

12-1984

NOVA: The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine

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NOVA

The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine



The View from the Hill

by Dale L. Walker

Without dwelling on it any more than necessary, our experience with University Network Publications has ended. UNP is belly-up and NOVA is back home, being written, edited, and printed on campus.

The critical moment in our relationship with UNP came when we were informed that our October issue could not be printed and delivered in time for Homecoming. Well, it *had* to be, so we canceled our contract, brought the magazine back here and, with the help of Joe Hill, director of UTEP's printing division, we got it out on time for the pre-Homecoming honors of our 1984 Outstanding Ex-Student, Abraham Chavez, Jr.

The demise of UNP is a sad business, as is the case with any good idea that never quite becomes workable. With the kind of audience, and the size of it, reached by NOVA and the other 30-odd university magazines in the UNP "consortium," it is a source of mystery to me that the national ads were never sold. But they were not and without them, UNP had no financial base to continue printing the magazines. The venture capital people who entered the picture this past summer and kept the company in operation for a brief period, must have quickly assessed the situation as hopeless, and called it quits.

In any event, it was an interesting experiment and worth the experience.

All of us involved in the editorial side of this magazine owe a debt of gratitude to the UTEP administration which has given us such wholehearted support throughout our association with UNP — President Haskell Monroe and Vice President for Business Affairs William C. Erskine, in particular.

So, we are back on a quarterly schedule with only a few other changes in the scheme of things: We're keeping our color covers (sacrificing use of a second color *inside*) and contents page, and Mary Ann Fleager will continue to contribute a page of "Extracts," news of development and alumni affairs.

* * * *

UTEP produces news at a faster pace than we can report it in a mon-

thly, let alone a quarterly, magazine, but here are a few of the most important recent developments from the campus:

— By the time this issue of NOVA is mailed, the move to the new campus Library will be completed. The new Chancellor of the UT System, Dr. Hans Mark, will see the new building when he pays us a visit in November, and the Board of Regents will tour it when they meet on campus December 13-14.

— Diana Natalicio, formerly dean of the College of Liberal Arts, became vice president for academic affairs on September 1, the first female chief academic officer here or any other major university in Texas.

— Enrollment for the fall, 1984, semester, is 15,300, up 32 students from a year ago, up 171 students from 1982. Credit hour production is also up, in particular at the graduate level with a 14.3% increase over the fall, 1982, semester.

— In his Fall Convocation "state of the University" message on September 13, President Monroe recounted some of UTEP's forward steps in the past year: work toward requesting four new doctoral programs; recent reaccreditation of the College of Education and Engineering; and increased research funding (up 114% over last year to \$2.9 million), being among the most important areas covered.

— Three UTEP professors earned Outstanding Teaching Awards from the Amoco Foundation: Kathleen Staudt (Political Science), Clarence H. Cooper (Physics), and Darrell Schroder (Electrical Engineering).

— Judith P. Goggin (Psychology) was named by President Monroe to chair the faculty committee which will prepare the Institutional Self-Study, a book-length report for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, prepared every decade as a step in the process or reaccreditation by the Association.

— Bruce Collier (Accounting) is chief planning officer for the University as of August 27.

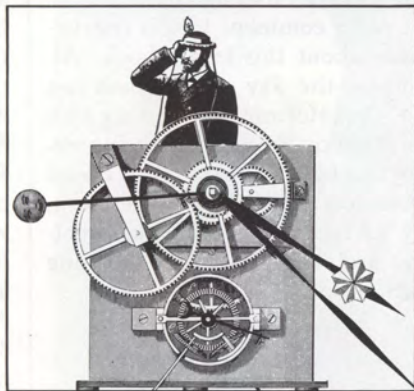
We'll try to keep you posted on such important University developments as we get back on a quarterly NOVA track. □

NOVA

DECEMBER



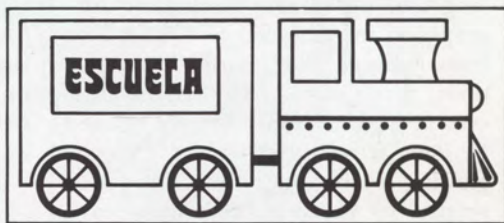
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El Paso artists Fred and Nancy Griffin with mosaic seals they made for the entrance to the new UTEP Library. (Photo by Russell Banks.)

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Graphic Design: Kathy Rogers AlumNotes: Sue Wimberly Extracts: Marianne Fleager

Contents © by UT El Paso, 1984

Application to mail second class postage rate is pending at El Paso, Texas. NOVA is published quarterly by the News and Publications Office, The University of Texas at El Paso (El Paso, Texas 79968-0522). 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 79968-0522. This University is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

December 1984 NOVA
Vol. 20, No. 2; No. 80

BOOKS

At last, a book that does him justice!"

So said Jim Stowe, El Paso Times book editor, when he opened his copy of *Riders Across the Centuries: Horsemen of the Spanish Borderlands* by Jose Cisneros, released in December by Texas Western Press of The University of Texas at El Paso.

And so it does: "Riders," is sumptuously produced by TW Press, with a long and unfailingly fascinating biographical introduction by UTEP Professor John O. West, with 100 illustrations, many in color (by far the most ever brought together by this beloved El Paso artist), and with a perfectly glowing facing-page text, elegantly written by Cisneros, describing each drawing in loving historical detail.

"Riders Across the Centuries" has had a most interesting history, too. Soon after Haskell Monroe came to UTEP as president, he made Cisneros' acquaintance. The two had a common bond in their relationship with the late Buck Schiwetz, the great Texas artist,

and Dr. Monroe admired Cisneros' work and knew of it before coming to El Paso. Then, when plans for a new UTEP Library became solidified, Dr. Monroe and Cisneros met and made an arrangement whereby *all* of Jose's "Horsemen of the Spanish Borderlands" — a collection of well over 100 pen, ink and watercolor works — would be purchased by the University for permanent display in the Library. That magnificent collection forms the basis for this new book from TW Press, timed for release during a Library celebration in December.

An example of the Cisneros art and text in "Riders Across the Centuries" is the drawing reproduced on this page — "Paso del Norte Travelers" (circa 1850). In the facing page text, Cisneros supplies a 300-word mini-history of travel by the people of Paso del Norte 13 decades ago.

One more comment in this restricted space about this lovely book. Almost up to the day of his death last July 24, Carl Hertzog was working with Texas Western Press on the page designs of this book by his devoted friend Jose Cisneros. The book, therefore, rightly carries Hertzog's famous colophon, and as well, Jose's touching dedication:

Carl Hertzog
"paso por aqui"
He glorified the printed page
in the land he loved so much.

"Riders Across the Centuries" is available from the Press and in El Paso and Southwestern bookstores, as of December 1. The price is \$36.

— Dale L. Walker

"Original American art-forms are precious scant and scattered out," says Will Henry in "The Real Western Novel."

"What we have in the American Western, and in its hearty descendant spawn of Western writers and Western writing, is an original artform, maybe the only genuine American artform."

No one is better qualified than Will Henry (Clay Fisher, and Henry Wilson Allen, his real name) to assess Western fiction's importance to American letters. He has written more than 50 historical novels under his two pen-names, has won every major and minor honor accorded in this genre, and has seen many of his books become the subjects of motion pictures. His essay is one of eleven containing his comments on his more than 30-year career found in *Will Henry's West*, published by Texas Western Press in June (\$18). There are also six of his short stories, some of them prize winners, and an introduction by the book's editor, Dale L. Walker, better known in these pages as editor of *NOVA*.

It was through the Western Writers of America, whose monthly magazine, *The Roundup*, Walker also edits, that he and Will Henry became acquainted.

Also recently released by Texas Western Press are two more in the Southwestern Studies series, available in paperback at \$4 each. No. 72 is *Epidemic in the Southwest, 1918-1919* by Bradford Luckingham, who teaches history at Arizona State University. He focuses on the cities of El Paso, Phoenix, Tucson and Albuquerque as they were affected by the disastrous influenza epidemic at the close of World War I.

The Politics of Southwestern Water by Ryan J. Barilleaux, a member of the Political Science faculty, is a case study of the recent El Paso-New Mexico legal dispute over access to well water. "The El Paso case," he observes, "is thus important not only as a microcosm through which the water issue may be examined, but also because of what it implies for the future of federalism and of water policy." □



But What Do You Do?

On Putting Philosophy in its Place

by David L. Hall



Please kindly tell us, what is your profession?"

Uh oh. Here we go, I thought.

There were five of us, my four Japanese hosts and me, crammed into a drafty wooden booth in one of the many narrow alleys forming the neon labyrinth of Tokyo's Shinjuku district. My new friends had politely (but insistently) invited me to "sharpen" their English while they acquainted me with the after hours drinking customs of Japanese executives.

"I teach philosophy."

The appreciative laughter and respectful nods were in happy contrast to the shuffling silence which, on my native turf, almost always attends my confession of occupation.

"You will be pleased to tell us, my

colleagues and myself, about Nietzsche's philosophy — very difficult for the Japanese."

I should have been better prepared for the shock. I had just come from the Republic of China where my hosts were not only reputable philosophers but influential government advisors as well. In Hong Kong I had met a distinguished philosopher who chairs the committee on the reaccession of Hong Kong and the New Territories by the People's Republic of China. Asia, I had learned, not only honors its philosophers more than do Anglo-European countries, its people have a far greater knowledge and appreciation of philosophy, both Oriental and Western. Why should I be surprised, then, that a Japanese executive in an oil im-

port company could be interested in the views of a 19th century German philosopher. Actually, it wasn't really shock or surprise that I felt, but a kind of disquieting feeling that led me to think — something is very wrong about all this.

Several days later, on my way to Narita airport and my flight home, I had the opportunity to reflect upon my five weeks in Asia. Certainly the most striking impression drawn from my visit was that, beyond the many courtesies extended me simply by virtue of my status as a foreign visitor, I had been treated with extra kindness because I was a philosopher. Such treatment contrasted readily with that which members of the philosophic clan are accustomed to receive within

Western societies. For at least since Socrates' fatal toast to the health of the Athenian establishment, the Western philosopher has enjoyed a rather modest social and political status.

The distance between philosophy and the cultural mainstream has increased in modern times due to the ever widening gap between thinking, as a strictly intellectual enterprise, and the various forms of practical endeavor that shape and are shaped by social customs and institutions. This distance is protected, however, as much by the philosopher as by the men of practical affairs. For whenever in our history philosophers have come too close to the cultural mainstream, philosophic activity has lost its creative edge. For this reason, even though I enjoyed savoring the ironic fact that as a philosopher, I was far less alien in China and Japan than in my own country, I very much looked forward to returning home; home to my alien status, my marginal role.

Philosophy's rather strange career was largely determined at the very beginnings of our tradition by a dramatic discovery bearing upon the search for happiness. This was the discovery that the sorts of things worth seeking in life are of two distinct varieties: There are those values, such as wisdom and justice, which are both excellent in themselves and always good, and values, such as wealth and power, which though not good in themselves may be useful in obtaining other worthwhile things. Socrates is generally credited with this discovery and with the attendant insight that the greater part of human misery directly or indirectly results from confusing the sorts of things that are valuable only as means with those things valuable in themselves. Thus the futile attempts to equate happiness with money, pleasure or power.

Socrates' diagnosis was the obvious one: it can only be due to ignorance that such a misconstrual of values is possible. If ignorance is the enemy, knowledge must be the key to the good life. Plato, Socrates' illustrious student and literary champion, founded The Academy, the prototype of our universities, in accordance with this Socratic

insight. With it the classical idea of the role of the philosopher within culture was born in the West.

From its beginnings, the purpose of the university has been the clarification of values. The university aims to educate individuals to distinguish those things valuable in themselves from those things that are worthwhile only as means to some other ends, and to encourage preference for the former over the latter. It always comes as a surprise to beginning students of Plato's philosophy that, for example, gymnastics, geometry and astronomy were not studied in order to train professional athletes, mathematicians or physicists, but to prepare students for the recognition of different kinds of

"Now, there is a problem with this 'conscience of the university' stuff."

harmonious values associated with the activity of thinking for its own sake.

Things are a great deal more complicated today. The university is designed to educate professionals. Professionalization is, from the perspective of the tradition-minded philosopher, simply one more illustration of a mistaken assessment of the relative merits of intrinsic and instrumental values. If university studies are offered primarily in order to realize professional interests, it becomes increasingly more difficult to find the time to expose students to those things valuable in themselves. In contemporary universities, future scientists and technicians are expected to learn how to solve selected problems associated with the complex technological apparatus that is currently recasting our world. Professors of the social sciences are urged to demonstrate the relevance of their disciplines to important interpersonal, social or political issues. Historians are pressed to teach us the "lessons of history"; departments of literature are overrun by experts who are bullied into promising ever greater improvement in the communication skills of increasingly backward students.

And philosophy? Philosophic activity, once the defining characteristic of the university, now goes on almost ex-

clusively within a single department (usually very small). The philosopher is left to preach to his or her colleagues the message that the entire university was originally intended to offer society at large. Philosophy is reduced to serving as "the conscience of the university".

Or so it may seem.

Now, there is a problem with this "conscience of the university" stuff. Not that there isn't some truth to it. Most philosophers, after all, still stubbornly cling to the question of values that almost everyone else has long ago gaily abandoned. If, however, philosophers are too closely identified with the conscience of their institution, their voice cannot but remain ever so still and small. For, as with personal conscience so with "the conscience of the university," we make special efforts to insure that it speaks *soto voce*. Lest

we be forced to attend.

One reason the philosopher is accorded the questionable status of institutional conscience is that he is so often in the position of praising "thinking for its own sake." Everybody else, or so it seems, is thinking for some extrinsic purpose: in order to answer a question, in order to solve a problem, in order to inform or persuade. But thinking "in order to. . ." isn't really thinking. To think doesn't mean to grasp a useful idea, to apply a principle or to implement a procedure. First-generation computers can do these things quite well. Thinking requires *taking exception* — one must say, "on the contrary," or at the very least, "on the other hand." Thinking creates a distance between the thinker and the subject of his thought and between the thinker and those with whom communication is sought. Thus the characterization of the philosopher as a critic, a skeptic, a gadfly. Or, in less cranky terminology, "the conscience of the university."

Sadly, there are philosophers who would remain content with this imposed masquerade. Who would not be tempted by the offer of a permanent license for moral indignation? The truth of the matter, however, is that the public image of the philosopher is largely mistaken. The philosopher's

colleagues, those most responsible for touting this image, have seldom themselves attended philosophy classes; they have rarely read their colleague's books. They only have his public activities within the institution to go on. Strangely, it is the philosopher's extra-curricular demand for clarity that causes him to be labeled a moral crusader.

Like all institutions, the university sustains a considerable amount of cant and obfuscation — the two chief enemies of the philosophic mind. I once served on a committee charged with the responsibility of developing "a structure of disincentives and exit criteria for otherwise tenured faculty."

Now I would contend that any request for clarity with regard to these goals could, understandably, be interpreted as a conscience-ridden, moral act. More recently, I attended a meeting at which it

was reported that "computer software would be provided" various departments on campus. I asked what was meant by "provided." The surprising retort was, "I see, you want to talk *morals*." I had no such intent; I only wanted to talk *clarity*. But being clear in this case meant saying that purchased software would be duplicated (some would say "pirated") and distributed to interested departments. By not being altogether clear about our intent we can sometimes avoid having to face a conflict of conscience.

Philosophers, obsessed with clarity and precision, are often credited with higher moral standards than they, in fact, possess. The ironic truth is that philosophers generally handle moral conflicts very well; it is a lack of clarity they cannot stand. Those who must resort to cant and doublespeak in order to make it through the day, demonstrate a far greater sensitivity to the pain of moral ambiguity.

William James provided what is, perhaps, one of the least controversial definitions of philosophy when he said, "Philosophy is the unusually stubborn attempt to think clearly." It isn't the case that philosophers are the only people who think; it is just that by virtue of their traditional commitment to intrinsic over instrumental values, ends over means, philosophers are able

to be unusually stubborn in this attempt. The university can get along quite well without philosophers functioning as its faintly praised conscience; it cannot survive, however, without the sort of clear thinking illustrated by philosophic activity.

To the degree that we accede to the professionalization of the university, we must accept the instrumentalization of thought. Preparation for most professions requires a certain mastery of principles, rules and procedures that guide one's occupational behavior. Such preparation demands the "in order to . . ." kind of thinking. For dyed-in-the-wool humanists this raises the question of values quite directly: "But when will our students be given

“Who would not be tempted by the offer of a permanent license for moral indignation?”

the opportunity to think simply for thinking's sake?" Fortunately this poignant echo of the classical ends-means debate cannot be as easily ignored today as once might have been the case. For it is becoming increasingly clear that instrumental thinking may be most productively exercised only in conjunction with the sort of dispassionate thinking for its own sake that philosophy permits.

Those professionals who can stay one step ahead of their computers will stand the best chance of succeeding in the coming technocracy. This will require thinking that begins with "on the contrary" or (at the very least) "on the other hand." This is the kind of thinking that generates alternatives not already embedded in the programs; thinking that, above all, demands clarity with respect to the question of the appropriate ends for which the technical apparatus provides the means. This sort of thinking cannot be "programmed" into the programmers; it is a by-product of the undiluted pleasure of thinking for the fun of it.

But what, precisely, is the connection between philosophic thinking and professional activity? How can one be sure that philosophy is serving the practical interests of its society? By intuition and experience, philosophers have been led to subscribe to the

"trickle down theory" of meaning and value. Unquestionably, if mysteriously, the benefits of the unusually stubborn attempt to think clearly will trickle down to the professions in important, if unforeseeable, ways. The philosopher, meanwhile, may be forgiven if he enjoys the distance separating his activity of thinking from the practical endeavors of those who are most instrumental in attempting to direct and reform the public world. That distance, after all, is precisely what insures the creative relationship between thought and action.

My seat mate on the flight from Tokyo to New York was a Manhattan

investment banker. We had talked for a few minutes about current crises in international finance — the flight of capital from Hong Kong, and so on.

Finally, it came.

"And what do *you* do?"

"I'm a philosopher." (To her credit the silence was brief, the shuffling almost unnoticeable.)

"Ahhh..ha! An intellectual!" she jibed. Laughing, she added, "But what do *you* do?"

Though we were less than a hundred air miles from the Japanese coast, I suddenly felt I was home. □

David L. Hall, Professor of Philosophy, received his B.A. from Texas Western College in 1961; B.D. *summa cum laude* from the Chicago Theological Seminary in 1964; Ph.D. from Yale in 1967. He joined The University of Texas at El Paso faculty in 1969 and is currently the Chairman of the Department of Philosophy and the Director of the Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Program.

Professor Hall is the author of 3 books: *The Civilization of Experience — A Whiteheadian Theory of Culture*; *Eros and Irony: A Prelude to Philosophical Anarchism*; and *The Uncertain Phoenix: Adventures Toward A Post-Cultural Sensibility*.



The bright, airy one-room school has a wide center aisle with desks on each side — two children per built-in unit. A wood stove by the back door provides heat in winter, and the chalkboard takes up most of the narrow front wall.

When the children take their seats and look out the windows that line the school's wall, they may see desert, prairie, or tropical scenery, lowlands or mountains, depending on where their fathers are working at the time.

The school is on wheels — a railroad car.

The fathers of these students are maintenance workers at remote outposts of the government-owned Mexican Railways (Ferrocarriles Nacionales de Mexico), and their classroom and others like it offer a possible solution to a problem that troubles educators in the United States, according to Dennis Bixler-Marquez of the UTEP Teacher Education faculty.

Operated for children of railroad workers, the group of schools on wheels represents an unusual combination of concern on the part of industry, government and the education system in solving the special problem of these students.

Dr. Bixler feels that these Mexican children share some special educational needs with American Indian children in remote communities and the children of migrant workers in the United States.

During a research trip to Mexico, he observed the operation of the school program of the Chihuahua-al-Pacifico

line that traverses a variety of terrains in its route from middle northern Mexico to the Pacific Ocean. Maintenance workers are found along this line in desert, prairie and tropical zones, including the famous Barranca del Cobre of the Sierra Madre, deeper and larger than Arizona's Grand Canyon.

"The repair and maintenance along this scenic route," says the professor, "produced a set of housing, health and educational problems that required a responsive and creative approach by the Mexican Railways and the educational establishment."

A central figure in the development of the railway schools is Jose Murguiz Lopez, who before 1964 was a rural teacher in the small railroad community of Mata Ortiz, Chihuahua.

"He observed that maintenance crews and their families were routinely shuffled to areas not served by state or federal schools for periods as long as three months," says Dr. Bixler. "This resulted in a tremendous loss of instructional time for their children and greatly concerned the parents."

Murguiz Lopez spent two years in developing his novel approach to the education of these migrant children.

"If families were to be relocated and live in railroad cars in order to maintain family unity, he reasoned, why not their schools and teachers?" says the professor. "Murguiz Lopez found that the labor contract governing the employment of the railroad workers provided that Mexican Railways would provide a school and teacher for each group of 20 or more students, re-

gardless of where the crews were assigned."

With the support of the Mexican Railways and the state education system, on January 3, 1966, the second railway mobile school in North America was founded, says Dr. Bixler. It was preceded by the one operated by the Trans-Canadian Railway.

The Mexican Railways adopted a policy that went beyond the original labor contract; it agreed to provide a mobile school and a teacher for as few as six students.

The mobile educational system has now grown to 14 schools. Jose Murguiz Lopez continues as principal of a vast territory, with schools located in the states of Chihuahua, Sonora and Sinaloa, wherever crews of 24, 18 or 12 men are assigned. His office is in a railroad car at Mata Ortiz, 200 miles southwest of El Paso.

The teachers live in railroad cars adjacent to their schools, with furnishings comparable to those of a small house trailer. Each school car has a chalkboard, two rows of wooden seats for two students each, and various teaching aids. Heating is available, but not air conditioning, and many of the stations lack electricity. Portable power plants are issued to enable teachers to use such equipment as tape recorders.

Mexican Railways pays the 14 teachers and their principal at the same rate as other teachers in their area, with two-month summer vacations and holidays. Early in the operation of this unusual school system, the teachers often came from urban areas or other parts of Mexico and did not

readily adapt to their living conditions. A new generation of teachers, however, has been recruited from the communities served by the railroad. These teachers complete their certification requirements at the Centro de Capacitacion del Magistero, a federal teacher training institute in Ciudad Juarez, just across the Rio Grande from El Paso. With family ties and some roots in the areas where they teach, these teachers are content to stay with the school system on rails. Many of them take post-graduate courses at the state normal school in Chihuahua City, where their principal earned the equivalent of a Master's degree in education.

The teachers follow the official Mexican federal curriculum, says Dr. Bixler. Zone inspectors and the principal visit the classrooms three times a year to evaluate the performances of the teachers. Students are provided free textbooks and workbooks by the government. They also take part in academic, cultural and athletic contests with students from other schools.

This mobile system, Dr. Bixler finds, also has developed a program to serve those who have completed its terminal sixth grade. In evening sessions, students may study high school level courses individually or in small groups, leading to a nationally standardized examination that is scored in

Mexico City. Those passing the test then may enter any preparatory school in Mexico, completion of which is a prerequisite for admission to a university or teacher training institution, the professor says.

Dr. Bixler, who has long been concerned about education for migrant workers' children in the United States, sees many benefits of the Mexican Railways schools that could be helpful in this country. "Band-Aid type programs have been used to cope with the basic problem of a fragmented educational process due to the demands of the agriculture industry on the parents of migrant children," he observes "Agribusiness in the United States and school districts in communities with migrant farm worker populations have done little to change their delivery of services other than slightly modifying the school calendar to ensure that the students and their families are avail-

able to pick the crops."

A mobile classroom experiment was tried a few years ago in the Southwest, with groups of teachers following migrant families in their cars. They taught in whatever facilities were available along the way. But the diversity of migratory patterns brought about a high rate of pupil attrition, says Dr. Bixler, and the experiment failed.

Greater support and coordination on the part of migrant families, agribusiness and appropriate government and private agencies could lead toward more successful education programs, he feels. The Mexican Railways program is an outstanding example of a successful partnership of this kind.

"The alleviation of special education problems of the labor force is a sound investment in the future of any nation," he affirms. □

Dennis Bixler-Marquez earned his B.A. and M.E. degrees at UTEP and completed an M.A. in

Spanish and a Ph.D. in bilingual multicultural education at Stanford University. Formerly a public school teacher, he

has taught at the University of Santa Clara and since 1978 has been a member of the UTEP College of Education faculty. He also served from 1973-77 as associate director of the National Urban/Rural Leadership Training Institute at the Center for Education Research, Stanford. He is former director of UTEP's Chicano Studies Program. He has been involved in educational research on both sides of the international border.



Mobile school unit with teacher's car in Mata Ortiz, Chihuahua.

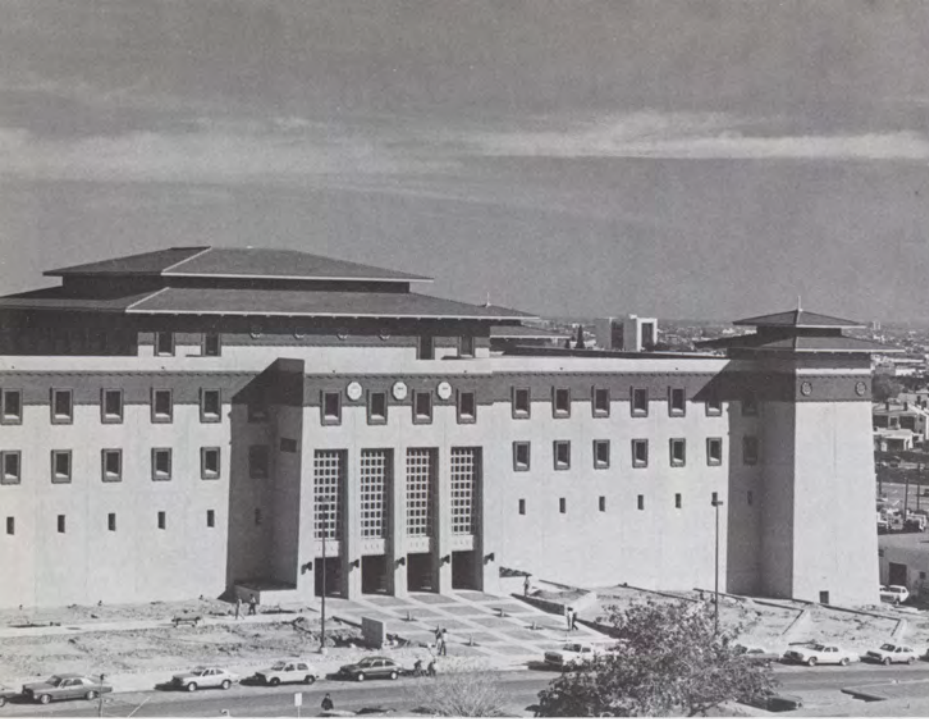


Students and teacher inside the school car in Mata Ortiz.

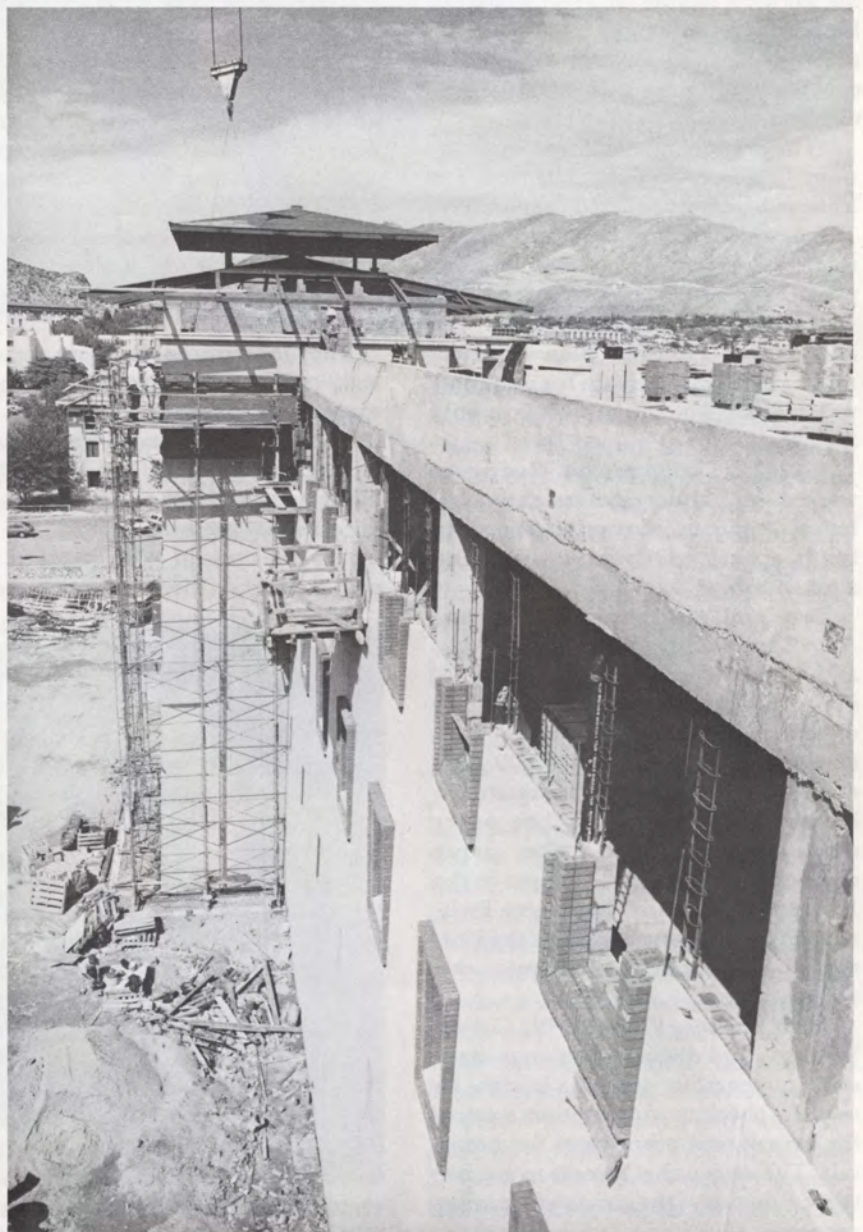


The Library

**Photo feature by
Russell Banks**



Clockwise, from left: The three-story atrium; the view from atop Kelly Hall; construction, October, 1983; Dr. Haskell Monroe (right) and Fred Hanes, director of libraries, opening the new facility, October 24, 1984; Dr. Monroe and Regent Jane Blumberg at the Library's ground breaking in April, 1982. Center photo: Helen Bell, head of the Reference Department, giving a tour to students.



Stopping the Leaks

UTEP Engineers on the Production Line

Last year, Ohio Medical Products, a division of Air Co Inc., became the first member of the Manufacturing Engineering Consortium of The University of Texas at El Paso.

Since then, UTEP students have completed two projects to help the company save money on the production line.

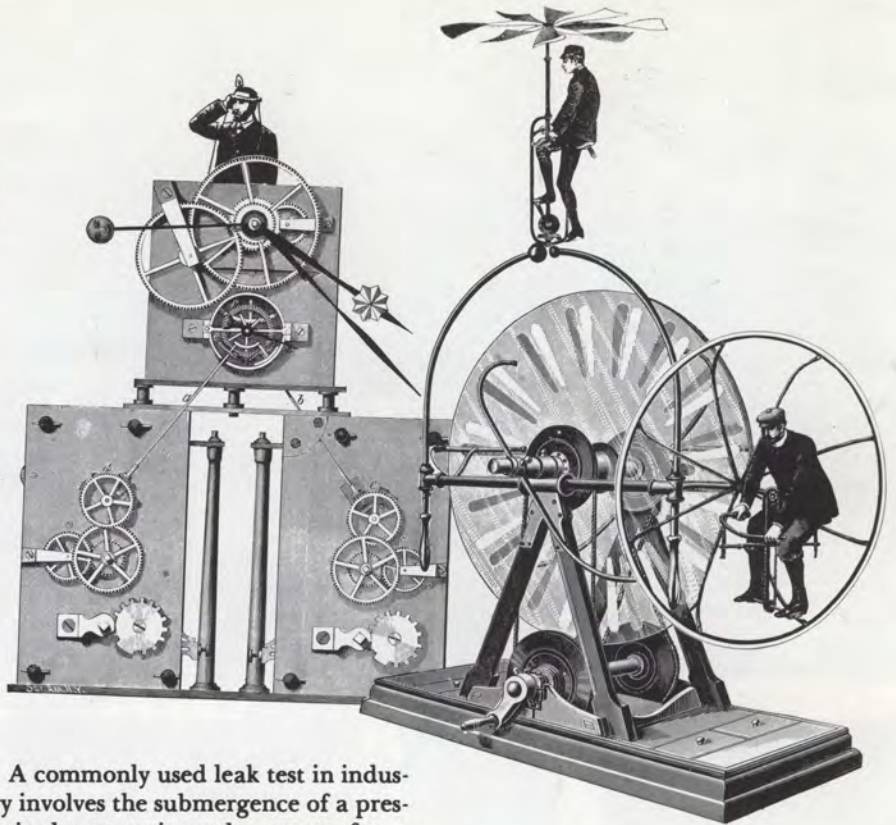
Victor Rodriguez, who completed his Master's degree in May, chose as his graduate project the redesign of an assembly machine for adapters used in containers for gases such as oxygen or nitrogen.

"The original machine had four stations," he explained. "The test for leakage was conducted separately. The new design has six stations, one of them a pressure testing station. The production rate was increased about 40 percent under the redesign." His advisor was Professor Juan M. Herrera. Their first estimate for materials was \$10,000 but the project cost only \$2,000.

A 1982 UTEP graduate, Rodriguez worked in industry before returning for a graduate degree. Consortium funds provided him a teaching assistantship.

Two senior engineering students, Alan Karpinski of Auburn, New York, and Maxie Perdue of El Paso, designed a computerized device for detecting leaks in gas distribution systems. Built at a cost of \$10,000, it is expected to save \$2,000 per month in labor costs, according to their paper describing the work. The paper earned them third place honors in the Institute of Industrial Engineers Technical Paper Contest hosted by the University of Southern California this spring.

Their advisor, Professor W. Carroll Johnson, said their system may have some patentable aspects. It can be used in checking distribution systems for oxygen and other gases for hospitals. The device checks leaks in gas fixtures during the manufacturing process.



A commonly used leak test in industry involves the submergence of a pressurized test unit under water for a short period of time. A visual test is made by looking for bubbles in the water. From an industrial engineering viewpoint, wrote Karpinski and Perdue, the bubble test is time consuming, labor intensive, and lacks uniform test standards.

They looked into the more accurate leak testing technology of the aerospace and electronics industries and learned that equipment for the more refined process costs from \$50,000 up. Their solution was to develop a new differential pressure transducer test system that would offer a more economical and efficient means of general

leak testing. A microprocessor is used in evaluating the units being tested. The system is capable of checking leak rates as small as .02 cubic inches per minute.

"We feel that our \$7,500 membership fee in the consortium was a good investment," observed Charles L. Hedgepeth, who heads Ohio Medical's El Paso operation. "We expect to save money with the machines the students developed, and we like getting fresh ideas from them about what we are doing."

He plans to stay with the consortium

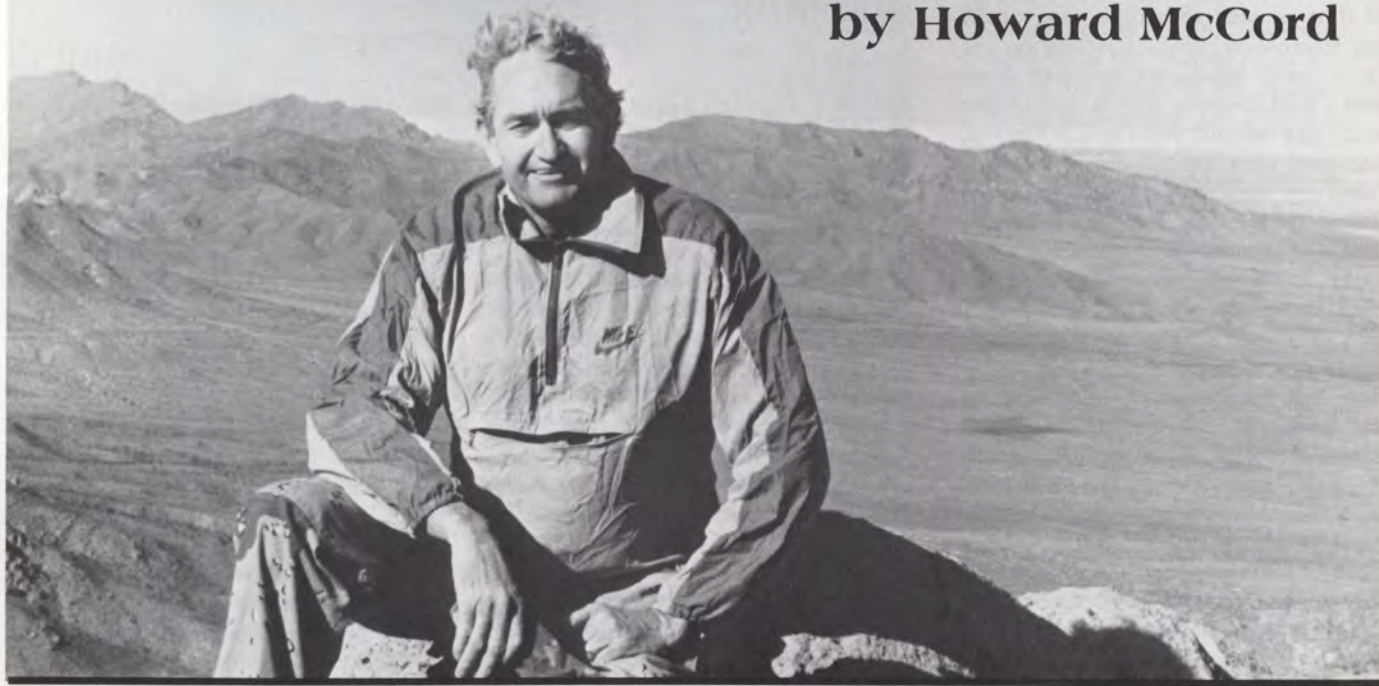
(Continued on page 17)



Victor Rodriguez was a graduate student last spring when he redesigned this machine for Ohio Medical Products, now his employer.

On Top Again

by Howard McCord



At the end of the summer session, 1950, I was suffering from an excess of analytical geometry induced by Professor Gladman's Math 603, and felt a great need to purify my soul in high places. My friend, Danny Vickers, and I worked in the TWC Library when not in class, and had explored all the possible routes of ascent and descent offered by the empty dumbwaiter shaft back in the stacks, as well as the grand traverse just below the roof-line. But we hankered after wilder challenges, and in that last week of classes and examinations, we decided to go north to the Organs and climb that great and imposing tooth of granite which was later to be called The Wedge. In those days it had no name, and we were young.

We had become familiar with the peak over many hiking and climbing excursions up Fillmore Canyon, Dripping Springs Canyon, and to the old Modoc mine in search of galina specimens. Most of our trips ended with a few hours of bouldering on the 40-foot chunks shed over the thousands of millennia by the south face, which loomed over us, buff-golden and horribly ver-

tical, for more than a thousand feet. Our view of the southeast ridge showed it beginning with what looked like a 50-foot overhang, and the only line of approach that seemed within our abilities was by the west. There we must find a way through the complexly broken shoulder to a deep gully which ran to within 30 feet of the top. We saw no route on those last 300 feet, but they were far away, and we felt if we could get to the notch, we would find a way to the summit.

David Burwell had discovered rock climbing at the same time we had, four years before, and we had climbed together steadily since then — every peak and the whole ridge of the Franklins, Hueco Tanks, McKittrick and Slaughter Canyons in the Guadalupe, and assorted buildings and retaining walls around El Paso. He, too, was eager for glory and adventure before his senior year at Cathedral High School began. We decided to make a weekend of it, and on a Friday afternoon gathered our gear and set out in Danny's jeep. I smile when I remember our "gear." We had no climbing rope, and though we had read about

such arcana as pitons and caribiners, we had never seen any. We had rough boots well broken-in by mountain miles, each an odd pack — mine was a surplus Army Bergen with a steel frame — a sleeping bag, web belt and Army canteen, Levi's and work shirts. Some canned fruit, beans, dried apricots, hard candy, and that's about it. Simple folk with simple needs, though inflamed by a wild desire.

That night we camped at Las Cuevas, and after entertaining ourselves on those delightful faces till dusk, we watched the last of the sunlight play on the face of The Wedge. It was so high and inviolable above us that it was hard to imagine that we could be on top by noon next day.

Thirty-four years later a road has been cut nearly to the Modoc, though it takes a stout four-wheeler to make it all the way. Dick Ingraham and I walk slowly up the last mile of the road. He is patient with me as I am humping a 50 pound pack, loaded with water for three days, and have lived for the past 14 years in the Black Swamp, elevation 600 feet. When we pass the Modoc the memory comes sharp of its dark stopes

and tunnels, and its one deep shaft. I am no longer curious about its secrets, for we went everywhere in it except up or down that shaft. In the old days, after bouldering, we would come here to relax in the cool dark to plan our supper and tomorrow's conquests.

This morning is a curious amalgam of time present with time past, and I am alternately, simultaneously on the same path, separated by near three and a half decades. David and Danny and I had left our packs at Las Cuevas, pocketed some candy and an orange, filled our canteens and struck out at dawn. We were old hands at minimalism, and moved with practiced speed. Today I feel the heavy bear inside me, and the weight of more water than I had ever seen in the Organs before. Years may have increased my ambition, but not the means to achieve it.

From the Modoc, the trail, such as it is, runs east over the swell of a hill, then up a steep slope to the saddle behind the prominence marked 7464 on my USGS map. The brush has been mild so far by Organ standards, and the only tedious obstacle I have had to fight has been the skree which makes each step an uncertainty. I cannot be agile with such a load, so must be careful. I plan to camp at the saddle, and will leave most of my burden there. The thought of shedding my pack makes the last 50 steep yards nearly pleasant. Dick and I take a short rest as I get down to basics of canteen, dried apricots, a candy bar, and my windbreaker. The saddle is classically formed, grassy, and there is an old pinon downed beside a spot level enough for sleep. To the west, Las Cruces seems to lie just beneath the distant Florida mountains.

The next quarter mile I remember well from 34 years ago. It is a jumble of broken cliffs, impossible thickets of cactus and brush, and offers ten wrong choices to make for every right. Organ brush is in a class with the meanest in the world. I have struggled with aggressive older thickets in Alaska, and salal on the Olympic Peninsula, and I have bucked my way slowly and carefully through Southeast Asian and Indian jungles, and through mesquite in Sonora growing more thickly than mesquite is supposed to grow. But nothing quite beats Organ brush for the speed with which it can induce acute frustration and exhaustion. The only way through it, as Dick says in his



“We offered some Wild Turkey to the heights . . . I would stay for another day and night to feed myself on the rushing solitude the Organs provide those who linger.”

incomparable *A Climbing Guide To The Organ Mountains*, is to “think like a deer.” Now deer are smart enough not to want to go a good many places climbers want to go, so the advice only partly works. The first time up, Danny and David and I had studied this section for some long minutes, and then slipped into the brush, each choosing a slightly different route. We were all great leaders and unwilling followers, and our expeditions were less coordinated efforts than parallel ones. We liked it that way. David hated brush and would take to the rock at every opportunity, though this would often force him to dangerous passages. Danny was stoic and efficient, and plotted his route like a navigator. I rather liked brush, and found some joy in wriggling through it, and took each snag as an opportunity to notice small things. I like to think Organ brush taught me patience and sharpened my powers of observation. It still takes about an hour to manage the quarter-mile. And when you emerge into the spillway of the deep cleft that separates The Wedge from Lost Peak, your battle with brush is not over. The cleft is choked with brush. It is steep, and often the walls are no more than an arm's width apart.

Halfway up the cleft, a great stone has wedged itself, and poses a problem for the traveller. Today it is normal to move back under the cap-stone and climb a narrow chimney to an exit hole. I don't know why we didn't do that long ago. Perhaps we didn't see the hole. Instead, we scaled the wall — a fairly delicate matter of friction and small holds. David, as usual, went farther and higher than Danny and I and perched for five minutes or so com-

plaining and exalting of his fate as we watched nervously, before he made a deft leap to a nubbin of green stuff which he hoped might be rock. It was. From there to the notch was as quick then as it was now, and we stood a thousand feet above the saddle, hidden behind the jumble of rocks below. The last 250 feet remain. This time, both Dick and I knew exactly where to go. But back when the world was younger, and no one, as far as we knew, had ever stood where we did facing the problem of where to go from here, it was a matter for discussion and augury. The *diretissima*, right up the North Face, seemed a bit risky for solo climbers, as it is today. Now, when that route is taken, good ropework and the proper placement of chocks and runners are required for safety. We wisely decided against that route in 1950. But to take a bend sinister, angling up to the left, seemed reasonable, and we made a hundred or so feet over simple stacked boulders and segments of mountain top. There the route steepened seriously, and the line seemed to be up the east face, and to the right. At this point Dick and I roped up, and I fed him a belay as he climbed with the grace of a master up a pitch requiring friction, jam, and a sort of off-center layback. I remembered this pitch as I would remember the face of a mugger. It was here that we three gathered, studying the rock as some Holy Writ containing the message of salvation. It was hard, but not terribly hard. The problem was that without a rope, a fall would be undeniably fatal. We had no rope. But we had Danny, 180 pounds of football and mountain hardened muscle and steadiness. He propped himself against the cliff, and I grasped his shoulders,



stepped on his bent calf, his hip, his shoulder, and, still searching for a hold above, on top of his crew-cut head. There was a hold, and a place to dangle a leg from a makeshift rope for the others, and the rest was a high scramble to the top.

I swarmed up the hard spot this time, guaranteed a longer life by Dick's belay from above and was quickly again on top of The Wedge. The tip of the peak was covered with Ladybugs — as it had been 34 years ago. I let the emotions of satisfaction and nostalgia have their due, and said the names of my first companions, and took in the stupendous view. I could see down the spine of the Organs to the Franklins and beyond to the Burros, south of Juarez. The Sacramentos loomed grey to the east, though the Guadalupe were obscured by the drift of El Paso's smog. Cerro Alto and the Huecos were clear. West, I could make out the edge of the Chiracahuas behind the serried Floridas, Cedars. Hatchitas, and the Animas. When I am on top, I have the eyes of an eagle. One reason I climb mountains is to make my bifocals irrelevant for awhile. To the north, the San Andres continued on through the infinity of the Jornada del Muerto, and there to the northwest was the complex of the Mimbres, the Black, and the San Mateo, where I would soon be camped. It is only in those days in which love is rediscovered, or when a child is born, or by a single gesture reveals itself most precious and special, when some sudden insight dawns and life is momentarily joyous, that I find comparison with those times on mountaintops.

Living these years in Ohio, bereft of mountains, I have taken up parachute

jumping for the view and the sense of exposure. It is a pleasant way to spend three minutes, but it is too soon over. Running and cross-country skiing are wonderful exercises, but without mountains, not much more. I am a desert rat and a rock climber, not a woodsman, so the wonders of Michigan and Ontario appear to me most modest. I cannot see far enough in the woods. I confess I have thought of climbing the oaks on my place and stringing cables for traverses, or trying to grow rock. But these are the whimsies of an old man who now has to get down the mountain and return to Ohio.

With a rope, it's easy. I abseiled down the pitch it took me and David and Danny a cautious quarter hour to descend. And there the paths of past and present split. In 1950 we circled round to the south and under the great wall. The brush was so thick we could walk on it some feet above the ground, like treading water in a kelp bed, though I finally found crawling under it was easier. We moved farther apart in the descent than before, and straggled into the Modoc quite apart and beat as much from thirst as fatigue. It had been a long August day on one canteen. Dick and I took the cleft back and by five o'clock were at my camp. We offered some Wild Turkey to the heights, now booming in the late sunshine above us, and it was time for Dick to get on home. I would stay for another day and night to feed myself on the rushing solitude the Organs provide those who linger. One thing I should mention is the low cairn of rocks we found at the top in 1950, the rusted Prince Albert can inside, secured with some baling wire. There was a note in it that went this way:

Top of the Organs, N.M., I have climbed mountains in Calif., Colo., Ariz., and Mex., but this is the toughest "little" mountain I have ever tackled. Arriving at this point May 17, 1934. Gratifies a 15 year wish to climb the Organs and I am well satisfied.

Thinking there are few other dam fools like myself I am now going to bet a \$5.00 fountain pen that anybody can win, if he will send to me by mail, within the next ten years this identical note here written by me.

Steven H. Christensen, 1125 Shell Boulevard, Houston.

P.S. I will also do my best to entertain you if you are ever in my city. S.H.C.

So we weren't the first, and six years late to collect the fountain pen. But Steve Christensen was more than a gentleman, and a few months later when he passed through, he took us to dinner at the Del Norte, and handed us each a check. Wherever he is now, I hope he has mountains to climb. And I echo W. Gorrell, Jr., and Don Button, who climbed the peak in 1954, thinking it was the highest unclimbed mountain in America, discovered our copy of Christensen's note, and wrote that "lacking some other name, we continued to call that rock the "wedge," but a better name might be "Christensen Peak." □

Editor's Note:

Howard McCord ('57), author of 20 books of poems, is a native El Pasoan who, since 1971, has been professor of English at Bowling Green State University, Ohio. He is a world traveller — Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Great Britain, Greece, India, Nepal, Burma, Laos, Thailand, the Philippines, Japan, Canada, Mexico — a long-distance runner, pistol and rifle expert, sports parachutist, backpacker and mountaineer. He has been chairman, Division on Poetry, of the Modern Language Association (1976), D.H. Lawrence Fellow, University of New Mexico (1971), Fulbright scholar at the University of Mysore, India, Woodrow Wilson Fellow, National Endowment of the Arts Fellow, and has earned numerous awards for his writings and lectureships.

EXTRACTS

by Marianne Fleager

DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS

Remodeled Alumni Facilities Open

In a series of open houses and tours this fall, the remodeled Development and Alumni offices were officially opened by President Haskell Monroe and James Peak, Director of Development. The ground floor, primarily a leisure center, will be used for alumni and development gatherings while the second floor contains the staff offices.

Nestled between the Administration Building and Leech Grove, the building was originally built for the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, Gamma Gamma chapter, which was installed on the College

of Mines campus in May, 1938.

It was designed by Mrs. Mabel Welch with a feeling for regional Southwestern architecture including vigas and Mexican tile accents. It remained a sorority house until it was acquired by the University in 1969.

The Zetas had a tradition of carving the names of graduating members into the front door of the building, and when they relocated to a house on Florence Street, they took the original door with them. However, they had run out of room on the door in the 1950s and began carving the

names of the graduates on the beams at the east end of the first floor. Those names can still be seen in the refurbished building. Other mementos of the past are the names etched into polished colored stones set in the fireplace hearth. These were the women who were members of the sorority when the house was built. The ground floor retains the nostalgic feeling of the lodge with its gleaming parquet floors, beamed ceilings and fireplace. It has a fine view of the newly-bricked patio, the new landscaping, and the original garden walls inset

with tiles, statuary niches and topped with shards of dark blue glass.

On the second floor, the front offices were refurbished to show existing ceiling beams. Then 1500 feet of additional office space was added to the rear of the building. It contains administrative offices and the areas of gift receipting, donor records and the alumni master files.

The \$215,000 project was completed in August. Both the architect, Phillip Mack Caldwell, and prime contractor, Frank Alderete, are graduates of UT El Paso. □

Exes Elect Stevens for 1985

In elections held during Homecoming in October, Lloyd V. Stevens, Jr., was named President of the UT El Paso Alumni Association for 1985. He will replace Miguel Solis who currently holds the position. Stevens, a long-time member of the alumni Matrix Society and a former Chairman of the annual Alumni Fund for Excellence, is the District Sales Manager for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas. An alumnus of 1949, he is married to Donna

(Dacus) and has four children.

Joining Stevens as Officers of the Alumni Association in 1985 will be Steve DeGroat ('72) President-Elect and 1985 Membership chairman; George W. Butterworth ('63) 1st Vice President in charge of Homecoming; Patrick B. Wieland ('68) 2nd Vice President in charge of Ways and Means; Cheryl A. McCown ('65) as Treasurer, and Felipa Garcia ('83) as Secretary.

New directors-at-large, who

will serve three-year terms starting in January, are Elaine Barron ('78), Russell Autry ('75), Steven Tredennick ('65), and Jack Parks ('52).

Incumbent directors-at-large are John Best ('67), Ralph Chavez ('59), Corina Delgado ('75), Ray Esperson, Jr. (attended '56-59), Julie McManus ('57), J. Rene Nunez ('67), James Payne ('76), and George Ferguson ('63).

Tax Deduct Time Short

Gifts made to the University on or before December 31, 1984 are deductible on this year's federal income tax return. If you *don't* itemize, you may still deduct 25 percent of your first \$300 in charitable gifts, for a maximum of \$75. This limit is greater than last year's, and by 1986 non-itemizers will be able to deduct gifts up to the same limits as itemizers.

The top gift tax rate is 55 percent in 1984. The scheduled decrease to 50 percent for 1985 and later years has been postponed until 1988 and thereafter.

As you count down the days left in 1984 and plan your year-end giving, remember the University's "Campaign for Library Excellence" which will develop the book collections to a level of quality equal to that of our new Library building. Each tax-deductible gift of \$25 buys one book, a gift of knowledge for the University and students in the years ahead.

Burlington Challenges Donors

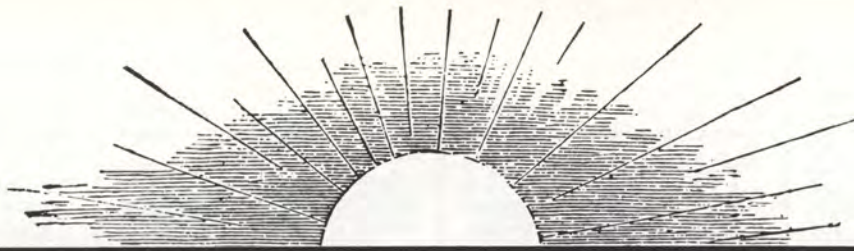
When Burlington Northern Inc. became parent company to the El Paso Company (El Paso Natural Gas and subsidiaries) early this year, one of its priorities was to introduce local civic and educational leaders to Donald K. North, President of the Burlington Northern Foundation.

At that meeting, North detailed the Foundation's philanthropic programs and its 1984 commitment of \$8 million dollars to support and improve the quality of life in all the communities which Burlington serves.

The University of Texas at El Paso became one of the first regional recipients of that generous commitment when it received \$25,000 from the Foundation this September. The gift was the result of a proposal for a "challenge grant" to match gifts from alumni and friends to the Library via the 1984 Excellence Fund. Burlington's \$25,000 will buy 6,000 books for the Library, and North and other Burlington officials will attend the opening of the Library, with the UT System Board of Regents, on December

13-14 in El Paso.

Support for colleges and universities, both public and private, is Burlington's number-one cause. In 1984, \$2.5 million dollars was designated for special educational projects, and will award an additional \$1 million for College Faculty Awards. As a matching-gift corporation, Burlington matches any gifts made by their employees to their alma maters. Already matching employees' gifts 2 for 1, Burlington has now raised the matchable gift ceiling from \$1,000 to \$5,000.



ALUMNOTES

by Sue Wimberly

El Paso *Herald-Post* columnist Virginia Turner wrote an interesting item in August about Isabel Abdou (Mrs. Calvin J.) Hatchett ('33), first TWC coed graduate in business administration. Among her many accomplishments at TWC, Mrs. Hatchett composed and edited the first TWC handbook, assisted in editing the *Prospector* and *Flousheet*, was a yell leader and head of the Pep Squad, and sold Miner game tickets in office buildings in downtown El Paso. She was also a student actor in drama productions, did a weekly radio series, was president of the Coed Association for three years running, headed projects that gave students a lounge room in Kelly Hall, a redecorated ladies' lounge in the Main Building, and a cafeteria. After graduation, "Izzy" served as Ex-Students secretary and secretary to Deans Kidd and Puckett, assistant in the Business Office and Registrar's office.

Scholarships were given at TWC in memory of her father and mother, El Paso pioneers who settled here in 1915.

Mrs. Hatchett's post-college career was long and fruitful, too: city clean-up campaigns, garden clubs, Women's Department of the Chamber of Commerce, community concerts, United Fund drives, Providence Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, El Paso County Historical Society, Humane Society, Order of the Eastern Star, Cub Scouts, substitute teacher, Salvation Army Booth Memorial Homes — the list of such endeavors is seemingly endless.

Although she retired, after a

stroke, in 1980, Isabel Abdou Hatchett continues to give meaning to the phrase "civic leader."

MacArthur DeShazer, Maj./USA, (M.A. '79), deputy commanding officer, the School Brigade at Ft. Bliss, has been appointed to a year of government service as one of 13 White House Fellows for 1984-85. He was selected from 33 finalists



after an interview by the President's Commission on White House Fellowships, chaired by Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale, USN (ret.). The White House Fellowship program draws exceptionally promising young people from all sectors of national life, the professions, business, government, the arts, and the academic world. Each White House Fellow is assigned as a "special assistant" to a Cabinet secretary, the head of an independent agency of the Executive Branch, a senior member of the President's staff, or the Vice President. The assignment provides the Fellow the opportunity to observe closely the process of public policy development and to come away with a sense of having participated in the governmental process as well as having made an actual contribution to the business of government. □

Hughes Butterworth (B.S. '54) is president of Lawyers Title Company of El Paso.

Robert J. Benford (B.S. '58) has joined Hobart Corporation's commercial equipment division as director of training. He was formerly director of personnel and human resources development for Norwich Eaton Pharmaceuticals.

Jaime Oaxaca (B.S. '57) has been named vice president of

Northrop Corporation and president of Wilcox Electric, Inc., a Northrop subsidiary, in Kansas City, Missouri. A graduate of the Stanford Graduate School of Business, he has been with Northrop since 1957 and has served as vice president of missile programs and vice president and assistant general manager of the Electro-Mechanical Division. In 1982 President Reagan appointed him to the General Advisory Committee on Arms Control and Disarmament, a post he continues to hold. Oaxaca was a featured speaker for UTEP's Hispanic Heritage Week held in September.

Rosa Guerrero (B.S. '57; M.Ed. '77), founder of the International Folklorico of El Paso, attended Women in Texas Week in Austin in September. She was accompanied by her dancers who performed for the celebration. She also was honored during Hispanic Heritage Week at UTEP.

Ray Sanchez (B.S. '59; M.S. '82), of El Paso, a lieutenant colonel with the Texas National Guard, has been named commander of the Guard's artillery. He served in the U.S. Army for 14 years. He has a Master's degree in business administration from InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico and is employed by the Bureau of Reclamation.

1960-1970

Mary Highsmith (B.S. '60), a life member of the UTEP Woman's Auxiliary, was the winner of the Auxiliary's trip to Hawaii.

Peter M. Boor (B.S. '60) has completed his Master's degree in human development from Pacific Oaks College and is teaching math and science at San Marino High School, San Marino, California.

Pete Ramos Jr. (B.S. '63; M.A.

'73) has been named principal of Bowie High School, El Paso. He taught at Andress High School, served as a counselor at Douglass Elementary School and was assistant principal at both Lincoln Junior High and Coronado High.

Billy Sims (B.B.A. '63) was recently the subject of a feature story from the Associated Press which appeared in the El Paso *Times*. Formerly a senior statistical analyst for Ford Motor Company in Denver, he left the environs of big business 15 years ago and bought a Sno Ball stand in Gainesville, Texas. "You might say that I'm the gourmet of the snow cone world," said Sims. He travels the fair and festival circuit three months each year from the lower Rio Grande Valley to Amarillo, serving his own special syrups ranging from pina colada to strawberry daiquiri. The remainder of the year belongs to him, vacationing in Puerto Vallarta, Colorado or the Caribbean.

Chance Williams (B.A. '63) has been promoted to manager of the Southeast Division of Southern California Gas Company. His division will include the cities of Whittier, Downey, Norwalk, Lakewood and others, serving about 241,000 customers.

Patricia T. Kuehn (B.A. '64) has been named assistant general counsel in the Law Department of Washington National Insurance Company, Evanston, Illinois.

Bert Almon (B.A. '65) is a professor of English at the University of Alberta, Edmonton. His fifth collection of poems, *Deep North*, has just been published by Thisledown Press.

Paul Strelzin (B.S. '66) has been promoted to principal of H.E. Charles Junior High School.

Donna Barron Scott (B.S. '69) has recently moved back to El Paso. Her husband is a rheumatologist at William Beaumont Medical Center.

Pete Castro (B.S. '70; M.Ed. '76), former assistant principal at LeBarron Park Elementary School, has been named principal at Cadwallader Elementary School.

1920-1959

John D. Warne (B.S. '38) is engaged as a Nevada professional mining engineer and resides in Carson City.

Ann P. Steen (B.A. '42) is retired from nursing and now lives in Arlington, Texas.

1971-1975

Raymond G. Kessler (M.A. '71), El Paso consultant and writer, is one of the contributors to *Firearms and Violence: Issues of Public Policy*, a book just released by The Pacific Institute for Public Policy Research. He is co-author of a book titled *Law-Abiding Criminals* and published an article on gun control in *Law and Policy Quarterly*.

William H. Blizzard, Jr., D.D.S., (B.S. '72) and his wife, the former **Georgina Diaz** (1970 etc.), reside in El Paso where he is in private dental practice.

Jere Franco (B.A. '72; M.A. '83), a teaching associate at the University of Arizona, received the Graduate Fellowship for Southwestern Studies from U. of A. History Department. She is currently enrolled in a doctoral program there.

Barry R. Diamond (B.S. '73), received a doctor of pharmacy degree from Auburn University, Alabama, last June.

Douglas E. Judd, Cpt./USA, (B.A. '73; M.Ed. '80) is currently assigned as director, Community Activities and Services, Vint Hill Farms Station, Warrenton, Virginia, after completing an overseas assignment with the 8th Infantry Division in Mainz, West Germany, where he was awarded the Army Achievement Medal, Second Oak Leaf Cluster for Meritorious Achievement, while assigned to the staff of the post commander.

Clyde E. Jeffcoat, Jr. (B.B.A. '75), principal deputy commander of the U.S. Army Finance and Accounting Center at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, was honored in July with the Distinguished Leadership Award of the Association of Government (AGA) presented to him at the annual Professional Development Conference in Washington, D.C.

1976-1979

Jay A. Spickelmier (M.B.A. '76) has been appointed assistant to the vice president, smelting and refining, ASARCO Inc., New York.

Pamela Nimmins Coe (B.A. '76), a resident of Springfield, Virginia, is an associate of Nancy Steward Burr Real Estate Inc., Georgetown.

Darryl W. Marbury, Capt./USA, (B.A. '76) has been decorated with the second award of the Meritorious Service Medal at Ft. Sam Houston. The award is

given for outstanding non-combat meritorious achievement or service to the United States.

J. James Rohack, M.D., (B.S. '76) chief resident in internal medicine at UT Medical Branch, Galveston, recently was elected alternate delegate to the American Medical Association house of delegates at the Texas Medical Association's annual session in Fort Worth. He began a two-year fellowship in cardiology at UTMB in July.

Luis Felipe Valdéz (B.S. '77) and his wife, **Kathlyn Clare Dailey**, both received their Ph.D.s in psychology from Texas Tech University last May.

Victor Dominguez (B.S. '77) has been named vice president of CMA, a general construction and construction management firm in El Paso.

Fernando R. Diaz, 2nd Lt./USA, (B.S. '77), a squadron chemical officer with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, has been assigned for duty at Bad Hersfeld, West Germany.

Juan A. Saenz, Capt./USA, (B.N. '77) has been awarded the U.S. Army Commendation Medal at Ft. Sam Houston.

Randal Crossland (B.B.A. '78) is operations manager with American Cleaning Services, El Paso.

Johna C. Gerasch (B.A. '78) completed her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology in December, 1983, at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She is a psychologist intern with the Department of Corrections, State of Wisconsin.

Victor Arias, Jr. (B.B.A. '78), who received his M.B.A. from Stanford Graduate School in 1982, is an associate with LaSalle Associates in Chicago. His wife, the former **Sandra Endlich** (B.N. '81) is employed at St. Mary's Hospital. They are parents of one son.

Virginia Tovar (B.A. '78; M.Ed. '83) is teaching at Socorro (Texas) High School.

George Spilich (M.A. '78) is chairman of the psychology department at Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland.

Rick Hervey (B.B.A. '78) and his wife, **Sheri**, have joined Corporate Investment Business Brokers, El Paso. Rick will serve as chairman of the board.

Harold E. Johnson (B.S. '79) and **Victoria Laucius** (B.S. '78) received their doctor of osteopathy degrees from Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, Fort Worth, in June.

Steven Kunert (B.A. '79) has joined the advertising firm of Perault and Associates, in El Paso, as copywriter.

James Easley (B.B.A. '79; M.B.A. '81) and **Ronald Faulk-**

ner (B.B.A. '79) are both assistant vice presidents with the State National Bank in El Paso.

Susan Stafford (B.A. '79) completed her M.A. in psychological services at Catholic University in May 1983. She has begun work toward her doctorate in counseling and human services at George Washington University.

Steven D. Tipps (B.S. '79) has been assigned to the El Paso and Las Cruces areas as a professional sales representative for Smith Kline & French Laboratories.

Alfredo Ronquillo (B.B.A. '79) has been appointed sales agent by the Allstate Insurance Company in El Paso.

1980-1984

Michael Clayton Collins (B.B.A. '80) has been named assistant vice president/operations at the El Paso National Bank/Northgate.

Bryan C. Barfitt, Capt./USA, (B.S. '80) is a company commander at William Beaumont Army Medical Center, El Paso.

Maximiliano Amaya, 1st Lt./Army National Guard, (B.B.A. '80) graduated from the U.S. Army engineer officer basic course at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, last March.

Kerry P. Fertel (B.S. '80) has joined the Naval Ship Weapon Systems Engineering Station at Port Hueneme, California as an electrical engineer for the missile engineering division.

Virginia R. Phillips-Hipp (B.B.A. '80), who received her M.B.A. from San Diego State University last May, is a personnel management specialist at the Ocean Systems Center in San Diego.

Darron L. Powell, 2nd Lt./USAF, (B.S. '80; M.S. '83) received his commission upon graduation from Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in May.

Raul Rivas-Mejia (B.B.A. '80) has been promoted to international loan officer at El Paso National Bank.

R. Paul Yetter (B.A. '80), who graduated from Columbia Law School in 1983 and completed a one-year judicial clerkship in Houston with the U.S. Court of Appeals, is now associated with the law firm of Baker and Botts, Houston. His wife is the former **Patricia Daw** (B.S. '81).

Winston E. Watkins Jr. (B.S. '80) and **Michael B. Smith** (B.S. '80) received medical degrees in May from the UT Medical Branch, Galveston. Watkins will begin a residency in internal med-

icine at Breckenridge Hospital, Austin. Smith, who graduated as valedictorian, will begin his residency training in internal medicine at Iowa City, Iowa.

Mark L. Silkwood, 1st Lt./USA, (B.S. '80) has received the parachutist badge upon completion of the three-week airborne course at the U.S. Army Infantry School at Ft. Benning.

John B. Durnford, Capt./USA (B.S. '80) completed the U.S. Air Force military indoctrination for medical service officers at Sheppard Air Force Base in August.

Robert Ronquillo Jr. (B.S. '81) received his law degree this year from New England School of Law.

Patricia E. McIntyre (M.A. '81), a student at the University of Kansas, Manhattan, is working on a Ph.D. in consumer psychology.

Rosa Maria Terrazas (B.S. '80) was a June graduate from Baylor College of Medicine. She plans a career in obstetrics and gynecology and will serve her residency at the Baylor College of Medicine affiliated hospitals in Houston.

Harold Lockett (B.B.A. '81) was a May graduate from the C.H. Mason Seminary in Atlanta with a Master of Divinity. He plans to continue his work in the Army chaplaincy program.

Laura Ayoub (B.B.A. '81) is assistant vice president and director of personnel at InterFirst Bank, El Paso.

Alberto Alvarez (B.S. '81), training resource officer with the Sam Houston Criminal Justice Center in Huntsville, Texas, has been appointed to a state committee which will review Texas juvenile laws.

Victor M. Firth (B.B.A. '81), UTEP honor graduate and a Top Ten Senior, was awarded his Doctor of Jurisprudence at the University of Texas School of Law, Austin, last May. He has accepted an associate's position with the Oklahoma City law firm of Crowe & Dunlevy.

Claire Brisebois Starnes (B.A. '81), assistant editor of the Air Defense Artillery Magazine at Ft. Bliss, has been named to Notable Women of Texas.

Teresa A. Anderson (B.B.A. '81) has been elected assistant vice president at First Texas Bank, Richardson.

Adrienne P. Krecklau (B.A. '82) and **Elizabeth Kosturakis** (B.B.A. '75) are owners of Aim Insurance Agency in El Paso. **Mike Hernandez** (B.B.A. '75) is an agent-associate with the firm.

Fran Ford (B.A. '82) has been appointed public service director

for KDBC-TV El Paso.

Damon Crossland (B.S. '82) has joined Goldfarb Insurance Company, El Paso, in the property and casualty department.

Larry L. Hasan, 2nd Lt./USA (B.A. '82) has completed an am-

munition officer course at the U.S. Army Missile and Munitions Center and School, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

Miguel Garcia (B.S. '83) is enrolled at the New England College of Optometry in Boston.

George Mehale (B.S. '83), All-American distance runner for UTEP, is a graduate assistant in track at Oklahoma State University.

Terri Swain (B.A. '83) is advertising director of Winton Ash

Associates, El Paso.

Stephen Baxton Sharbono (B.B.A. '84) is a staff member in the Houston office of Arthur Andersen & Co., an international accounting and consulting organization. □

DEATHS

NOVA has received word of the death of **William B. Mayfield** (B.A. 1941), El Paso builder and developer, September 13, 1983. He was a resident of Bent, New Mexico, and is survived by his wife, Virginia A. MacCallum-Mayfield.

Philip B. Brown (B.S. 1929), a resident of Parral, Chihuahua, Mexico, October 12, 1983. He is survived by his wife, Enriqueta J. de Brown.

Byron Williamson (B.S. 1942), in Vail, Colorado, December 31, 1983. He had been associated with his brother in Thuron Industries in Dallas, and with Zoccon of Palo Alto, California. He was a professor in the Southern Methodist University School of Business and at Dallas Academy. He is survived by his wife, Diana Williamson, of Vail, and three daughters.

Harve P. Nelson (B.S. 1930), in Redwood City, California, March 22. A former mining engineer in Mexico, he was a professor emeritus at the University of Nevada-Reno School of Mines where he taught for 23 years. He is survived by a son and daughter.

Andres Avelino de la Torre, Jr., D.D.S., (1931 etc.) April 17. A graduate of Loyola University School of Dentistry and the University of Mexico, he served as dentistry chief of staff at Hotel Dieu Hospital, El Paso, in 1951-52, and was a life member of the Texas Dental Association. Survivors include his wife, a son and three daughters.

Edward R. Neugebauer (B.B.A. 1947), an El Paso resident, April 17. Survivors are his wife, Betty, a son and daughter.

Herbert O. Kelso (B.A. 1957), in El Paso, May 17. An English teacher in the El Paso schools for 30 years, he was head librarian at Coronado High School for six years before retiring. He is survived by his sister, Shirley Crawford, of San Luis Obispo, California.

Charles C. Manker, Jr., (B.A. 1943), in Tampa, Florida, May 30. He received his theological degree at the College of the Bible in Lexington, Kentucky, where he

returned later as professor, and his Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky, where he was a professor in the College of Education. He taught at Friends University, Wichita, Kansas, the University of Jacksonville, Florida, and for 18 years at the University of Southern Florida. He is survived by his wife and four children and his brother, Raymond G. Manker of the class of 1945.

Cecil Thomas (B.B.A. 1940), of Grandbury, Texas, June 19. His wife, June, survives him.

Jeanne Gish (B.A. 1954), a first grade teacher at Zach White Elementary School, El Paso, for 25 years, June 19. Survivors include her husband, Charles, and a daughter.

John L. Murphy (B.A. 1955), June 20 in Oakland, California. He is survived by two brothers.

Henry Robert Thiel (B.B.A. 1979), in San Antonio, Texas, June 23. His wife, a son and daughter, survive him.

David Moreno, sophomore student in the College of Science, June 24, in an automobile accident near Dallas.

H.E. Charles (M.Ed. 1947), superintendent of the El Paso Independent School District from 1956 to 1973, in Rochester, Texas, July 8. He also held a degree from Abilene Christian College, studied law at the University of Texas at Austin and was admitted to the Texas state bar in 1937. He was a practicing at-

torney, a member of the U.S. Immigration Service and an instructor for the U.S. Army at Ft. Bliss before he joined the El Paso district in 1945. He is survived by his wife, Lois, two daughters and two sons.

Royletta Blueford (M.A. 1982), in El Paso, July 9. She was a teacher with the El Paso Independent School District and is survived by her mother and several brothers and sisters.

Carolyn A. Rosenberg, M.D., in Houston, July 10. An oncologist on the staff of M.D. Anderson Hospital, she was a graduate of Baylor College of Medicine and completed her fellowship at the University of Minnesota Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Dr. David Hirsh.

William B. "Ben" Boykin (B.S. 1933), El Paso businessman, July 14. He was a mining engineer in Bolivia for ten years before returning to El Paso where he was associated with Continental Oil Company and later owner of Western GMC trucks. A son and daughter survive him.

Daniel P. Duke (1927 etc.), lifelong El Paso resident, July 17. He is survived by his wife, Eloise, and a son, John.

James R. Kellaway (B.B.A. 1976), an El Paso resident of 15 years, July 19. Survivors are his wife, four daughters and a son.

Clyde R. Hammonds (B.B.A. 1942), of El Segundo, California, a retired Continental Airlines pilot, July 20. His wife, Ruth Hammonds, and a daughter survive him.

Mary Ann Martin (B.S. 1966), a resident of Chaparral, New Mexico, August 8. She is survived by her husband and three children.

Howard B. Wiley (B.S. 1940), a resident of Friday Harbor, Washington, August 9. His wife, Boots Wiley, survives him.

Walter R. Roser (B.S. 1957), associate professor of metallurgical engineering, in El Paso, August 8. He completed his M.S. at the University of California at Berkeley and his Ph.D. at the University of Arizona and spent four years as an engineer with the Northrop Corp. before completing his doctorate. He had been a member of the UTEP faculty since 1966 serving as chairman of his department. He is survived by his wife, Sue E. Roser.

James P. McDonald (B.A. 1981), an employee of the Ft. Bliss Air Defense Center, August 10. Survivors are his wife, Elizabeth, a son and a daughter.

Inez Arnold Gilland (B.S. 1933; M.Ed. 1951), retired from 40 years of teaching in the El Paso Independent School District, August 14. She is survived by several brothers.

Clarinda J. Byerly (M.Ed. 1952), retired El Paso teacher, August 26. A daughter survives her.

William H. McDill, a professor of engineering at UT El Paso from 1945 to 1953, August 30, in San Luis Obispo, California. His son, William R. McDill, survives him. □

LEAKS

(from page 10)

and recommends it to other industries in El Paso. "It is an important resource for the city and a definite benefit to the manufacturers," he added.

The first step in the consortium program is a visit to the manufacturing facility by faculty members and students working with them from the UTEP Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering. The observe the operations and identify points where they think they might be able to

offer help in the manufacturing process.

The University group and the manufacturer decide together what action will be taken and the students develop their projects under the supervision of the manufacturer and their faculty advisors.

Industries interested in learning about the consortium may contact Dr. Robert L. Reid, chairman of the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, at 747-5450, Engineering Building Room 101 at UT El Paso. □



San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros spoke at a Student Programs Office Lyceum event September 21, during Hispanic Heritage Week. In a ceremony preceeding the address, the room was dedicated as the Tomas Rivera Conference Center. The late Dr. Rivera served as executive president from 1978 to 1979.

NOVA

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News & Publications Office
El Paso, Texas 79968-0522**

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December, 1984