. Sonnichsen, and is offering a cash award of \$1,000 to the author of the best 1983 manuscript dealing with the history, literature, art or cultures of the Southwest.

The contest is open to both non-academic and academic writers, manuscripts must be non-fiction and from 100 to 200 pages in length. Writers must notify the Press of their intention to submit a manuscript in advance of actually

mailing it, and other categories of submissions than those mentioned must be approved in advance by the Director of the Press.

Entries must be received by June 1, 1983.

Judges for the contest will be the Editorial Board of Texas Western Press and the winning manuscript will be published by the Press in 1984.

For more details on the C.L. Sonnichsen Publication Award for 1983, contact:

Hugh W. Treadwell
Director, Texas Western Press
The University of Texas at El Paso
El Paso, Texas 79968
(915) 747-5688

We've had some inquiries about the color aerial view of the campus which formed our wraparound NOVA cover in December. "Where can I get a copy to frame?" we are being asked. Well, plans are afoot. The cover photo, which Russell Banks shot dangling from a helicopter, is in the process of being printed on heavy paper (without the NOVA nameplate) and should be available soon. We'll have more details in the June NOVA. In the meantime, if you want one, drop us a note and we'll forward your request to the proper person when they are available.

— DLW

March 1983 NOVA
Vol. 18, No. 2; Whole No. 70

Editor: Dale L. Walker
Assistant Editor: Nancy Hamilton
Photography: Russell Banks
Graphic Design: Vicki Trego
AlumNotes: Sue Wimberly
Printing: UTEP Printing Division

COVER: Charlie Duncan of the Union Rifles in a studio portrait by Russell Banks reminiscent of the type commonly dated in the 1861-65 era.

BACK COVER: Professor Emeritus of History Rex Strickland served as mace-bearer in December 1982 Commencement exercises in the Special Events Center.

Contents © by UT El Paso, 1983

Second class postage paid at El Paso. NOVA (UPS 398-820) is published quarterly by the News Service, The University of Texas at El Paso (El Paso, Texas 79968). It is sent without charge or obligation to alumni and friends of the University. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to NOVA, The University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX 79968. This University is an Equal Opportunity Institution.



David Finko's Pilgrimage to America

MY COUNTRY NOW

by Nancy Hamilton

“It was cold weather and nobody said a word to me. I saw signs ‘World Premiere’ but no mention of my name. I was ready for a great failure.”

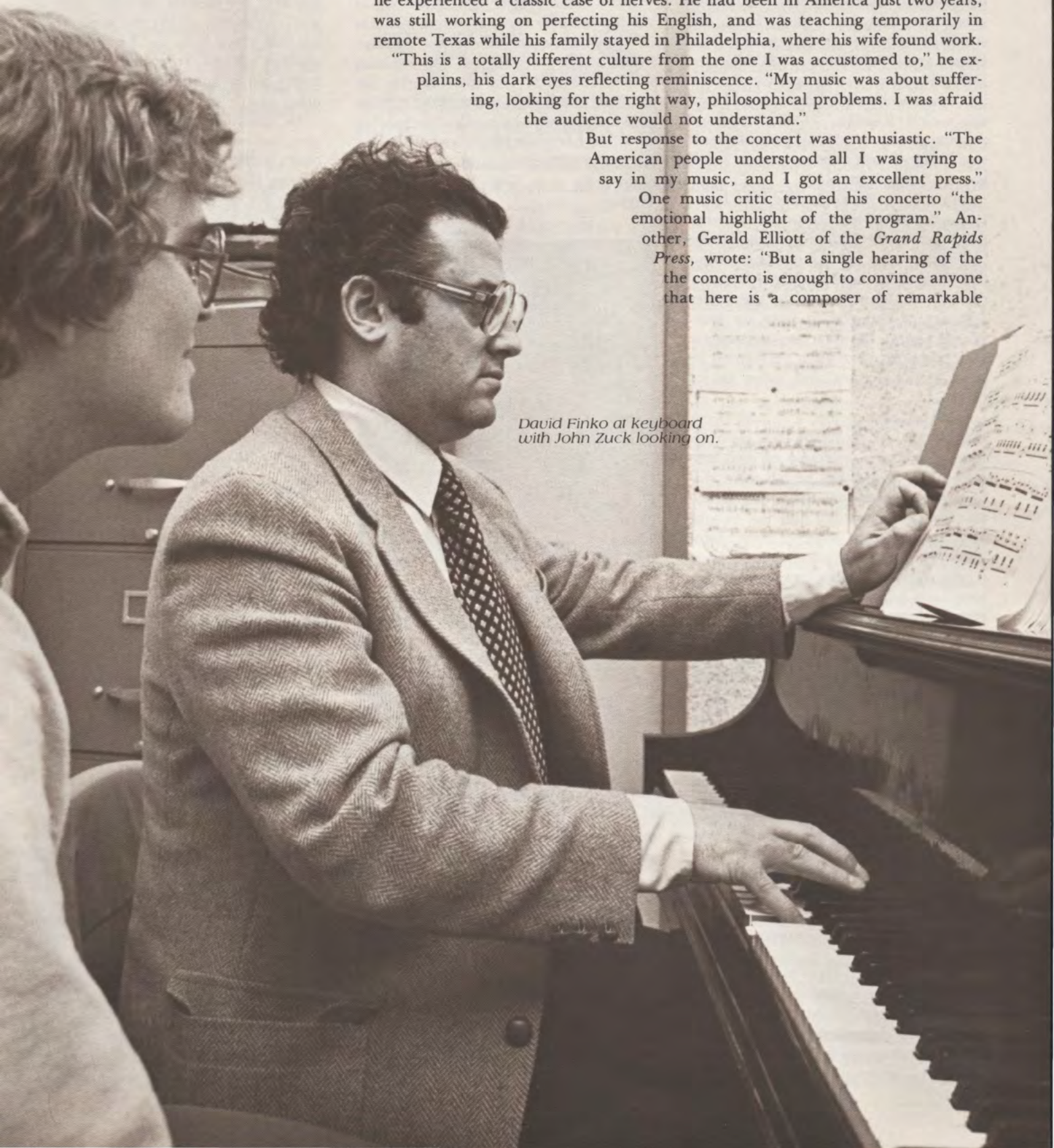
When David Finko arrived in Grand Rapids, Michigan, last January he experienced a classic case of nerves. He had been in America just two years, was still working on perfecting his English, and was teaching temporarily in remote Texas while his family stayed in Philadelphia, where his wife found work.

“This is a totally different culture from the one I was accustomed to,” he explains, his dark eyes reflecting reminiscence. “My music was about suffering, looking for the right way, philosophical problems. I was afraid the audience would not understand.”

But response to the concert was enthusiastic. “The American people understood all I was trying to say in my music, and I got an excellent press.”

One music critic termed his concerto “the emotional highlight of the program.” Another, Gerald Elliott of the *Grand Rapids Press*, wrote: “But a single hearing of the the concerto is enough to convince anyone that here is a composer of remarkable

David Finko at keyboard
with John Zuck looking on.



power, astonishing resourcefulness and a genuine gift for writing effectively for orchestra. . . . There is hardly an unusual effect in the orchestrator's handbook that he does not employ in the orchestral parts of the work; and he is no more stinting in revealing new and unsuspected tonal resources of the harp."

The unexpected plaudits he won at the concert, Finko believes, led to another surprise: an award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) for 1982-83, announced in late October.

"America is my country now," says the exiled Russian. "I like America more and more in spite of some difficulties. When I find a new contract, I will get my family together."

In the Soviet Union he had been highly successful. His compositions were published by the State Publishing House and performed throughout the nation and in Eastern Europe. His third symphony was commissioned by the Soviet Ministry of Culture, as were six symphonic poems. He also composed operas and concertos that were performed in Leningrad, Moscow and other major cities.

Gradually he noticed a change in his acceptance. As his music took on overtones of tragedy, reflecting his own feelings about Soviet life, he felt some differences in reactions at the official levels. His father warned him not to joke about government leaders: "You might end up in a concentration camp!" Then it was rumored that Finko had been seen with someone who had been arrested. He was refused permission to attend a performance of one of his works in another Communist country.

"I knew," he relates, "how people could disappear just because they were inquiring about someone. The things being said about me were lies, but after 1977 I began considering the possibility of leaving Russia."

In order to make the arrangements, he had to have a letter from someone in another country saying that he was needed there. A friend in West Germany provided the letter, Finko showed it to officials and was given application forms to fill in.

The impact on his career was immediate.

He was dismissed from his position as senior editor for a state music publishing house and was forced to say he wanted to retire. "A performance of my symphony was dropped for one by another composer," he recalls. "They threw my

manuscripts in the yard and walked over them. My work was removed from the libraries."

The composer, his wife and their son learned in October 1979 that they could leave the USSR in two weeks. They were allowed to take five suitcases and \$439. After arriving in Rome, a gathering place for immigrants, they received permission to proceed to New York.

Soon Finko found himself serving as visiting lecturer for a graduate seminar in the history and theory of Russian music at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. His son entered the university as a pre-med student and his wife found work as a medical technician — while her professional training is in mining engineering, she was handicapped in that field by her lack of English.



In September 1981 Finko moved to UT El Paso as lecturer and composer-in-residence for two years.

This spring he is teaching orchestration. Although he is an accomplished orchestrator, he says he "studied many American books to prepare for a totally different system of teaching. The approach in music education here is very different from that in Russia."

Yet, he finds that Americans are very fond of the music of some of the composers whose work he grew up on. "Stravinsky, who became an idol in America, attended the same school as I, the Leningrad Conservatory of Music. His teacher taught my teacher. Shostakovich came from my city and attended the same school, as well."

Besides his teaching, he continues to work on major compositions and to take part in programs as conductor, pianist or speaker. In early March, for example, he was invited to speak at a symposium on contemporary music at the Uni-

versity of New Mexico.

Also in March his opera, "Polinka," based on a story by Chekhov, will be performed at UTEP featuring two faculty members new this year, David Yoss, who heads the opera program, and Judith Klinger, who teaches voice.

"This is the story of a woman in love with two men," explains Finko. "She cannot choose between them. Nicholas learns of her love for the other man and wants to return to her the kind of pain she has given him, for he cannot love another woman. Yet he does not want to marry her because of her feelings for the other man."

He describes the music as contemporary but with traditionally Italian bel canto passages. Dr. Yoss, in addition to singing the role of Nicholas, is stage director for the production.

The dark-haired composer will conduct the orchestra for the performance. During the fall semester he was revising the orchestration with specific faculty members in mind as instrumentalists, among them Department Chairman Richard Henderson, oboist.

Although he has conducted other works before, this will be his first opera. Last April he conducted a performance of his viola concerto with Abraham Chavez, professor of music and music director of the El Paso Symphony Orchestra, as soloist.

The presence of the "Polinka" score in the United States is most unusual. "You can't take a manuscript out of the USSR, especially one with words, unless you have official permission," says Finko. Only official publications — usually very recent ones — are allowed out without question. Through great good fortune, Finko was allowed to export his score. He had to leave behind many other manuscripts.

Hugh Hughes, a linguistics student and Army veteran, helped in translating the libretto into English and Dr. Robert Bledsoe of the English faculty, who is also an accomplished musician, polished the work. Dr. Richard Ford, chairman of the Department of Modern Languages, translated the libretto into Spanish. Finko hopes that a performance may be arranged in Mexico.

Besides the opera, his March agenda also includes a piano recital with music he describes as "very difficult with some surprises." Then the world premiere performance of his orchestral piece, "Pilgrimage to Jerusalem," will take place on April 20 in Detroit. The conductor, Simyon Bychkov of Grand

(Continued on page 17)

Texas, as defined by T.R. Fehrenbach, is a state of heart and mind. It may not be an entirely rational state, but few will deny that it has sprung in a most fascinating way from the chemistry of history. Whatever it now represents, it is too important to be dismissed as quaint, provincial, eccentric or perverse. It must be understood.

In the forthcoming book, Fehrenbach presents seven keys to understand our sometimes misunderstood state — its frontiers, land, economy, society, politics, changes that have taken and are taking place, and its people. The following excerpt is from the chapter on "The People" of Texas.

THE PEOPLE

Texas is a complex state, sprawling across at least seven distinct geographical regions with different economies and life-styles, and it contains every sort of people and subculture.

Texas is far less homogeneous than its image. One third of all Texans are members of minority groups as these are now defined. In 1980, the state ranked second behind California in its number of Hispanics, second in the concentration of Vietnamese, third in black population, and ninth in American Indians.

Texas is twelve percent black, a percentage that is declining. It is twenty-one percent Hispanic, representing a mostly Mexican twentieth-century immigration that is in no sense assimilated. The proportion of Hispanics has risen rapidly, due both to high birth rates and continuing immigration over the past decade. Black population tends to be concentrated in the southeast or north central regions, primarily in the Houston and Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan areas. Mexican Americans remain along the border and Gulf Coast, and more than half live in south central Texas. In the national pattern, more than eighty percent of all non-whites are in metropolitan areas, with the great majority dwelling in the central cities, whether Houston, Dallas, or San Antonio.

In the white population there are very large elements of Germanic descent and important groups of Czechs and Poles.

However, the reality of Texas is shaped by another factor which makes the state seem far more homogeneous than many others.

A majority of Texans are still descended at least in part from Old American stock that entered the Mexican province, the Republic of Texas, or the State of Texas between 1824 and

THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS

by T.R. FEHRENBACH

1900. This majority, despite divisions by class, occupation, and region, still forms very much a single culture and consciousness, and more important, its ethos is dominant, except for a few enclaves, throughout the state. Cultural and economic domination have continued, in fact, where political power has been lost to other groups, such as the Mexican majority in south Texas.

These are the so-called Anglos. "Anglo" is a word frequently misunderstood outside of the Southwest. It should never be equated with WASP. It is true that most white Texans are Protestant and "Anglo-Saxon" in the sense that this term is used in the United States (meaning an amalgam of Northern European races). But the term Anglo-American, or Anglo-Texan, indicates a full participation in the English-speaking American culture as contrasted with adherence to the still-Spanish-speaking Mexican way of life. By this definition, and it is an important one, ethnic groups as diverse as Irish Catholics, Jews,

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

T.R. Fehrenbach is a native-born, bilingual, Princeton-educated Texan. His writings about his home state combine love of the land with a cosmopolitan insight into its history. His 16 books have appeared in 10 languages and include



Lone Star: A History of Texas and the Texan, Fire and Blood: A History of Mexico, and Comanches: The Destruction of a People. □

Lebanese, Norwegian, Chinese, Greek, German, Czech, and Polish Americans in Texas are all Anglos and consider themselves such.

The roots of modern Texas lie in the British Isles, in an ethos that largely failed in Europe but was successfully transmitted to America, and above all, the American West. But if the racial stock and ethos of Texans came largely from the British Isles, the present Texan consciousness was made primarily in America. Texans are less a people transplanted from various parts of Europe or the world than they are a people made in America out of an historic experience.

For the Texans are a people who made their own history. If they carried their language, religion, and much of their cultural baggage across the Atlantic, they created their own consciousness on the passage through the Appalachians, down the Mississippi, through the forests, and across the plains. And they made their mythos in Texas.

And this is the history and mythology that Texans look back upon, not to some dim memory of the old country. Anglo-Texans, even the newly arrived, do not see themselves as refugees or heirs to some vanished foreign grandeur, but as conquerors or the heirs of conquerors of the American continent. Many of them see that conquest as the transcendental fact of American history.

In this respect Texan consciousness differs profoundly from that of the present inhabitants of Massachusetts, not one in eight descended from Americans who were sometimes forced to kill Indians or be killed by them. It also differs considerably from that of urban residents in the North or Midwest who came, or whose forbears came, directly from the old country to the neighborhood and who know their ethnic history, if at all, only from story or song, having no blood memory of it.

The majority of true Texans, those who make the reality of modern Texas, may live in modern Dallas condominiums or remote ranch houses near the Rio Grande, but they all stem by blood or tradition from the vast trans-Appalachian trek that resulted in the wresting of North America from the wilderness, the Indians, and the Mexicans. □

[An excerpt from the forthcoming book, *Seven Keys to Texas* by T.R. Fehrenbach, to be published in April, 1983, by Texas Western Press of The University of Texas at El Paso.]



UTEP student George Cronin explains a map to a 5th grader at Sunland Park.

UTEP at Sunland Park School: NOT JUST A CHALK TALK

“There is no research today I know of that can define what is a good teacher. Each individual must define his own way of teaching.”

Dan Kies turns reflective as he sips coffee from a huge mug labeled “Texas.” The Curriculum and Instruction professor leans back in his chair and explains, “When I came here ten years ago, I wanted to help prepare teachers to be better able to cope with their assignments. They need to teach in public schools and work with other teachers — not just listen to a professor with a chalk talk.”

In his course for juniors and seniors who are moving toward student teaching, Kies likes to expose them to classroom life through team teaching with skilled teachers. His approach, unlike the traditional one-on-one assignment of university student to public school teacher, involves groups of three to five university students in a single classroom. They spend six weeks in planning, six weeks at a public school, and return to UTEP to evaluate their work.

His host school for this program is at Sunland Park, New Mexico, where since 1979 about 80 UTEP students per year have had their first experience in teaching children. Felix Hernandez, the principal, and teachers in the program have studied with Kies and understand his approach.

When a visitor steps through the door of Patty Hudgens’ portable classroom, the fifth grade seems to be in chaos. Four groups of children are seated at tables clustered around the room. Some of them move about freely without asking permission to be out of their chairs. Mrs. Hudgens has the same relaxed, easygoing air as Dr. Kies, conveying the assurance that they know children and how to deal with them. As the ear grows accustomed to the sound of four discussion groups, a structure behind the chaos begins to take shape.

George Cronin, a large, patient man who retired from the Army in 1979, is working with a group beside the chalkboard. They are writing outlines for essays about people who were important in the Westward Movement. Textbooks and other references are open on the table.

“If I had not taken this course,” Cronin observes, “I’m not sure I would have wanted to teach, but once I was in this program there was no question. What we are about is the children, getting over to them that learning is fun.”

Debbie Michel and her group are examining rocks.



Professor Dan Kies talks over plans for UTEP students with teacher Barbara Spott.

"These people bring their own talents to the class," says Mrs. Hudgens *sotto voce*. "Debbie brought her guitar and taught songs and games of the wagon trains outside one day. Evelyn Hunt took the children to the river, and these rocks are some they picked up on that field trip. They are learning to identify the rocks."

Sunland Park School overlooks the Rio Grande at the point where the argonauts forded the river above El Paso on the way West.

Julie Innskeep's group is clipping photographs from magazines. At first glance, this looks like a meaningless chore, but they are very serious about it. Julie explains: "I haven't worked with this group before, and I asked them to introduce themselves to me through a picture display. They are choosing the pictures that can best explain who they are and what they like to do."

Since this class combines social studies with language arts, the exercise will give the children practice in oral expression. They are from Spanish-speaking homes of modest or low income, and building self-esteem is one of the first concerns of their teachers.

Mrs. Hudgens points out the learning centers that were prepared by UTEP students. "Test Your Skills" looms in large letters behind Debbie's group. Another center is devoted to treasures picked up during the field trip — rocks, fossil shells, a broken cup.

Moving to her desk, Mrs. Hudgens withdraws a large, well worn looseleaf notebook. It contains the guidelines for the cooperative program with UTEP which she helped draw up and has used since 1979. Under this plan, during the six weeks the students visit her class, they meet with her regularly to go over daily lesson plans and to critique what they have done in the classroom. Each student develops a learning center to keep after it has been displayed for the

class. "That gives me a chance to look at new ideas, besides letting them field test their own work," she notes.

"We have a lull once the University kids are gone," she reflects. "The children have a bit of a let-down, but then they look forward to the next bunch who will come in the spring semester. With this many helpers, they have a great deal of personal attention that helps them develop language skills."

In the portable classroom next door Barbara Spott, a petite redhead, is discussing contracts with her four UTEP students. Her fifth graders, who have just left for the playground, will make a contract agreement with the teacher on the work they expect to complete for the next assignment.

"Each of the UTEP students has a station each day, and they rotate, from maps to culture to people to vocabulary," explains Mrs. Spott.

Dr. Kies adds, "They have to be put in a situation where they have to make decisions. That is critical. Beginning teachers often have a hard time deciding what to teach, and this experience is very important in building confidence."

Down past the long rows of portable classrooms, Principal Hernandez has just finished a conference with a parent. "This is a good situation for both of us," he says of the teacher training program. "It is a give-and-take process, but I think perhaps we have gotten a lot more from Dr. Kies than he from us. Many of those who trained here are now our teachers."

(Continued on page 17)



UTEP student Debbie Michel, center, teaches 5th graders to identify types of rocks found near their school.

PETE SNELSON AT COMMENCEMENT

President Monroe, distinguished members of the faculty, members of the graduating class, parents, ladies and gentlemen: It was with particular pleasure and a genuine sense of nostalgia that I accepted the invitation to share a few thoughts with you on the occasion of this winter graduation program.

Basically, my message will be brief. However, it does come from an unusual vantage point. It will be a few observations concerning the roots which you and I share . . . those of this institution.

Forty-two years ago this past September I arrived here in these hilly surroundings from a small West Texas town to begin college. It was not much of a school when compared to today's physical plant, enrollment and course offerings. If you are a history buff, you might even recall that its name was Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy; that it attained a record pre-war enrollment in 1941 of some 1,200 students and that our Student Union Building and Bookstore was one room in Old Main.

My arrival here began a love affair with this institution that has continued down through the years. I'm grateful for opportunities to learn, to associate with fine young people and a great group of teachers.

Even as we now look out on this comparatively huge and beautiful campus, I doubt that any of us from those days have the slightest bit of envy over what you have compared to what we had. Frankly, I grew to love what we had. I don't know why each of you selected this University. I'm sure that there are varying reasons. I did so because, foremost, I wanted to get a college education and considering the economic times and very limited resources my choices were quite limited.

Even though I enrolled here out of economic necessity, I am most proud that I can stand here and tell you that I have never regretted that decision nor have I felt the least bit deprived in not having attended or graduated from a

more nationally prestigious institution. I hope that some 40 years from now you will look back and feel the same way.

I say this because the preparation which I received here permitted me to attain exactly what I wanted to attain in the various areas of life. I went on to obtain a graduate degree from one of the nation's leading universities and this gave me a base for academic comparison. I went on to achieve success in an economic sense in the business world by putting into practice things which I learned at this University. I'm confident that each of you will be able to do the same thing.

There is another area which I aspired to from the time I was very young, that of elective political office. This, I was able to attain. You see, after serving in the Texas Legislature over the past 22 years I will be retiring from my current role as Dean of the Texas Senate and Chairman of its Education Committee.

Too, I might add that serving as a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Legislative Budget Board and conference committees on appropriations has enabled me to become well acquainted with university presidents and members of boards of regents. I always strived to give special attention to the needs of this institution and I believe that my concern has been helpful. The Legislative Budget Board on which I serve completed its recommendations two weeks ago and I am proud of how well UTEP fared.

Yes, I've enjoyed greatly my public service. I trust and hope that you will aspire to and accept opportunities for public service.

To men, the highest form of citizenship is, and has always been, the active participation in all affairs which have any relationship to the determination of public policy. This is politics.

When the people default in their interest in government, their rights will be taken over. The people will lose their liberties and the nation will lose its strength. Politics are an important part of responsible citizenship in a free socie-

ty. I urge you to be an integral part of the process.

Now that you've permitted me these few minutes of personal reference establishing our common roots, I want to share with you a few concerns which you will be addressing during the next 40 years.

It is true that the generations of your parents and grandparents have achieved much during the past five decades. I won't attempt to list all of the achievements and advances for mankind. However, it is well that we realize just how much the world has changed since that day in 1946 when I received my degree from this institution.

Today the effects of an event on one side of the world are likely to ripple all the way around the globe. Calculations of national sovereignty are routinely affected by the interests and needs of over 160 other nations. There is no longer a country on the face of the shrunken planet that can go it alone. Kenneth Boulding said it well when he conjectured that "if the human race is to survive, it will have to change its ways of thinking more in the next 25 years than it has in the last 25,000."

In an age of energy shortages, huge population shifts and unstable currencies, it is increasingly difficult to separate domestic from global issues. Our civic concerns can now be rarely seen in purely local or national terms, and few non-American events are any longer in fact extraneous to our lives. Our mass media reflect these new complexities fairly well; but the interrelatedness of global and national events is still only marginally reflected in what young Americans are learning in their schools and colleges. As a recent *Change* editorial warned, "America's young face a set of new national and international circumstances about which they have only the faintest of notions. They are, globally speaking, blind, deaf, and dumb; and thus handicapped, they will soon determine the future directions of this nation." The growing disparity between the realities of an interdependent

The following remarks were made by
UTEP's 1973 Outstanding Ex-Student,
State Senator W.E. "Pete" Snelson,
at Commencement exercises on December 19, 1982,
in the Special Events Center.

world and the relative parochialism of our schools and colleges cannot help amassing the nation's capacity to decide its wisest future course.

Intelligent public choices will require that our citizens be attuned to the great forces that are shaping the modern world. We are going to have to learn to look at international conduct and national survival in new and unaccustomed ways. We deal today with a world that is increasingly fragmented. Rather than approaching a "planetary culture," as some had predicted, we are awash in new political subunits brought about by nationalist fervor, tribalism, religious movements, and thrusts toward cultural and ethnic self-determination. Strong and at times unpredictable forces — of both centrifugal and centripetal kinds — are creating new problems and instabilities throughout the world.

We do not have to look far or even go far to learn or view first hand the types of instabilities which are shaking our world. The economic problems of our neighbor to the south, Mexico, are well known to each of us because they affect each of us. Projections are that Mexico's population will double by the year 2000 and there is no question but that this will greatly impact El Paso, Texas, and the United States.

Mexico is just one of the nations in our hemisphere which are in deep trouble.

Our nation is also reeling under the heavy burden of high unemployment and yet, our own self interest requires that we also be concerned with the plight of other nations.

In viewing the transition period in which this world finds itself, one cannot help but recognize the uniqueness of this institution to make a vital contribution in meeting the challenges involved in our moving into the 21st century. It will require innovative thinking on the part of those who structure the curriculum for the years ahead. It will require open-mindedness on the part of legislators who are called on to fund educational opportunities for students from other countries.

Texas will be called on to occupy many important roles in determining the type of world in which your children will be living. In addition to the policy matters affecting our planet, we also are confronted with monumental decisions of how we utilize outer space.

Yes, I'm sure that one or more of you will at some time be a pioneer resident in outer space.

Plans are well underway for building the world's largest telescope, a 300-inch instrument, at McDonald Observatory near Fort Davis. This facility is part of the University of Texas System and is destined to be a world leader. Its discoveries and successes will be making tremendous contributions to the inter-relationship of our planet and the universe.

The mind-boggling potential of such a telescope comes into sharp focus when we realize that on a clear night we can look up into the sky and see several thousand stars. A pair of binoculars will bring into view about 50,000. With a two-inch telescope, the number leaps to several hundred thousand stars. The current estimate is that our galaxy, the Milky Way, contains about 200 billion stars and among them is our sun.

Yes, there is much to challenge you and your finest talents. I congratulate you on your attainment to this milestone. It is neither a resting place nor a stopping place. May I wish for you, good luck and God's blessings as you strive to capture the exciting new opportunities which are in your future.

□





*"The Blue and the Gray"
Columbia Pictures Television
Prarie Grove Battlefield
Prarie Grove, Arkansas ~ 1981*

Charlie Duncan had a dream. He had it in Meridian, Mississippi, where he was born, and he had it in El Paso, where he grew up with his career Air Force father, school teacher mother, and family.

He wanted to be a soldier. "That was my whole interest in life," he reflects. "I wasn't prepared for anything else." He looks very much like Theodore Roosevelt — bushy moustache, wide grin, girth, myopia and all. If he cropped his board-straight blonde

hair and parted it in the middle, a person could almost visualize Charlie Duncan yelling "Bully!" and leading the Rough Riders up Kettle Hill in Cuba in '98.

He continues: "But I found out I have diabetes, so there went the dream. I had to turn a corner and what I decided to do, if I couldn't serve this country in the military, was to serve her another way — by telling her story."

Duncan tells her story at J.M. Hanks High School in El Paso where, since he

earned his B.A. degree in history at UTEP in 1977, he has taught three freshman classes and two junior-level ones.

It is not easy work, teaching high school history, and it takes a special devotion to find satisfaction in it.

"My students are concerned about tomorrow, not yesterday," Duncan says. "They are wondering about nuclear war, about jobs and careers and unemployment and expect a history teacher to have a crystal ball to tell them what is



*Photo by
Dean Williams*

going to happen. Obviously, I can't do that, but what I try to do is to use the lessons of history to help them put together where we are and where we are likely going."

Duncan's dream of being a soldier and the study of military history that accompanied the dream, remains useful to him, he says. Although his three freshman-level history courses begin in the post-1877 period, he begins each course with a quick review of the Civil War. "I try to show, in the sessions on

the Civil War and the other American wars, how a country can be drawn into a war, the irrationality of war, and the rude awakenings war causes — the lack of *glory*, the harsh realities, the trenches full of dead men, the disrupted families. But I also try to show the lessons war teaches — whether they are learned or not."

He uses any tool he can to get his students' attention, he says. "I'm getting into the use of video-tape recorders and playbacks now," he says. "I like to show

"DANG MY
BUTTONS!"

CHARLIE DUNCAN OF THE UNION RIFLES

by DALE L. WALKER

a piece of a film like 'El Cid,' for example, when talking about the Middle Ages, or '55 Days at Peking,' when we are into the end of the century and our involvement in the Boxer Rebellion, or 'Tora! Tora! Tora!' to show something of what the bombing of Pearl Harbor was like.

"To me, history is always fresh. I am always turning up something new and fascinating. But high school students are not hung up on history as I am. Some are bored because of bad experiences in history classrooms, others just do not think it is 'relevant.' I try to change the apathy the best I can by not teaching by rote, never saying the same thing twice the same way, being as spontaneous as possible." And, he adds, "The real task is to try to make history valuable for young people who think only of today and tomorrow."

The truth is that Charlie Duncan has never been able to turn loose completely of his dream of being a soldier. Being diabetic made the genuine realization of it vanish but still, periodically, he puts on his uniform and goes off to war. He has fought in battles in Corinth, Mississippi, at the Destrehan and Asphodel Plantations in Louisiana; at Gettysburg, at Fort Huachuca and Sonoita, Arizona; and at Glorieta, New Mexico.

Most recently, in the summer of 1982, he fought in the first battle of Bull Run and in making his movie debut got killed twice.

Duncan is a member of a Civil War reenactment group called the Union



Charlie Duncan and wife Peggy at Memorial Park Art Show.

Rifles which dresses and equips with authentic Union Army replica gear and travels to historical sites for battle reenactments.

Another Civil War buff and reenactor, Cal Kinzer, park historian at Prairie Grove, Arkansas, was responsible for Duncan and other members of the Union Rifles appearing in the CBS-TV miniseries, "The Blue and the Gray" which aired in November, 1982.

"Kinzer got word of the filming of 'The Blue and the Gray' and offered the Prairie Grove facilities to the movie company. It is a place where a Civil War skirmish, involving over 5,000 men, took place. When the film people accepted the offer, Kinzer put out the word to the Union Rifles to come on over and be paid extras in the film. Since we owned our own uniforms, weapons and gear — all of it authentic — and paid our own transportation, we ended up saving the movie company a lot of money."

In Prairie Grove, once the filming started, nearly 200 reenactors had showed up from several organizations like the Union Rifles. In all, counting the "locals," some 300 extras were readied for the Bull Run battle sequence.

not on one of the Union Rifles people."

The Bull Run battle occupied two full days of filming, much of the time spent in setting up cameras and equipment, burying the gunpowder and burnt cork charges (dirt and rocks are never used — too dangerous) which would simulate artillery shells exploding on the ground, coaching the extras and actors in the scene, getting the horses to behave, and reshooting the scene when an airplane went over or a diesel truck rumbled by on the nearby highway and was picked up on the soundtrack.

"We were supposed to have marched many miles to the battlefield," Duncan recalls, "so we were taken to the makeup van where they slapped us with bags of powder, then hosed us down to make the powder stick. It was a funny thing, but we would start off the day super dirty and as the day went on and the powder dried and dropped off, we got cleaner!"

Duncan says he made the mistake of dying too early in the charge and as a result, spent most of one day lying on the ground while the scene was reshot, over and again, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., with the "dead and dying" lying on their marks.



"A lot of the people hanging around were 'farbs,'" Duncan explains. "This is what we call them. I think it comes from saying, 'Far be it from me to criticize the authenticity of your uniform, but...' These were people with J.C. Penney shirts and blue jeans, wearing cut-off combat boots and patent leather stuff. Anything you see like that in the movies was

"As a reenactor," he says, "we have an unwritten code that if the enemy draws a bead on you and you know you would have been killed or wounded in the real battle, you fall. So, when two explosions went off near me and blew away half the line I was in, I found myself almost literally alone. The Confederates fired a volley my way and there was no way they could have missed me. So I went down. Then I went down again when they did a second take."

When he saw the film on a videotape machine and was able to stop-action on the frames in which he appears, Duncan found himself "dying" both times! "They used both of the scenes," he says with a laugh, "and out of sequence too. But what the heck, I'm the only one who can point out where I died twice!"

When the Bull Run scene was finally to the director's satisfaction, the "troops" were assembled and the movie company people paid the Union Rifles and other of the reenactors the highest of tributes — saying how impressed they were over their professionalism.

On the last day of shooting, Duncan and the other extras lined up on "pay call." He says, "I got \$150 for my two days work, made my 'mark' and started for home. It was really a wonderful experience."

He adds, "I liked the film because it didn't try to glorify war. The Union Rifles and other reenactment groups do not attempt to glorify war either. What we try to do is find a piece of history that is lost and to know what it might have been like to be there, taking part in it. I've eaten the same food as a Union Soldier ate, done the drills, worn the scratchy uniforms, sweated, been rained on, tried to start a fire in the rain, made coffee outdoors, eaten hardtack, slept out in the snow under a blanket, shivering all night, and at least *seen* what it

(Continued on page 17)

70th ANNIVERSARY

April 16, 1983, marks the 70th anniversary of the date Texas Governor O.B. Colquitt signed the Act (Senate Bill No. 183) which created the institution known today as The University of Texas at El Paso.

While the official celebration of UTEP's 70th anniversary will be held during Fall Convocation Week (September 11-17), the number 70 will be often seen in the course of 1983 just as the number 75 — the Diamond Jubilee — will be heard and seen as plans are being made for that signal anniversary in 1988.

The 70th anniversary theme will appear, for example, in all fundraising activities this year — the Alumni Fund for Excellence, the Matrix Society, President's Associates, and Corporate and Business drives.

In the period of March 21-24 and March 28-31, some 500 UTEP alumni volunteers will be calling 35,000 Mines, TWC and UTEP exes to contribute to the annual Alumni Fund for Excellence. New donors who contribute a minimum gift of \$70 or 1982 donors who increase their gift by \$70 will receive a copy of a special, limited-edition hardbound book, *Origins*, containing three pivotal documents on the formative period of the University: the "Announcement" of the School of Mines (1914), the *Catalogue of the State School of Mines and Metallurgy* (1914-15), and the Senate Bill which created the School.

In 1982, the annual Alumni Fund telephone campaign produced \$269,138 from 2,901 individual gifts. The overall Excellence Fund campaign netted close to \$2 million for the University.

Development Director Jim Peak has

reported the following partial breakdown in expenditure of the \$113,500 in *unrestricted* gifts: \$40,000 to the Library for new books; \$5,000 for Manuscripts, and Special Collections; \$4,000 for the *Extracts* newsletter produced by the Development Office; \$13,000 for the Bureau of Business and Economic Research and its publication, the *Southwest Business Review*; \$5,000 for the Presidential Lecture Series to pay honoraria to distinguished speakers brought to the campus; \$5,000 to the Interscholastic League Office to bring high school students to the campus to compete in UIL contests; and \$5,000 for the Junior Scholars Program.

All allocations of unrestricted gift funds, Peak points out, are made by the President and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

"Of course, it is my business to encourage people to give to their University," Peak said. "And that covers a wide range of gifts — restricted and earmarked for a specific activity or area within the institution, or unrestricted. I like to encourage unrestricted gifts, however, since this money can be used in a variety of ways for very worthwhile endeavors."

Peak said his office is working on contracting various corporations and foundations to establish a 70th anniversary "Challenge Grant" which would match new and increased gifts.

The 1983 fundraising drives and their chairmen are as follows:

Alumni Fund for Excellence — John Best; **Matrix Society** — Mary Alice Prendergast; **President's Associates** — Richard W. Mithoff; **Corporate and Business** — Tom Foster; **Deferred Gifts** — Joe Hammond. □

“Mary’s Fancy Work” and Other LOOKS OVER THE

At the front of the room stood a campus map on which pieces of colored felt indicated the 10-year periods when the buildings were constructed. At each side sat members of the panel — Florabelle Rogers (Mrs. F.P.) Harris and Charlotte Foster (Mrs. Karl D.) Hansen, both of the class of 1933; Lucille Ponsford (Mrs. J. Harold) Tillman, class of 1932; Dr. Eleanor (Mrs. Jack) Duke, professor of biological sciences and the UTEP Outstanding Ex of 1974; and retired faculty member Mrs. Myrtle Ball, professor emerita of drama and speech, and Mrs. Bulah Liles Patterson, who began teaching mathematics at the College of Mines in 1927.

L-R: Florabelle Rogers Harris, Lucille Ponsford Tillman, Myrtle Ball, Charlotte Foster Hansen, Eleanor Duke, Bulah Liles Patterson.

The occasion was “A Look Over the Shoulder: Women in the History of UT El Paso,” with a celebration not only of the women but of the first awarding of the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1932. The program was part of the Fall Convocation activities on campus and drew to its audience Clarice Jones, who taught from 1946-75; Louise Resley Wiggins, who taught and served as dean from 1940-73; Mrs. E.J. Knapp, widow of the emeritus professor of physics, and many others with memories of and affection for the “School on the Hill.”

Jean Miculka, herself an alumna and now chairman of the Department of Drama and Speech, was moderator.

Here are some of their recollections:

Tillman: When I was in school, if you were lucky enough to have a car, you drove right up to the building and parked next to it. It was so easy compared to parking these days.

Harris: We had a bus driven by one of the students, L.D. Liles, a nephew of Bulah Liles Patterson. He came in 1928 and drove it until he graduated.

Patterson: I told him, “Don’t you call me Aunt Bulah.” He said “Well, don’t you call me Buster.” Now a lot of people still know me as Aunt Bulah. The bus was owned by the city and picked up people at Yandell and Oregon, which was a transfer spot for buses and street-cars.

Tillman: If you were fortunate enough to have a car, it was always full. My father said once, “I’d think you’d be ashamed to ask someone to ride in such a dirty car.” I said, “I don’t have to ask them — I just come out of class and it’s full of people.”

Patterson: I lived on Oregon Street and walked to the college. There was no



SHOULDER

aved walk or street then and I walked across the mountains there for two or three years until I managed to get a car.

Miculka: Mary Quinn couldn't be with us today, but she taped something for us.

Quinn: I went to the college to teach in September of 1925. They weren't hiring women very much because we couldn't teach courses for engineers, but they were supposed to have a year of English and a year of economics. I came to teach English and history. To the day she died, Cap Kidd always called it "Mary's Fancy Work."

Miculka: She says when she and Howard Quinn started dating, the students were very interested and one of them arranged their pictures very carefully in the 1925 yearbook so that when the book was closed, their lips met.

Hillman: The first graduation with the Bachelor of Arts degree was held in

the Woman's Club. There were 11 B.S. and nine B.A. graduates. The B.S. was in mining engineering.

Hansen: The 1933 graduation was held outdoors on the tennis court in front of the Main Building. In our practice, Mr. Barry told the teachers, "We want you to flank the students." Norma Egg said, "I've flunked the students many a time, but I never flanked them before."

Ball: When you're looking back over your shoulder 50 years, some of us farther, sometimes you find what you see is distorted. I choose to think if I look over my shoulder I can see beautiful memories and the enjoyment of the really exciting experience of teaching with this group. When I came here, I felt I had found the place where I could sink my roots. I live and die in the shadow of this school because it means that much to me. And you, too, I love everyone of you.

Miculka: When I came to school and auditioned for College Players, which Myrtle Ball started, I worked up a beautiful dramatic scene. She turned to the group after I gave it and said, "I want you to note that young woman is not very tall, but she *thought* tall and she *looked* tall."

Patterson: The change from the University of Chicago to the College of Mines was a big one for me, though I had done work at UT Austin and had lived in Texas before. I had completed a number of courses toward the Ph.D. but never did pursue it. I took a teaching job at a high school in Dallas, then had a call from a member of the teacher appointment committee at the University of Texas about El Paso. The Junior Col-



lege at El Paso High School had just been disbanded, and they had math classes at the College of Mines with 50 and 60 in them. She asked if I'd teach at the College of Mines and Metallurgy. The Dallas schools let me off. I had to call my folks to cover my moving expenses. We had classes on Saturday then — Monday, Wednesday, Friday or Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday. I had five classes with 40 in each one, at least 35 of them male. There were two other women faculty members and two women in the offices, Miss Ruth Augur, the registrar, and Mrs. Webb, the dean's secretary. Mary Kelly (later Quinn) and Anita Lorenz were the faculty members. We had two semesters only. At the end of the first semester, Mrs. Lena Eldridge came to teach Spanish and German and Miss (Abi Elizabeth) Beynon was dean of women. The next year other teachers from the junior college and the high school came.

Ball: It is true that the El Paso Public Schools paid the salaries of some of the college teachers. My husband had been teaching at Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico. He got a state job at Las Cruces, but when we arrived there it didn't work out. It was mid-September, we had three children and no jobs, and we came to El Paso. A.H. Hughey, the school superintendent, put my husband at El Paso High School where he taught a year. I began teaching in January and taught a half year. At the end of that time, they allowed me to come out here and Mr. Hughey paid our salaries for two years. He was a wonderful man. Dr. Gladys Gregory, Miss Norma Egg and Miss Grace Long were teaching here; Miss Long didn't stay but about two years. Four of us stayed till we retired.

Duke: I started here as a student in 1935. We moved here from Phoenix in 1934 and I finished at Austin High. My mother and Forrest Agee, the registrar, decided what my major should be and the courses I should take, but I didn't register for a single one. I had found Franklin Seamon and signed up for chemistry, physics, engineering math, botany and German. I didn't have any money, but L.A. "Speedy" Nelson made me a loan. For two years I financed my schooling by babysitting, then in 1937 Dr. Anton Berkman took me on as a student lab assistant. I helped him teach freshman labs, washed dishes in the labs, and on holidays embalmed cats. There was an interesting experience when we embalmed Dean Kidd's cat; we didn't realize it was his until too late.

Tillman: The El Paso Junior College was on the fourth floor of El Paso High School. When they decided to give the B.A. degree here, all of that group came over to the College of Mines. There were about an equal number of men and women in the first class with that degree: 11 men and nine women. There were so many teachers in the public schools without degrees, they liked to get that diploma. Surprisingly, even some principals came out to get their degrees.

Who Was Who

John G. Barry. First president of the College of Mines, 1931-34. Died 1963.

Anton Berkman. Faculty member 1927-66, acting president 1960; also dean and department chairman. Died 1973.

Norma Egg. Faculty member 1929-54, dean of women 1937-41. Died 1965.

Gladys Gregory. Faculty member 1928-62, first woman to reach rank of full professor. Died 1977.

John W. "Cap" Kidd. Faculty member from 1914 to his death in 1941. Dean of the College of Mines 1923-27.

E.J. Knapp. Faculty member 1931-69. Emeritus professor of physics at his death in 1979.

L.A. "Speedy" Nelson. Member of first graduating class in 1916. Faculty member 1920-63. Died 1964.

Howard Quinn. Faculty member 1924-65. Died 1976.

Mary Quinn. Faculty member 1925-65. Now retired in El Paso.

Franklin H. Seamon. Faculty member 1914-41. Died 1945.

William H. Seamon. Faculty member 1918-27. Died 1927.

D.M. Wiggins. President 1935-48. Died 1978.

Miculka: Mary Quinn told me about Mrs. W.H. Seamon's open house when the Seamons lived on North Stanton in the house later occupied by the E.J. Knapp family. Every Sunday evening she would hold open house for the students.

Knapp: She served strawberry shortcake with whipped cream as long as the strawberries lasted.

Hansen: The 1925 yearbook was dedicated to Mrs. Seamon.

Patterson: As the number of women students increased, they had a refining influence on the men. They didn't chew tobacco and spit out the window any more.

Duke: I tried to be an engineer, but Dean Kidd didn't want women engineers. I had two years of engineering courses before I ended up as a biology major.

Harris: All the art and music we could get was one year of public school music and one year of public school art. Mrs. Abbie Durkee taught the music course and Mrs. Eula Harlacker, who had taught me at Austin Junior High and El Paso High, became the college art teacher. The home she and her husband, John, built is now the University's Speech and Hearing Center.

Patterson: Two faculty members were required as chaperones for each dance. The dances were held in Holliday Hall. The liveliest place on campus, though, was wherever Dean Kidd was blowing out rock with dynamite. One fall we came to register in Old Main and he was downstairs blowing out rock so they could build another room. Every time a blast went off, the dust would cover everything upstairs where we were registering.

Duke: In the area we called the triangle, Dean Kidd decided to level off the rocks. He had a large piece of sheet steel that he would put over dynamite caps so the effects of the blast would go down into the ground. Something happened one day — he was called away (probably a put-up) — and some students added considerably more dynamite to his charge. The steel sheet went way up and on the way back down it cut every light and pole wire around there. It was said that the dean didn't say a word, just walked away.

Tillman: When we were in school, if any of the teams had a big victory they would block the bridge across the arroyo (now University Avenue) so nobody could go to class.

Ball: In so many ways this is a much better school than it was, but it has lost some of the intimacy it had when it was small.

Patterson: I am very thankful I was able to start more or less with the beginning of this institution. I'm very proud of it.

Duke: The University is the people who have been here and are here. The students basically haven't changed: They are eager, interested, hard working, trying to get ahead, and don't have enough money. □

Steve DeGroat (B.B.A. '72; M.B.S. '74), executive vice president of Inter-First Bank in El Paso, was named Outstanding Young Man by the El Paso Jaycees in January.



President Haskell Monroc, one of his nominators, says, "I consider Steve DeGroat one of the most capable, diligent and reliably efficient young men I have ever encountered. He has been not only a leader in the business community, but is also one of the most faithful and effective alumni of this university." Steve has been active as first vice president, Sunturians; second vice president, UTEP Alumni Association; Sun Bowl basketball committee; first vice president, Athletic Hall of Fame; vice chairman, metropolitan YM-CA capital gifts campaign; and El Paso Boy Scouts, sustaining membership campaign. He is married to the former **Martini Crowson** (B.A. '78). They are parents of one son, Steve Jr.

University Committee on Hydrology and Water Resources, he was instrumental in creating the department of hydrology and water resources, a department unique in the United States and ranked as a world leader in its field. In 1968 he established the consulting firm of Harshbarger & Associates, and since his retirement from the University in 1980 he has served as a private consultant and professor emeritus.

Laurance Nickey, M.D., (1948 etc.), vice president of the Texas Board of Health and a past president of the El Paso Medical Society, was appointed by the El Paso City-County Board of Health as health director of El Paso County.

1950-1959

Jackie O'Sullivan McDowell (B.A. '50; M.A. '51) recently appeared in the Las Cruces Community Theatre's production of "Ten Little Indians" in the role of the religious fanatic Miss Emily Brent.

Lillian Provencio de Corpening (B.S. '52), a Spanish teacher at Gadsden High School, has been elected national vice president of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica for Secondary Schools. The organization is sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

Eugene H. Roberts (B.A. '53) is a sales representative for KCIK-TV in El Paso.

Estelle S. Moore (B.S. '54), of Marfa, Texas, is retired from teaching.

Gilberto I. Valdez (B.B.A. '54), administration manager of Noranda Lakeshore Mines, Inc., Casa Grande, Arizona, is a director of First Federal Savings in Phoenix.

Dick Gingery (M.Ed. '55), executive director of the East Valley YMCA, has been named general director of the YMCA for El Paso.

Howard McCord (B.A. '57), creative writing professor at Bowling Green State University, has received a \$12,500 award from the National Endowment for the Arts. The award was made for a short story from *Walking Edges*, a collection of

prose published by Raincrow Press, and for a short story from *The Great Toad Hunt*, a collection of poetry and fiction. He is presently at work on a novel.

Rosa Guerrero (B.S. '57; M.Ed. '77), artistic director of El Paso's International Folklorico, has received the Human Relations Award from District XIX of the Texas State Teachers Association.

Hector Holguin (B.S. '58; Outstanding Ex 1982), founder of Holguin & Associates, Inc., of El Paso, has assumed the position of chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the company. **Danny Vickers** (B.B.A. '78) has been named president.

Arturo Lightbourn (B.A. '58; M.Ed. '70), principal at Hart Elementary School, El Paso, has been chosen Outstanding Ex for 1982-83 by Bowie High School.

Don Maynard (B.A. '58), former New York Jets wide receiver, has been voted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame. He will be inducted in ceremonies planned for this spring.

Ronald Dettman (B.A. '59) is chairman of the journalism department at Parkland High School, El Paso, and also a staff announcer for KTSM-Radio.

1960-1965

Alicia Armenta Contreras (B.A. '63), who received her Master of Education degree from King College, New Jersey, teaches bilingual math and sciences in Plainfield.

Ruben Salcido (B.A. '63) has been named president of Lydia Patterson Institute, El Paso. Rev. Salcido received his master's degree from Southern Methodist University's Perkin's School of Theology in Dallas and a doctorate of ministry at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth. He has served pastorates in El Paso, Corpus Christi and Dallas and directed a special interconference office for the North Texas and Rio Grande conferences of the United Methodist Church. He served with the church's General Board of Higher Education and Ministry in Nashville for seven years.

1920-1949

J. Olive Thompson Druckenmiller (B.A. '33), a resident of Allentown, Pennsylvania, recently joined UTEP's Matrix Society and in a letter to our Development Office says, "I appreciate so much my education at your institution. It has been invaluable. Thank you for sending me NOVA all these years."

Arturo M. Morales Dominguez (B.S. '39), of Mexico City, has received a Distinguished Member Award from the Society of Mining Engineers of AIME. He is listed in *Who's Who in the World - Men of Achievement*, and *International Who's Who of Intellectuals, and Personalities of America*.

John W. Harshbarger (B.S. '42), who completed his master's degree in 1948 and doctorate in 1949 at the University of Arizona, received one of 22 Distinguished Citizen awards during the U. of A. homecoming in November. After serving with the U.S. Geological Survey for 10 years, he returned to Arizona in 1959 as a professor of geology, serving as head of the department from 1961-66. During that period, as chairman of the

New Address?

New Address

Old Address

Name _____

Number & Street _____ Apt. Number _____ Number & Street _____ Apt. Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Year Graduated, attended _____

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

Sanna Eshelman Obermiller (B.S. '63), Burges High School Outstanding Ex for 1982-83, is coordinator of marketing and distributive education at Burges.

Ronald D. Coleman (B.A. '63), former Texas State Representative, was elected in November to succeed Richard C. White (1940 etc.), retiring Texas U.S. congressman from the 16th District.

M. Carole Moran Blackwelder (B.A. '64), who completed her master's degree in education administration in 1982, is presently teaching third grade at Stone Elementary School in Hobbs. Her husband, **Jesse Blackwelder** (B.A. '74) is a professor of reading and golf coach at New Mexico Junior College.

Ken Thomas (B.A. '64; M.Ed. '70) has been named assistant superintendent for curriculum and staff development with the El Paso Independent School District.

Carlos Lowenberg (B.A. '64), former assistant football coach at Jefferson High School, has been appointed head football coach at Austin High School.

Miguel "Mickey" Solis (B.S. '64), El Paso County commissioner, has been named Jefferson High School Outstanding Ex-Student for 1982.

Joseph D. Gelsthorpe, Lt. Col./USA, (B.A. '65; M.A. '74) is director of security, plans and operations for the 29th Area Support Group in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

E. Wesley Dils III (B.B.A. '65) is president of Francis Wagner Company, headquartered in El Paso.

John W. Rudisill, D.D.S., (B.S. '65), honored as 1981 Outstanding Ex-Student at Burges High School, is chairman of the department of preventive dentistry at Sheppard Regional Hospital, Wichita Falls, Texas.

1966-1969

Robert J. Dukes, Ph.D., (M.S. '67) associate professor of physics at the College of Charleston, South Carolina, has received a \$59,844 grant from the National Science Foundation and the Apple Education Foundation to fund his "indoor telescope" project. He will work on a microcomputer program to simulate the images astronomers see on their telescope viewing screens.

Karen Tolbut (B.A. '67) and her husband, William Tolbut, are co-owners of the Louisa Shoe Shop in Herndon, Virginia.

Ed L. Likins (M.Ed. '67), a math consultant for the El Paso Independent School District, has been promoted to director of staff development and supplementary programs and services for the district.

Margaret Martinez Frederick (B.S. '68), assistant principal at Andress High School, El Paso, has been named 1982 Outstanding Ex-Student for Irvin High School. She also was named "Woman of the Year" by the Jayceettes and the American Business Women's Association.

When **Estelle Goldman** (B.A. '68) graduated from UTEP with a degree in art, her husband, Nathan Goldman, erected a sign which said:

"She's too old for Camp,
She's too young for Medicare.
What will Estelle do next?"

Estelle recently displayed her porcelain artwork at Tiara Gallery in El Paso. She has created a great variety of stoneware and has worked in porcelain for several years.

Leo Chavez (B.A. '69), who received his Ph.D. in history in 1976 at the University of Michigan, is director of the social science division at San Jose

Community College.

Ignacio R. Troncoso (B.S. '69; M.S. '72) has been named vice president for engineering by the El Paso Electric Company.

Michael R. Truppa (B.B.A. '69) is corporate controller of the Lang Jewelry Company, Providence, Rhode Island, having joined Lang from People's Bank where he was vice president and comptroller.

Francis T. Heenan (B.S. '69) received his Master of Science degree from Rutgers University last May.

1970-1975

William I. Latham Jr., Maj./USA, (B.A. '70) is stationed at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, where he is commander of a helicopter unit. His assignment prior to Minot was as deputy commander for operations and detachment commander at Vandenberg AFB, California. He is married to the former **Tricia Carroway** (B.A. '70).

Jeffrey J. Batt (B.S. '70) teaches fourth grade in Austin.

Max Castillo, Ph.D., (B.S. '71), former associate dean for learning resources at El Paso Community College, has been named president of San Antonio College, Texas.

Fernando M. Orona (B.A. '71) is a certified public accountant in private practice in Houston.

James E. Paul Jr. (B.S. '71), general manager and owner of the El Paso Diablo baseball club, has been named student activities Outstanding Ex-Student at El Paso High School.

Gary Young (B.B.A. '72) is president of the East Town National Bank in Garland, Texas.

Porfirio Montes, Capt./USA, (B.S. '72) and his family are stationed in Germany.

Lawton Wong (B.S. '72; M.S. '82) is a general engineer for the directorate of engineering and housing, Ft. Bliss.

Luis M. Villarreal (B.A. '72) has been appointed the first Hispanic municipal judge in Solano County, California. His appointment, made on Nov. 1, 1982, was the last one made by Gov. Jerry Brown while he was in office. Villarreal was a member of the law firm of Honeychurch, Finkas and Villarreal. His home is in Fairfield.

Charles E. Webb Jr. (B.A. '73), Washington, D.C., real estate agent and erstwhile moonwatcher, was a recent visitor to NOVA's office and the campus.

W. Patrick Resen (B.A. '73), an attorney in Concord, California, is the author of an article "What, you ask, is a Hoya? Better you don't ask," which appeared in the November 1982 issue of *Smithsonian Magazine*.

Ron L. Patterson (B.B.A. '73), a senior gas purchase representative with the El Paso Natural Gas Company, recently refereed the Texas All-Star football game played in the Astrodome in Houston.

Donald Stephan (B.S. '74) has been appointed chief laboratory technologist at Highland Park Hospital, El Paso.

Walter Watson (B.B.A. '74), director of special projects for PPG Industries in Los Angeles, recently received his Master of Business Administration degree in marketing/finance at the University of California/Los Angeles.

Sandy Swift (B.S. '74) is an assistant vice president with Lawyers Title, El Paso.

Joseph Stires (B.S. '75) is the author of an article, "Design of a High Rate, High Volume Oil-Water Separator" in the November issue of the *Journal of Petroleum Technology*.

1976-1983

Jeanne Reynolds (B.A. '76), former librarian with the El Paso Public Library, has joined the library of the law offices of Kemp, Smith, Duncan and Hammond.

Cynthia Gerhardt (B.S. '76) has completed work for a Master of Arts degree in the Ball State University/U.S. Air Force-sponsored graduate program in Europe at Zweibrucken Base, Germany.

Dennis J. Pugh (B.S. '76), who lives in Las Cruces, is employed by TRW at the Johnson Space Center, White Sands Test Facility.

Ana Alicia Ortiz (B.A. '76) is appearing in the television drama "Falcon Crest" in the role of Melissa Cumson. Her television credits include "Buck Rogers in the 25th Century," "The Ordeal of Bill Carney" and "Coward of the County." Her one feature film credit is "Halloween II."

Donald Lee McBride (B.B.A. '77), customer service manager for Texas Apparel, El Paso, received his M.B.A. from Corpus Christi State University in December. His wife, the former **Mollie Eitel** (B.S. '77) is a math teacher at Desert View Middle School.

Allan R. Abbott (B.B.A. '77) has opened his own professional accounting firm in East El Paso. He is chairman of the board of Sunland Optical Company and was recently named to the advisory board of the West Texas District of the Small Business Administration (SBA).

Robert L. Billstone (B.B.A. '77) was among the Outstanding Young Men of America honored this year by the United States Jaycees. He is a graduate of Texas Tech School of Law.

Diane Troyer (B.A. '78), associate dean of occupational education at El Paso Community College, has been appointed to the governing body of West Texas Health Systems Agency.

Monica L. Beard (B.S. '79) was one of sixteen medical technology students graduated in August by the School of Allied Health Science at the University of Texas Health Science Center/Dallas.

Philip R. Martinez (B.A. '79), a 1982 graduate of Harvard Law School, is associated with Kemp, Smith, Duncan, Hammond in El Paso.

Yvonne Nelson (B.A. '79) is currently working on her Ph.D. degree in history at UCLA.

Kenneth E. St. Clair, 1st Lt./USMC, (B.B.A. '80) recently returned from a six-month deployment to Okinawa and is currently the maintenance management officer of the 3rd Battalion/7th Marines at Camp Pendleton. His wife, the former **Paula J. Woodbridge** (B.B.A. '80) is the assistant controller of Xentek, Inc., an electronics manufacturing company in San Marcos, California.

Gilbert F. Alfaro, 2nd Lt./USA, (B.S. '81), who was commissioned through the University ROTC program in December 1981, recently participated in the military exercise Proud Saver/MOBEX 83.

Troy L. Wyatt (B.B.A. '81) is the area sales manager for Adolph Coors Company in San Antonio.

Suzi Zimmerman (B.S. '81) is currently working on her Ph.D. in social psychology at the University of Illinois, Champaign.

Dennis K. McBride (B.S. '82) is a corrosion engineer with Exxon in Houston.



Deaths

Arthur J. Maese (B.S. 1929), April, 1982, in Torreon, Mexico, where he was a semi-retired geologist.

Clovis C. "Bud" Blalock (B.S. 1942), a resident of Pueblo, Colorado, April 12, 1982, after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Violet Blalock.

Celina Rubio (B.A. 1978), in El Paso, October 13, 1982. She was a teacher of the deaf at Hillside Elementary School. Survivors include her parents, three brothers and two sisters.

Carl T. Ivey (B.A. 1937), October 23, 1982. Survivors are his wife, Martha Ivey, and a daughter.

Louis E. Schneider (B.S. 1948), a retired NASA geologist, in Houston, October 26, 1982. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Schneider.

Howard S. Leslie (1960 etc.), October 29, 1982. He was retired from the Texaco Company. Survivors include his wife, Louise Leslie, and a son.

A.L. Hawley Jr. (1926 etc.), in Santa Clara, California, October 31, 1982. His wife, Rita Hawley, two sons and a daughter, survive him.

Elouise Nolen La Londe (B.S. 1953), a teacher in the El Paso schools for 34 years, November 1, 1982. Survivors are her three daughters.

Kathy June Stewart (B.A. 1978), in La Jolla, California, November 10, 1982. Her parents and one sister survive her.

Katherine Ann Kemp Fant (1942 etc.), November 11, 1982. Three daughters survive her.

William Eldridge Dickinson (B.S. 1923), of Beaumont, Texas, November 11, 1982. He is survived by his wife.

Harvey D. McCune (1928 etc.), November 20, 1982. Survivors are his wife, Lilia McCune, and two sons.

Russell Daniel Herring, a sophomore student at the University, in November, 1982. He is survived by his parents of Clint, Texas, a brother and three sisters.

Richard E. Fletcher (B.S. 1947), in El Paso, November 22, 1982. Survivors include his wife, Betty Fletcher, three sons and a daughter.

Camille E. Payan (B.S. 1969), a teacher in the Ysleta Independent School District for the past 12 years, in El Paso, November 27, 1982. She is survived by her husband, Pete Payan Jr., a son and a daughter.

Betty Safford Belding, a member of the UT El Paso Matrix Society and friend of the University, December 6, 1982, in Santa Barbara, California, where she had lived since 1976. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Peter de Wetter (Mardee Belding de Wetter, B.A. 1943; M.A. 1946) and several grandchildren.

Jane R. Ferguson (B.A. 1970; M.A. 1974), December 8, 1982. Survivors are her husband, Dan Ferguson, and three children.

Gertrude S. Nowlin (1931 etc.), December 11, 1982. A teacher at Bowie and Aoy schools in El Paso, she was assistant principal at Clardy until her retirement. A cousin survives her.

Amy Palmer (B.A. 1973), a partner in Palmer-Miller Advertising, El Paso, in an automobile accident near Anthony, New Mexico, December 23, 1982. She is survived by her husband, Paul Palmer, and two sons.

Victoriano B. Pina (B.A. 1979), a student at Columbus School of Law, in Washington, D.C., December 24, 1982. Survivors are his parents, two sisters and two brothers.

Ethel Wallace Reed (B.A. 1947), December 28, 1982. Survivors include her husband, Jerome S. Reed, a son and a daughter.

Jack H. Nelson (B.S. 1927), a retired mining engineer, January 4. His survivors are three daughters and a son.

Kent B. Deputy (B.B.A. 1950), El Paso Upper Valley farmer, January 6, from injuries suffered in an airplane crash. His wife, Della Deputy, son and daughter, survive.

Chalk Talk...(from page 5)

Next year, he says proudly, a new school will replace this one with its rows and rows of cinderblock and portable rooms that have grown with the community. It will be about four miles down the road, he says, on a high rise overlooking the river valley. They will start with about 1,100 students with capacity for 1,400. "There were just 350 when I came here to teach in 1970," he recalls.

In the Education building at UTEP, Dr. Kies' office door is open, an invitation for students to drop in. One of them, Sheila Johnson, is completing her elementary education teacher certification, having graduated in 1977 with a B.A. in psychology. She may return later for a graduate degree, but now she wants to teach.

"When you study education," she comments, "you get a lot of theory in and out the ears, but they don't tell you

how to do behavior modification. When you change the other person's behavior, you also change your own. Then you ask yourself, is it right to change someone else's behavior? When the students are quiet in class, does that make them better people or does it really squelch their creativity? And is that to your benefit or theirs?"

Sheila, troubled at not finding the materials she wanted on behavior modification, has prepared a paper on the subject. Dr. Kies suggests that she is capable of conducting a seminar on the subject for future teachers.

They continue to discuss their philosophy of teaching tied to action. Behind them hangs a banner, made for Dr. Kies by a former student. The concise Chinese proverb sums up his outlook:

I hear and I forget,
I see and I remember,
I do and I understand. □

My Country...(from page 2)

Rapids, also conducted the harp concerto premiere last year.

Meanwhile Finko is continuing his work as a composer. His latest major endeavor is a full-length opera, "The Enchanted Tailor," after a Sholem Aleichem story, being written under a fellowship from the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture in Geneva.

"This has a very mystical story with some religious aspects from the Old Testament," he says. The English libretto was completed in the fall by Dr. Bledsoe. Ilse Irwin of the Modern Languages faculty worked on the German translation.

"It is important that it also be in German," says the composer, "because the story was originally in Yiddish, which is related to German, and the opera in German sounds very exciting."

A septet commissioned by Harvard University will premiere April 24 in Philadelphia, performed by the Penn Contemporary Players under the baton of American composer Richard Wernick, winner of the Pulitzer Prize. "It was Paul Fromm who suggested I be given this commission," he adds. Fromm is a distinguished leader in the world of music and the arts and a foundation executive. A second performance of the work will be given by a chamber ensemble in Chicago, directed by Ralph Shapey of the University of Chicago.

As for winning an award after being in the United States only a short time, the 46-year-old musician reflects on the idea modestly.

"I do not seek awards. I am here to give of my talents to America, not to take." □

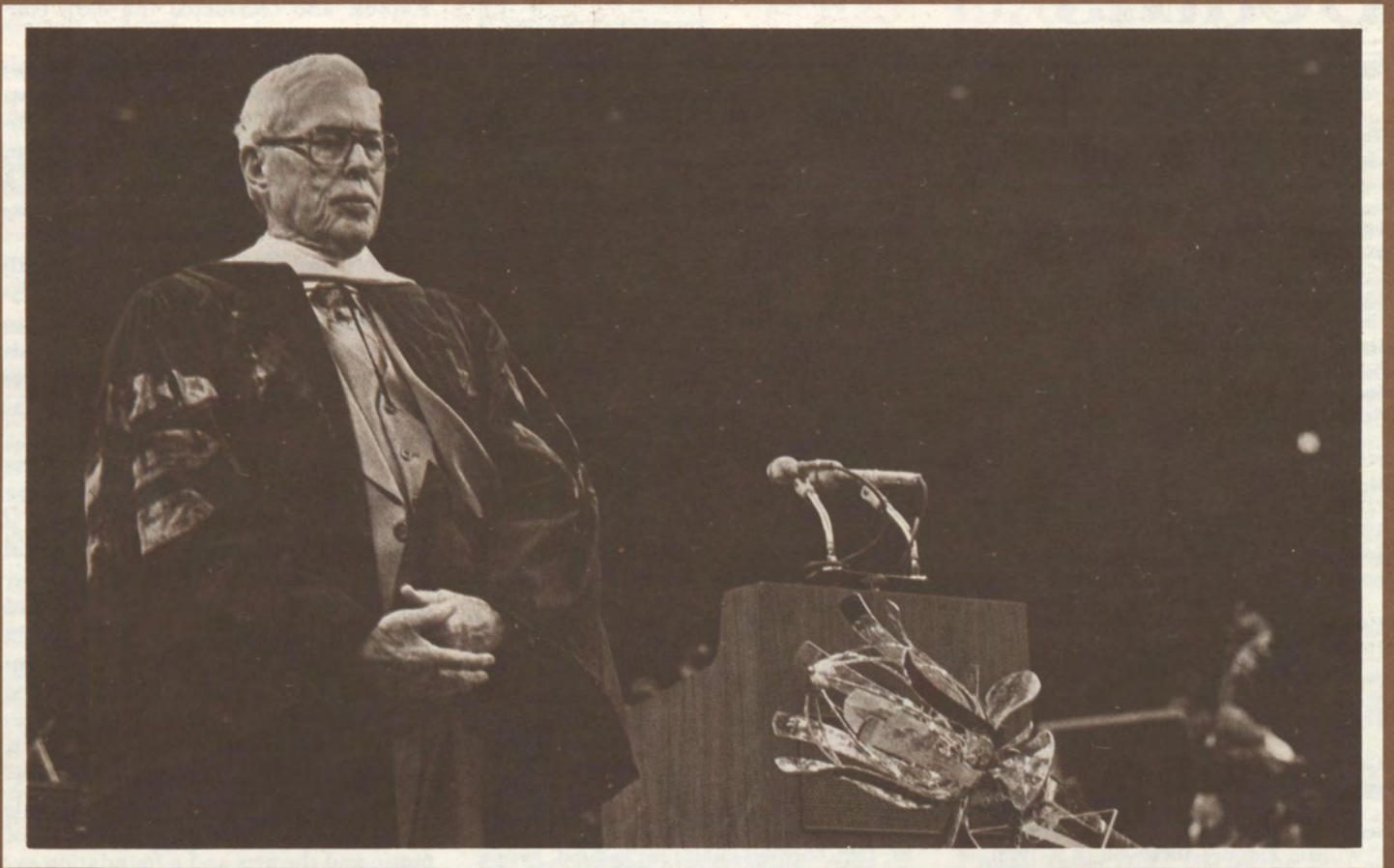
Charlie Duncan...(from page 10)

was like to have other men shooting at me — even though they were shooting blanks.

"When we get together for a reenactment, we try to think and speak like the soldier did. We do not talk about our favorite television show or automobile; there are no four-letter obscenities — the closest to cussing we get is a 'Dang my buttons!' type expression."

Finally, he says, the reenactments and adopting the *persona* of a Union soldier adds to his understanding of history and his ability to teach it.

"I see this country's history as a wonderful story," Duncan says, "and I love to tell it. My vicarious participation in some of the story helps me tell it better. It's as simple as that." □



NOVA

The University of Texas at El Paso
News Service
El Paso, Texas 79968

Second Class
Postage
PAID
at
El Paso, Texas

March, 1983