

Spring 1990

Nova Quarterly: The Magazine of the University of Texas at El Paso

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SPRING • 1990

NOVA

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO



QUARTERLY



NOVA staff: (from left to right) Ted Carrasco, Sue Wimberly, Arturo Vasquez, Kathleen Rogers, Joe Hill, and John Downey.



THINGS ARE LOOKING UP

A couple of 1940 UTEP aviators, with a daredevil look still in their eyes, walked into my office with a story that you're going to love. But you won't find it in this issue of *NOVA Quarterly*. It's one of those stories that got tabled for a future issue. But, I couldn't resist teasing you about "Flight School" at Texas State College of Mines and Metallurgy in the 1930s and 1940s. The fact is, we have many great stories to tell and too few pages in this magazine. As UTEP's 75th anniversary winds down, much remains to be said about UTEP's rich historical and present day accomplishments.

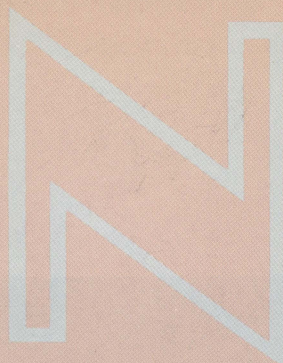
So, we at *NOVA Quarterly* have plans to take you back in time; to bring you back home from wherever across the globe you may be; to transport you into the future. In the following issues, we will keep you up to date on the latest developments in research and academic programs. You will read about student life in the 1990s, about the exciting work conducted by our faculty, and about UTEP's role in the community. We will bring you profiles on alumni, like the feature on Charlie Brown in this issue. We will focus on the arts and culture and hopefully provide you with news about your ex-classmates.

We also want to hear from you. If you have any ideas, if you like or don't like something we print, if the magazine's cover makes sense or if it doesn't but you just plain like it... drop us a note or call us.

On behalf of our entire staff, I hope you enjoy this spring issue.

— Arturo Vasquez, Editor

FROM THE EDITOR



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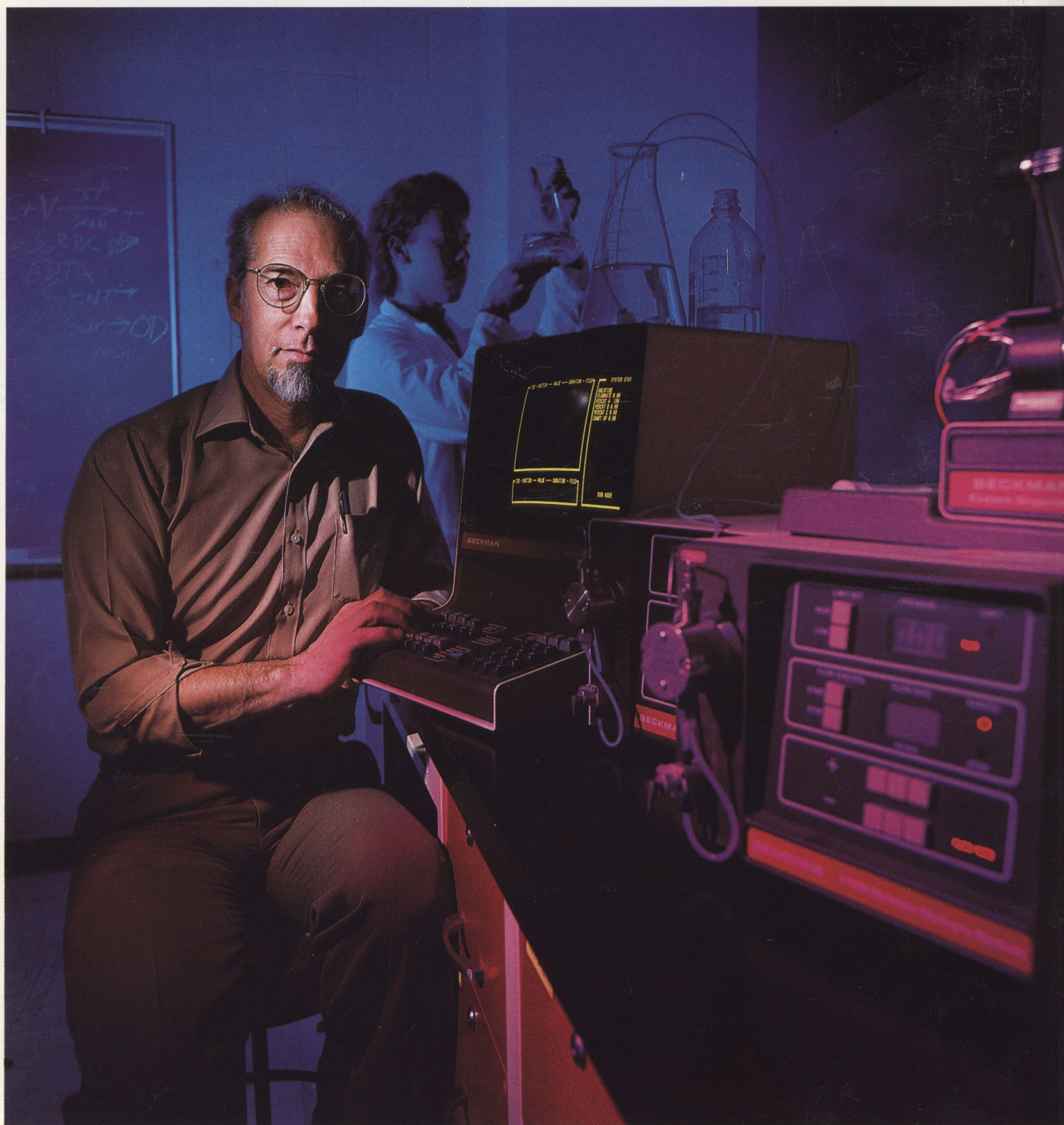
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Dr. Eppie Rael directs MBRS, one of the most successful student development programs at UTEP.

THE RIPPLE EFFECT

by S. Gail Miller

As students commence the first classes of the 1990s, alumni may ponder how the Federal Government will spend 1989's tax dollars. Undoubtedly, divergent opinions exist regarding the efficacy of many federally-

MBRS AT UTEP

funded programs, particularly programs that attempt to address the preparation of students for college work. For universities across the country, however, preparedness is only the tip of the iceberg. Once students are in college, how does the educational system not only keep them there, but also create and maintain an atmosphere that encourages students to graduate?

One such vehicle, the Minority Biomedical Research (MBRS) Support program, is a spectacular success at UTEP.

In the 1960s, Black universities lobbied Congress and the Nixon administration for a program that would enhance their constituents' opportunities, particularly in the sciences. In 1971, when the National Institutes of Health (NIH) launched MBRS, the program included Hispanic, Black, American Indian and South

Pacific Islander minorities and covered any discipline doing research that improved the health of the US population. UTEP was among 30 institutions to receive the first MBRS grants.

"When I visited the UTEP campus in the early 1970s, you could fit the amount of biomedical research going on there into a thimble," explains Dr. Ciriaco Gonzales, MBRS Director at NIH in Bethesda, Maryland. Since then, UTEP's MBRS program has demonstrated that a combination of brains, money and long-term planning applied in an institutional setting provides an excellent working environment for the actualization of human potential.

The MBRS grant currently supports biology, chemistry and psychology majors at UTEP. The grant also provides faculty members with research opportunities that contribute to UTEP's reputation as a research institution.

The MBRS concept of reciprocity is the foundation of its success. Faculty researchers get bright, motivated laboratory assistants; undergraduate and graduate students are exposed to research methodology in state-of-the-art biomedical experiments and receive a stipend. MBRS travel grants allow students to participate in the presentation of papers at regional and national scientific meetings where their knowledge is broadened and deepened. The interaction that takes place at these meetings gives students a chance to develop

their own professional contacts in the multi-faceted field of biological sciences.

"Our seminar series is also an important part of our program," says Dr. Eppie Rael, MBRS director at UTEP. "Numerous prominent scientists come to UTEP. They serve as role models to our students, and while on campus, they often recruit for their own institutions."

MBRS students must be minority American citizens, have a 2.8 GPA or better, and be sophomores, juniors or seniors. In addition, they must have a strong desire to do biomedical research or, at the very least, a desire to go to medical school. A six-member committee (three faculty members and three students) and the MBRS director, interviews each applicant. Upon acceptance, the students explore the various sub-projects with their respective researchers and the teams come into being. In the 1987-1991 cycle, nine projects are underway, and each faculty researcher has three student assistants, equally split between undergraduate and graduate students.

Faculty members prepare sub-project proposals in their particular field according to specific NIH criteria. Dr. Rael explains, "The proposals have to be scientifically sound with a reasonable expectation of accomplishment, and they have to be written in a logical fashion so that NIH's reviewing panel can determine whether each proposed project will advance biomedical science."

"As an undergraduate chemistry major, I held an outside job, a work-study job and took courses. Then I saw a poster for MBRS. Now I have a stipend which enables me to do research."

— Maria Elena Hernandez

The 350-page document Dr. Rael and the MBRS faculty send to NIH every four years also includes an exhaustive study of UTEP's MBRS students' accomplishments. Has this institution been successful in sending MBRS recipients to medical school or higher degree granting institutions?



With support from faculty in the psychology department and MBRS training, Dr. Sylvia Gonzalez graduated from UTEP in 1980. She was accepted to the Baylor School of Medicine and today is in private practice as a kidney specialist in Los Angeles, California.

What have these students published? Are these graduates now presenting scientific papers at scientific meetings?

The majority of MBRS recipients are Hispanic, born and raised in El Paso or Mexico and, more often than not, the first generation in their families to attend college. The successful transformation of expectations for many of these students appears to be a function of the MBRS faculty's ability to be effective mentors. Past and present MBRS students, without exception, credit the close working relationship with MBRS participating faculty as a critical factor in both their personal and professional growth.

"Without MBRS funds and the positive support I receive from the MBRS faculty, I wouldn't be able to do this," says Maria Elena Hernandez, a chemistry graduate student. "As an undergraduate chemistry major, I held an outside job, a work-study job and took courses. Then I saw a poster for MBRS. Now I have a stipend which enables me to do research." Ms. Hernandez works with Drs. Michael Davis and Keith Pannell on a sub-project entitled "Thermodynamic Studies of Bio-organic Group Interactions with Water." She explains:

"Using the differential scanning calorimeter, we've isolated cells we call liposomes. Soon we'll understand exactly how they work; then it's likely



Maria Elena Hernandez, Chemistry graduate student works with MBRS in a project that aims to get "liposomes" to deliver drugs to isolated cancer cells.

they could be used to deliver drugs to target cells, for instance, cancer cells. My research is a little test to clarify the picture, but eventually it will have contributed to the lessening of side effects in drug delivery systems."

Ms. Hernandez intends to earn a Ph.D. in Austin or at the University of California, Los Angeles. At UCLA she's likely to meet Renato Aguilera, another MBRS recipient.

Reflecting on his MBRS experience at UTEP, Renato Aguilera says, "I was walking down the corridor of the Life Science building one day when I saw an ad for a summer undergraduate research assistant. I needed the money and I wanted to be a biologist."

Assigned to Dr. Rael, Aguilera finished his undergraduate work and then his masters at UTEP. He went on to complete a Ph.D. in immunology at Berkeley in California and from that institution, received a National Science Foundation fellowship for post-doctoral research. At present, he is a tenure-track biology professor at the University of California at Los Angeles, one of America's most prestigious biomedical research institutions dedicated to the advancement of pure science. The competition for such positions is fierce. Only the very best make it that far, and of this success, UTEP can be justifiably proud.

Thus MBRS's value to UTEP is not confined to individual recipients; it benefits the institution as a whole. Until the early 1970s, the entire student body had so little exposure to the biomedical sciences that study in these fields was simply not an option. With MBRS as an incentive, limited biology field studies expanded into modern molecular biology. This change spawned a need for a physical plant design that included an animal research facility and research laboratories where none had hitherto existed.

In the absence of doctorates in biomedically related disciplines, UTEP does not benefit from State of Texas funds that other doctoral granting institutions receive.

"MBRS has strengthened UTEP's research stature in general and has enabled the university to hire new faculty members with specialties in the biomedical sciences," says Dr. Rael.

Dr. Don Moss, a psychology professor whose research came under

the MBRS umbrella in the late 1970s, has received national and international recognition for his work on Alzheimer's disease. In addition, the MBRS framework gave Dr. Moss's student, Sylvia Gonzalez, an opportunity to attain her ambition of becoming a doctor. As an undergraduate, she was a psychology major with a minor in chemistry. Now living in Los Angeles with her husband (a UTEP graduate she met at Baylor College of Medicine), Ms. Gonzalez completed her internal medicine residency at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and went on to a nephrology fellowship at UCLA.

Proud of the Miner's recent win in San Diego, which she witnessed as part of a Southern California alumni gathering, she shares her memories of El Paso:

"Even as a freshman at Stephen F. Austin High School, I wanted to be a physician. As a senior with enough credits, I applied for part-time work

in something called distributive education. There seems to have been a tendency then to push minority students towards vocational careers rather than stressing the professions - hopefully it's changing."

Dr. Gonzalez is now in private practice in Los Angeles, diagnosing and caring for patients with terminal kidney diseases.

Dr. Moss comments on Dr. Gonzalez's experience, "For someone who was advised to become a beautician, I think she's done very well."

Like the ripples from a stone thrown into a lake, UTEP's MBRS program functions as a catalyst creating numerous spin-offs that enrich individuals' lives and improve the world we live in.

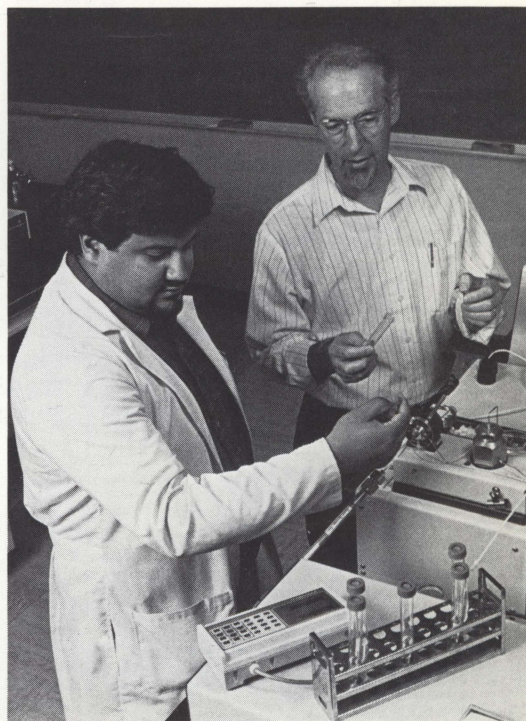
Oscar Molina is an MBRS biology graduate student. "I was accepted by MIT's math department while at El Paso High School, but I just couldn't see how I could make it there. Even at UTEP, I was like a lost sheep. You see, my sights were set on just getting

(continued on page 10)

Rattlesnake Venom, A Friend?

Biologist and MBRS director Eppie Rael is searching for the secret healing powers of rattlesnake venom. "What I'm doing - showing that a toxin is neurotoxic - may seem insignificant. But it could be an important piece to a bigger puzzle," says Rael. Working with MBRS students and other UTEP scientists, Rael is trying to find out if it is possible to attach lethal snake toxins to antibodies that will attack cancer cells. If Rael's theory works, it could open the door to treating certain types of cancer and in minimizing the rejection rate of bone marrow transplants. The rattlesnake venom research might also provide modern medicine with a way to dissolve blood clots, a useful tool in treating heart disease. Rael's research is funded by the National Institute for Health.

-Excerpted from *El Paso Times* article.



Biology student Marc Martinez, left, injects rattlesnake venom into a computer analysis instrument that identifies enzymes. Researcher Eppie Rael awaits the results.

Anderson Serves as Interim Development Director

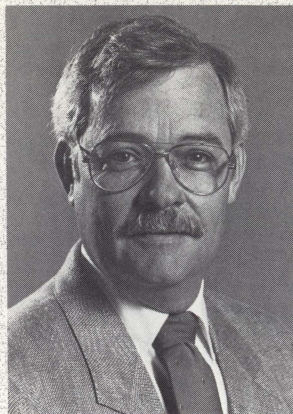
Wynn Anderson, Assistant to the President, was named interim Director of the Development Office following the departure of James M. Peak in August 1989. A national search for a permanent director is currently under way.

Anderson, a 1967 graduate of Texas Western College, has been employed by the University for nearly twenty-five years. One of his first positions on the campus after graduation was as assistant to Steele Jones, the University's first Director of Development. From 1966 to 1972, Jones and Anderson were instrumental in organizing the operations and campaigns for the institution's fund raising efforts, many of which are still utilized today. In 1973, Anderson was selected by then-President Arleigh B. Templeton as Assistant to the President, and he has since served three presidents in this capacity.

Schumaker Professorship Starts with a Challenge!

Former students and friends of retired Physics Professor Robert Schumaker have generated a matching three-for-one challenge grant to establish a \$100,000 endowed Professorship in his honor. The Rho Sigma Tau Association Board of Directors have pledged to triple-match all alumni and non-alumni gifts, of any amount, up to a total of \$75,000. The gifts must be designated for the Robert Schumaker Rho Sigma Tau Professorship in Physics. With the challenge grant of \$75,000, alumni and friends need only generate \$25,000 to establish this prestigious endowed faculty position in the College of Science, which will emphasize teaching excellence.

Schumaker, a fondly-remembered Physics professor, former director of the University's Computer Center, former director of Admissions, student advisor and friend, retired in July 1989 with 43 years of service to



Anderson



Schumaker

the University. He is one of the last faculty members who taught at the institution when it was known as the Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy.

More information on the Schumaker Rho Sigma Tau Professorship in Physics will be forthcoming when the University's annual Alumni Fund for Excellence gets under way in March.

Special Thanks to Jubilee Heritage Donors

Jean Miculka, Chairman of the UTEP Heritage Committee, is very pleased with the "donations of history" received from alumni and friends during 1989, the University's 75th Anniversary Year for the UTEP Heritage Collection, a treasure of both personal and official memorabilia linking the institution's

years as the Texas School of Mines, TCM, Texas Western College and UT El Paso.

Permanently housed on the ground floor of the University Administration Building, the Collection travels wherever its historical information is requested. During 1989, portions of the Collection were displayed at Fort Bliss, at the El Paso Symphony's "UTEP Night", and at the El Paso Street Festival.

The Heritage Committee would be happy to accept additional photos, yearbooks, class rings, items of clothing, or any other memorabilia to enhance the Collection. If you have something you wish to donate, Professor Miculka may be contacted c/o Room 108, Administration Bldg., UT El Paso (79968) or by calling (915) 747-5775.

Stars of UTEP Made Homecoming Shine!

The University's Diamond Jubilee Homecoming was a sparkling success, as more than 500 alumni and friends gathered at the El Paso Country Club last Fall to celebrate the past, present and future of their 75-year old University!

In light of the special anniversary being commemorated, the Alumni Association chose to honor all of the University's past Outstanding Exes as a group in 1989, rather than one individual. The star-filled evening of dining and dancing was a poignant homecoming for the 28 of 39 past Outstanding Exes, or their representatives, who were able to attend. Each of them was presented with a beautiful pen-and-ink drawing by El Paso artist Nacho Garcia, commissioned for them by President Diana Natalicio.

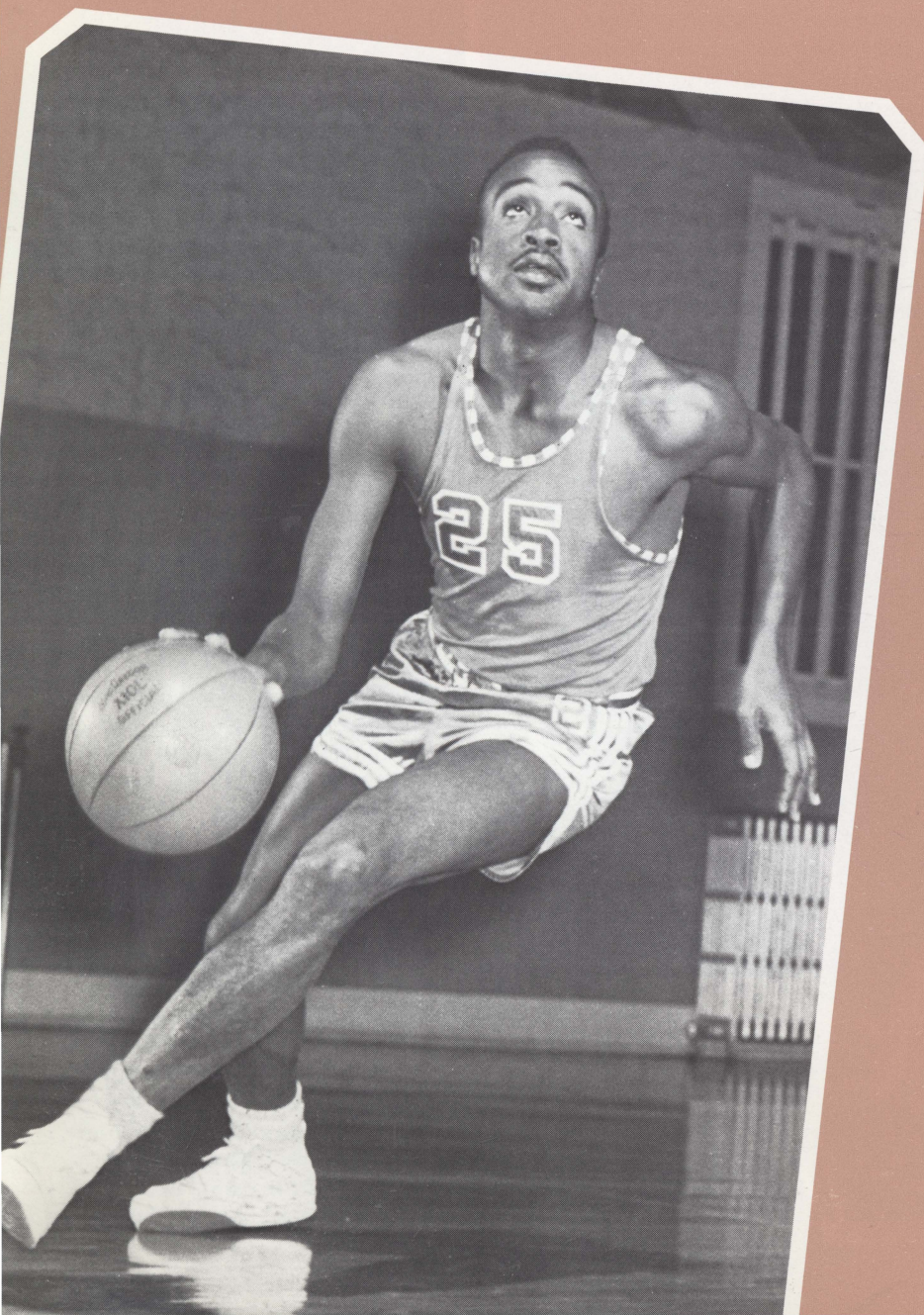
Dr. Natalicio also acknowledged the officers and directors of the 1989 Alumni Association for their enthusiasm, dedication and support through the Jubilee Year. Officers were Cheryl McCown, President; William Stevens, President-Elect;

(Continued on page 13)

CHARLIE BROWN:

*All-Conference
All-Conference
All-Conference
and First Black Major
College Athlete in the South*

by Charles Martin



Before Nate Archibald, before Jim "Bad News" Barnes, even before Don Haskins, there was basketball at UTEP. In those distant pre-Haskins days, one player stood head and shoulders above the rest — Charlie Brown. Through his brilliant play and his personal triumph over racial prejudice, Brown made an important but sometimes overlooked contribution to UTEP's rich athletic heritage.

On the court, the stocky 6-1 forward chalked up impressive statistics and was three times named to the All-Border Conference team. But his biggest accomplishment was not his scoring or rebounding but instead the very act of showing up in a Miner uniform. Charlie Brown, you see, was the first black athlete to play at UTEP and the Jackie Robinson of college sports in the South.

UTEP students today may not believe it, but in 1956, when Brown enrolled at Texas Western College, every major college athlete in Texas and in the entire South was white. Every one. There were no Tim Hardaways, no Herschel Walkers, no Bo Jacksons. None. Only two years had

"I always said Texas Western was going through integration; I wasn't."

--Charlie Brown

elapsed since the Supreme Court had issued its famous school integration ruling, and most Texas colleges and universities were still segregated. Indeed, Texas Western had just become one of the first state schools to integrate its undergraduate student body the previous year.

It was against this background that the twenty-four year old sophomore arrived in El Paso on a hot June day in 1956. A graduate of Pruitt High School in the small East Texas town of Atlanta, Brown served three years in the U. S. Air Force during the Korean War and had polished his skills while playing service ball. He appeared on campus fresh from an outstanding year at Amarillo Junior College.

During the next three years the "Amarillo Whiz," as The Prospector soon dubbed him, literally tore up the

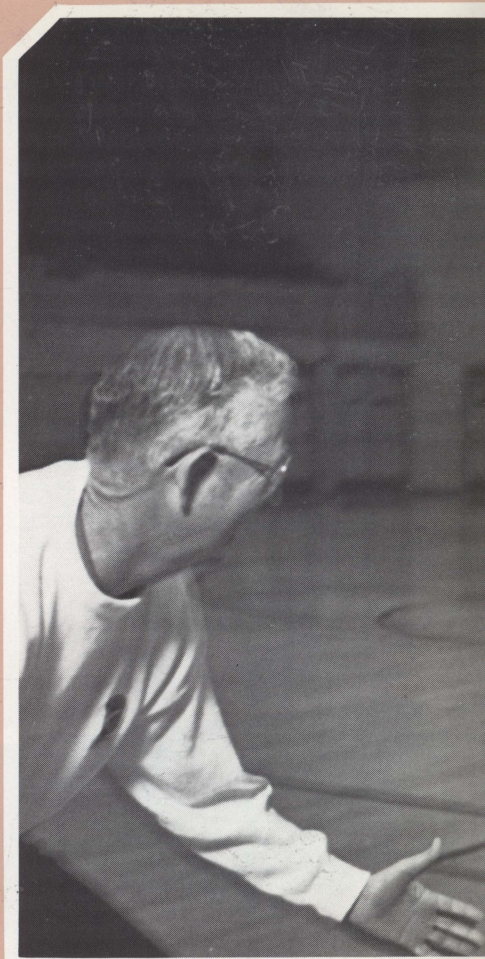
Border Conference. In his initial year, Brown averaged 23 points and 12 rebounds per conference game, won the league's MVP award, and led the Miners to the conference championship and a 15-8 record, the school's second best ever. Though his individual statistics dipped slightly over the next two years, Brown still won all-conference first team honors and in 1959 led the Miners to a share of the league championship. Small wonder, then, that former New Mexico State University coach Presley Askew described Brown as "the best player I have ever seen."

But life at Texas Western for Charlie was more than basketball and classes, because Brown was a black man, and in those days black men did not play major college basketball in the South. It was coach George McCarty who bravely chose to break this color line by recruiting a player that he had never actually seen play. As Brown recalled recently during a visit to the UTEP campus, "Basically everything was done by telephone. I talked to him numerous times and formed an opinion of him and his program." McCarty tried to prepare his prize recruit for what he might face, but mere words could not fully describe what lay ahead.

El Paso in 1956 was a far more open-minded city than Houston or

Dallas, but segregation had not totally disappeared. Immediately upon arrival, Brown was taken under the wing of Alvis Glidewell, a senior basketball player. Glidewell, now a coach at El Paso's Irvin High School, and Brown received a quick education on local racial etiquette when the new teammates decided to take in a movie downtown at the Plaza Theater. Glidewell bought two tickets outside, but, despite his protests, the duo were denied entry by an usher. "I didn't realize that they didn't let black people in," Glidewell recently recalled in an interview. "I guess I was naive." Rejected by the Plaza, the two players restricted their future movie-going to the Fiesta Drive-in Theater.

When Charlie's cousin Cecil arrived from Amarillo in September to join the team, another problem arose. Because campus dorms had not yet been integrated, the two Browns were not permitted to stay with their white teammates in Miners Hall. Instead they lived off-campus for a year while joining the other players in the dining hall for meals. Meanwhile, George McCarty quietly arranged for one dorm room to be left empty. He then unofficially reserved the room for the two Browns, who discreetly used it during the day and before games. As usual, Charlie shrugged off such in-



Ex-team mates Charlie Brown and Alvis Glidewell get together February 25th for the Diamond Jubilee's All-Time Fan F

conveniences: "I always said Texas Western was going through integration; I wasn't."

More serious problems sometimes appeared when the Miners went on the road, especially to West Texas State and Texas Tech. Charlie was often the target of racial taunts from hostile fans and wild elbows from rival players. Lodging with the rest of the team was not automatically available, despite McCarty's efforts to line up suitable accommodations in advance. On the positive side, fans and players at several schools, Hardin-Simmons and Tennessee Tech in particular, turned out to be surprisingly polite.

Still, the constant pressure from such difficult situations might have destroyed a different man, but Charlie was no ordinary player. Three years in the military had taught him discipline and maturity. An outgoing personality certainly helped. "Everyone liked him," Glidewell remembers. Support from his teammates reinforced his determination. Recalls Brown, "I never had an incident with

CHARLIE BROWN'S UTEP TOTALS

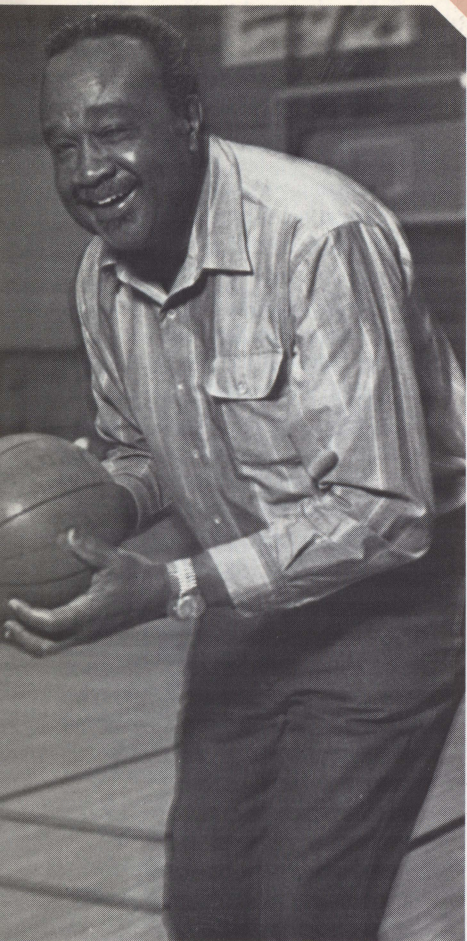
YEAR	GAMES	FG-FGA	PCT.	FT-FTA	PCT.	REB.	AVG.	PTS.	AVG.
1957	21	142-289	.491	159-209	.761	173	8.2	443	21.0
1958	23	147-344	.427	73-112	.643	184	8.0	366	15.0
1959	23	134-355	.400	93-134	.694	180	7.8	361	15.7
TOTALS	67	423-968	.446	324-455	.712	537	8.0	1170	17.4

TEAM RECORD

YEAR	COACH	OVERALL	CONF.
1957	George McCarty	13-8	8-2
1958	George McCarty	14-9	6-5
1959	George McCarty	14-9	7-3

CHARLIE BROWN'S TOP GAMES

YEAR	OPPONENT	PTS.	REB.
1957	West Texas State	37	12
1958	Southwest State	29	12
1957	New Mexico State	29	10
1957	Hardin-Simmons	27	13
1959	New Mexico State	26	9
1957	New Mexico Highlands	25	11
1958	Missouri	24	9
1958	West Texas State	24	13



one-on-one at Memorial Gym... Charlie was in town
ored at the Hawaii vs. UTEP Basketball game.

"If I had gone to any other place in Texas, say Texas Tech or the University of Texas, I would have never gotten beyond the first semester, because in those environments things were black or white."

-- Charlie Brown

any of the (TWC) players." The athletic department likewise backed him up. "Of course the most supportive was George McCarty," Brown explains, "and Mike Brumbelow was extremely helpful."

Perhaps the key factor in Brown's endurance was the presence of his cousin Cecil, a reserve guard who saw only limited action during his two years with the Miners. Since athletes

often tune out the crowd during a game, Cecil actually was more aware of the abuse aimed at his cousin because of his vantage point from the bench. Sharing each other's company no doubt made their lives easier. But despite a rock-solid facade, Charlie was not invincible.

"There were several times that I became discouraged," he admitted later, "especially during the beginning of my senior year." The source of that disappointment, which briefly caused him to consider dropping out of school, was his inability to do his student teaching in an El Paso high school because of his race. Fortunately, college officials arranged for Charlie to fulfill the certification requirements by working under the supervision of Jimmy Walker, a physical education instructor, with several freshmen PE classes at Texas Western. The crisis resolved, he remained in school and received his bachelor's degree in May, 1959.

Brown never really considered a pro career. Instead he began job-hunting and part-time graduate work. But employment opportunities were scarce for a black college graduate. "It was extremely difficult for me to survive after I graduated," Charlie explains, recalling a disappointing series

of part-time jobs. Eventually he landed a job teaching at El Paso's Jefferson High School, where he coached the freshman basketball team. But after two years he concluded that his future in the local schools was bleak, and he headed for the West Coast.

Out in San Francisco, Charlie quickly got a teaching job with the local school district. After several years, he moved into an administrative position. Currently he directs special projects for the San Francisco United School District and also specializes in computer applications for administrators and staff. From his home across the bay in Berkeley, he still follows the Miners on television and is enjoying watching Tim Hardaway play for the Golden State Warriors.

Reflecting on his student days, Brown has no regrets about having chosen Texas Western. He speculates that "if I had gone to any other place in Texas, say Texas Tech or the University of Texas, I would have never gotten beyond the first semester, because in those environments things were black or white." Pausing for a moment, he adds, "In looking back, even with all the problems, I still would do the same thing."



MBRS...(from page 5)

a job, but the MBRS program really expanded my horizons - it's the best thing that ever happened to me."

Born in Chihuahua, Mexico, Oscar came to the United States with his family when he was four years old. The three Molina siblings are the first generation to graduate from high school.

"Marc Martinez, another MBRS student, and I have been fractionating rattlesnake venom for Dr. Rael's experiments using high performance liquid chromatography. The research report on the proteases we've isolated is very exciting because one of the proteins is thrombolytic, that is, it helps to dissolve blood clots. Eventually, doctors will use it to treat blood disorders." Smiling, he says, "When Marc and I were new MBRS recruits, Dr. Rael sent us to the animal lab to observe how venom is collected." To "milk" venom, rattlesnakes have to be held carefully so as not to break their backs. "Dr. Carl Lieb was in the middle of demonstrating this when the rattler slithered out of his arms and landed on the floor of the lab. We looked at each other...and ran."

Molina plans to go to the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston or to Galveston's medical school.

UTEP's MBRS faculty and students have made numerous presentations at professional gatherings and acted as referees, editors and symposia chairpersons, both at home and abroad. A sample of these achievements follows.

Texas's Governor Clements appointed Dr. Don Moss to the State's Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders. Dr. Moss also attended the International Symposium on Marijuana and Cannabinoids in Melbourne, Australia in 1987 as a result of his research into the neuropharmacology of marijuana and related cannabinoids.

Dr. Paul Goldstein, Biological Sciences, was awarded a computer grant from Hewlett-Packard that is now in use for undergraduate training. His work received special recognition by the College of American Pathologists in 1987 and he has copyrights on two computer programs, "Metamorphosis" and "BioGRAF-3-D."

Dr. Keith Pannell, Chemistry, was awarded the Distinguished Achievement Award for teaching at UTEP in 1988, the University's highest teaching award. Ms. Cindy La Neave, one of Dr. Pannell's past MBRS students and now his technician, received two travel fellowships to the Annual Meeting of the American Physiological Society, San Diego, California (1987) and Rochester, Minnesota (1989), where she presented a paper on her research.

Dr. Michael Davis, Chemistry, will give a presentation at the 10th IUPAAC Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics in Como, Italy in 1990. Ms. Maria Elena Hernandez, one of Dr. Davis' students, was selected as the outstanding chemistry graduate student at UTEP for the year 1988-89.

Dr. Pablo Arenaz' work on DNA repair in Bloom's syndrome was selected for inclusion in a minisymposium at the annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in 1989. He also serves on several national committees in his field of expertise. Three of Dr. Arenaz' MBRS students have been recognized for their research. Ms. Sandra Trevizo received a travel grant from the American Society for Cell Biology in 1988 and 1989, as well as a travel grant from the American Association for Cancer Research and a scholarship from the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund. Ms. Veronica Pelaez was the recipient of both a Staley Undergraduate Research Fellowship for the 1988-89 and 1989-90 academic years, and a National Hispanic Scholarship Fund grant. In 1987, Mr. Paul Anaya received a Staley fellowship and in 1987 and 1988, a summer internship at M.D. Anderson. Last year, Mr. Anaya spent the summer working at NIH in Bethesda, Maryland.

Dr. Judith Goggin, Psychology, is the associate editor of *American Psychologist*, and a member of the Executive Committee of the American Psychological Association. Three of her students have attained academic recognition at UTEP and one of them, Ms. Maria Martin, is now a doctoral student in Psychology at Yale University on a National Science Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship.

The MBRS grant has enabled the University to attract faculty in disciplines related to biomedicine who contribute to UTEP in additional ways: Dr. Reynaldo Elizondo, professor of Biological Sciences, is also the dean of the College of Science. Both Dr. William Rivera (Chemistry) and Dr. Guido Barrientos (Psychology) have served as associate dean of the Graduate School within the past three years.

From NIH headquarters in Maryland, Dr. Gonzales sums up the MBRS program at UTEP,

"The current NIH budget is a little over seven billion dollars. MBRS, with 100 participating institutions, has a \$39 million a year budget, slightly less than 1% of the entire NIH budget. UTEP's share is about \$460,000. Our return on this investment is excellent. We consider the MBRS program at UTEP an unequivocal success."

The University of Texas at El Paso
Departments of Theatre Arts and Music present

WEST SIDE STORY

Opening May 3, 1990 - 8 PM

8 P.M., Magoffin Auditorium

Other Performances on Friday & Saturday,

May 5 & 6 - 8 P.M.

Matinee on Sunday, May 7 - 2:30 P.M.

A 75th Anniversary Event

Tickets available at the UTEP Ticket Center (747-5234) and all Dillard's Ticket Outlets

General Admission - \$8

Senior Citizens - \$6

Handicapped (Wheelchair) - \$5

Group (25 or more) - \$5

UTEP Faculty, Staff & Students - FREE

'50s

Harold E. "Hink" Moore (1950 etc.) has retired as CEO of the North Texas Contractors Association, which he founded in 1970. He is teaching courses in labor relations and employee law and arbitration at the University of Texas/Arlington.

Rosie B. Edwards (B.A. '52; M.Ed. '73) was named superintendent of the Gadsden Independent School District in June, 1989. Dr. Edwards completed her Ph.D. in Education at U.T. Austin in 1987 and served as an assistant superintendent for secondary schools in Phoenix, Arizona, before accepting her present position.

Howard Dorgan (B.A. '53), professor of communication arts at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, is the author of *The Old Regular Baptists of Central Appalachia: Brothers and Sisters in Hope*, published by the University of Tennessee Press.

'60s

Jose Pablo Garcia (B.A. '61; M.A. '65) is a professor of Spanish with the Armand Hammer United World College of the American West in Montezuma, New Mexico.

Michael C. Holland (B.S. '63) has been elected president and chief executive officer of the Mojave Pipeline Operating Co. Mojave is a joint effort by units of Enron Corp. and El Paso Natural Gas Co. to build and operate an interstate pipeline into California.

Gary Conwell (B.A. '63), vice president of marketing services for Providence Memorial Hospital, El Paso, has been elected to the board of the Public Relations Society of America for a two-year term.

Richard B. Gomez (B.S. '63; M.S. '65), associate technical director with the U.S. Army Engineer Topographic Laboratories in Fort Belvoir, Virginia, has been honored for "Professional Achievement in Government" by the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards selection committee. Dr. Gomez is also the deputy officer of the U.S. Army Space and Technology Research Office.

Charles F. Tupper Jr., (B.A. '64), of Arlington, Texas, is executive vice president of the

National Independent Automobile Dealers Association.

Phillip T. Smith (B.A. '64), associate professor and chairman of the History Department of Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is the author of a recently published book, *Policing Victorian London*.

J.R. "Bob" Ratliff (B.A. '65), Fort Sumner, New Mexico, cattle rancher, was selected for inclusion in *Who's Who in the West*.

Lore H. Wiggins (B.A. '66; M.A. '70), a teacher of the French language at Gateway High School in Aurora, Colorado, was one of eight winners of the 1989 Colorado Educator Award. The award, worth \$25,000 to each recipient, is funded by the Milken Family Foundation of Los Angeles "to recognize outstanding teachers and enhance the profession's status."

Mario T. Garcia (B.A. '66; M.A. '68), chairman of Chicano Studies at the University of California/Santa Barbara, will become the first director of Yale University's ethnic studies program on July 1. Dr. Garcia visited our campus in November to deliver a series of lectures and to donate his research papers to the Special Collections section of the UTEP Library.

Raul Cardenas (M.Ed. '68), president of South Mountain Community College, Phoenix, Arizona, was elected chairman of the board of directors of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities at their annual meeting in September, 1989.

Leo Chavez (B.A. '69), dean of instruction at San Jose City College, has been named president of West Valley Community College, Saratoga, California.

'70s

Robert J. Peartree (B.S. '70) is vice president and co-owner of Pennsylvania Metallurgical Company, a heat-treating business in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He is married to the former **Jo Ann Sherwood** (B.A. '69); they reside in Coopersburg, Pennsylvania.

Thomas C. Behan (B.B.A. '70), former president of Alaska Pacific Bank, Anchorage, is executive director and CEO of Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. His wife is the former **Kris Holmberg Sanders** (B.S. '70).

Arthur W. Bowman, (1971 etc.), editor of *Bowman's Accounting Report*, published in Atlanta, Georgia, spoke to the annual

meeting of the Texas Society of CPAs on "New Economics of Accounting Firms."

Henry A. de La Garza (B.A. '71), founder and president of de La Garza Public Relations, Houston, Texas, has been elected to serve on the 1990 board of directors for the Greater Houston Partnership. His journalism career spans more than 20 years; he founded the public relations company in 1982.

Ramon E. Lara (B.S. '71), a registered professional engineer, has joined Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., in El Paso.

Rickey Witt (B.A. '72) is head baseball coach at Houston (Texas) Baptist University.

Dewey R. Hicks, Jr. (B.A. '72) is a partner in the law firm of Baker and McKenzie in their Dallas Office.

Arturo Estrada (B.B.A. '72), technical assistant to the Assistant Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, D.C., received the IRS's "Productivity Through Innovation" award. His streamlining efforts reduced the processing time of tax court petitions in the National Office from an average of 32 days to 11, significantly reducing both overtime expenditures and the number and cost of illegal assessments.

David W. Maroski (B.S. '73) is owner and operator of a portrait and video studio in Mansfield, Louisiana.

Archie Dunbar (B.A. '73), of Crystal Lake, Illinois, is a captain for American Air Lines flying out of Chicago's O'Hare Field.

David Leibson (B.S. '74; M.A. '79) teaches English at St. Edwards University in Austin, Texas, and as an accomplished musician and composer, plays bass in a country bluegrass group called "Too Much."

Carlos A. Saenz (B.B.A. '74) is a district manager for Ross Laboratories in Arlington, Texas.

Lawrence J. Streiff, Lt./USN (B.S. '75; M.A. '81), who is currently serving at Surface Warfare Officers School, Newport, Rhode Island, has been awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for meritorious service while serving aboard the guided missile frigate USS Rodney M. Davis, homeported in Yokosuka, Japan.

Anna Salguero (B.S. '75), a member of the technical staff of Bellcore in Livingston, New Jersey, has been elected vice president for student services of the Society of Women Engineers

(SWE). SWE is a non-profit educational service organization dedicated to the advancement of women in the engineering profession.

Tony Barter (B.S. '76) is project and design manager of the Department of Transportation, State of Alaska; his wife, **Keri Barter** (B.S. '77) is a teacher. They reside in Anchorage.

Mike Emery (B.A. '76) recently completed his Ph.D. in English at SUNY/ Binghamton, and is an assistant professor in English at Cottey College, Nevada, Missouri.

Victor V. Perez (B.A. '77; M.Ed. '81) received his Master of Divinity degree in May, 1989, at the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas, and was ordained into the Roman Catholic presbyterate in September. He is currently ministering in the Diocese of Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Kathy Johnson Higgins (B.S. '77) has been appointed director of public information and volunteer services at El Paso State Center, Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

Steven Kunert (B.A. '79; M.A. '89) has received the \$13,000 Katey Lehman Fellowship for 1989-90 from Penn State University and is studying in the Master of Fine Arts program in Creative Writing.

Alvino Hernandez (B.A. '79), a sergeant and training director with the El Paso County Sheriff's Department and Region VIII Training Academy in El Paso, has graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy.

Lee Cannell (B.B.A. '79) is a senior vice president with Surety Savings Association, El Paso.

'80s

Charles E. Taliaferro (B.S. '80) is plant manager for Hubbell Hermetic Refrigeration maquiladora in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico.

Shirley M. Atkinson (M.S.N. '83) received the 1989 Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching during commencement at Graceland College, Lamoni, Iowa, where she has taught for the past 11 years.

H. Douglas Madden (M.S. '84) a resident of St. Louis, Missouri, recently received a Master of Science in photogrammetric engineering from Purdue University's School of Civil Engineering.

Paul T. Hood, 1st Lt./USAF (B.S. '84) was promoted to his present rank in February, 1989. He is currently assigned as a tactical airlift navigator at Dyess AFB, Abilene, Texas.

Miguel "Mike" Juarez (B.A. '85), a graduate student in arts administration at California State University/Dominguez Hills, recently participated in a symposium, "Contemporary Chicano Art."

Richard Stephen Bland (B.S. '85) is an adult probation officer with the state of Missouri. He and his wife, Amy, live in St. Louis.

Maria F. Rollin (M.A. '85) is an instructor of English as a second language and Spanish at Laredo (Texas) Junior College.

Monique R. Richey, Ens./USN (B.S. '86), who joined the Navy Reserves in May, 1989, has completed the Officer Indoctrination School at the Naval Education and Training Center, Newport, Rhode Island.

Brett C. Conyers, 1st Lt./USA (B.A. '86), who completed his juris doctorate at St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio in May, 1989, and was admitted to the Texas bar in November, is serving in the Judge Advocate General's Corps in West Germany where he will be stationed for three years.

Christian P. James, Ens./Coast Guard (B.S. '87) received his present rank after serving at Coast Guard Reserve Training Center in Yorktown, Virginia.

Brandon F. Johnson, 2nd Lt./USMC (B.B.A. '88) graduated from The Basic School, Quantico, Virginia, last summer.

Jason Whitley (B.B.A. '88) is a graduate student in the business administration program at Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth, Texas.

James J. Sheehan, 2nd Lt./USA (B.S. '89) was commissioned at Fort Lewis, Washington, following graduation ceremonies at Camp Adventure, Washington.

Jaime E. Diaz (B.B.A. 1989) is employed in computer information systems at Hughes Aircraft in Torrance, California.

Deaths

Bryan C. Barfitt (B.S. 1979), April 28, 1988. His wife, father and sister survive him.

Charles H. Lockhart (B.A. 1946), a resident of San Marcos, California, November 12, 1988. He was retired from Mountain Bell and is survived by his wife, Marilyn A. Lockhart, and a daughter, Barbara.

Edwin D. Patrick (B.S. 1955), a geologist and resident of LaFayette, Louisiana, February 17,

1989. His wife, Myrna Enloe Patrick (B.S. 1954), and four daughters survive him.

Jimmie Ann Bernard (B.A. 1975; M.A. 1986), a coordinator for Region XIX Education Service Center, El Paso, February 25, 1989. She is survived by her husband, Roger A. Bernard, two daughters and a son.

Edward John Chapin (B.S. 1927), of Dallas, Texas, in March, 1989. He is survived by his wife, Louise Chapin, and two sons, Edward and Charles.

Richard P. Hyde (B.S. 1950), a resident of East Meadow, New York, March 23, 1989. His mother survives him.

King H. DuClos (B.S. 1953), president and owner of Royal Air Corp in Frankfort, Illinois, March 8, 1989. Survivors are his wife and four children.

Malvina Owen Spearman (B.A. 1966), well-known El Paso social services volunteer, April 3, 1989. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Wycliffe P. Curtis of El Paso, and Donna Spearman of Missoula, Montana, and grandchildren.

Ernesto Vera (B.S. 1978), El Paso electrical engineer, June 1, 1989. He is survived by his son, David.

Mary Kelly Quinn, associate professor of sociology from 1925 to 1965, July 21, 1989, at the age of 89. She was the widow of Dr. Howard Quinn, professor and chairman of Geology who taught at UTEP from 1924 until his retirement in 1965 and who died in 1976. She was a daughter of C.E. Kelly, a former mayor of El Paso and the first El Pasoan to serve on the UT Board of Regents (1917-1923).

Jose Luis Miranda (B.B.A. 1977), July 22, 1989, in Hong Kong where he was employed as general manager for Synergy Sports Ltd. Co. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Juan Miranda, of El Paso.

Raymond Lee Correll (M.Ed. 1970), an administrator with the El Paso Schools, July 21, 1989. Three children survive him.

Fidencia G. Paniague (B.A. 1934; M.A. 1952), retired El Paso teacher, July 23, 1989. She is survived by a brother and sister.

Frances Clayton (B.A. 1943), retired El Paso librarian, July 30, 1989. She was a member of a pioneer El Paso family, and earned her master's in library science from UT Austin. She is survived by three brothers.

Adrian R. Gonzalez (B.B.A. 1959), El Paso certified public accountant and a partner in the firm of Brown & Gonzalez, August 5, 1989. He is survived by several children.

Mary Coccozza (B.A. 1965), of Napa, California, August 5, 1989. Two daughters survive her.

Betty Ann Dolan (B.S. 1944), El Paso and teacher, August 7, 1989. She is survived by her husband, Hugh Dolan, a son and two daughters.

Richard P. Tiernan (B.S. 1949), a former electrical engineer with Chevron USA and consulting engineer with Aramco, August 11, 1989. His wife, Peggy Tiernan, and several children, survive.

Selvin E. Shields, retired UTEP director of payroll, August 13, 1989. He is survived by two daughters and a son.

Jacqueline Nash "Jackie" Miller (B.A. 1967), of El Paso, October 4, 1989. Her husband, Dorr M. Miller, and several children survive.

Heriberto Chacon Jr. (B.A. 1985), a teacher in the El Paso schools, October 5, 1989. He is survived by his parents and several children.

Leroy E. Marshall (B.S. 1969), an El Paso resident, October 18, 1989. He is survived by his wife, Maxine Marshall, and several children.

Stewart Bevan (B.S. 1933), of Long Beach, California, October 27, 1989. A geologist, he was employed by Humble Oil Company and worked in Saudi Arabia, with the El Paso Natural Gas Company, and with McDonnell Douglas. He is survived by a sister, Adelaide Bevan Teel, and two brothers, H. Dean Bevan and Don F. Bevan.

Helene V. "Cookie" Kaster (B.B.A. 1957), in Austin, Texas, October 28, 1989. Her husband, James Kaster (B.S. 1957), chairman of the Texas Employment Commission, and six children survive.

Charlotte F. Hansen (B.A. 1933; M.Ed. 1965), retired El Paso teacher, October 28, 1989. She is survived by her husband, Karl V. Hansen, and two sons.

Jose A. Provencio Jr. (B.B.A. 1976), a senior accountant with General Dynamics International, in Brussels, Belgium, November 7, 1989. Survivors include his mother, Abbie G. Hammer, and three brothers.

Arthur Gilles (B.S. 1951), retired electrical and electronic engineer, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 18, 1989. A major part of his career was spent in research and development, and engineering and testing of aircraft instrumentation at the Naval Air Engineering Center. His wife, Rosalie Gilles, survives him.

George Q. Clark (B.S. 1957), of Las Cruces, New Mexico, a rocket scientist and electronic

physicist with NASA, November 26, 1989.

Charles G. Zavala (B.F.A. 1980), El Paso artist and recipient of the 1982 UTEP Purchase Award conferred by the President's Office, December 3, 1989. His parents and three daughters survive.

Clay Cox (M.Ed. 1961), retired athletic director for the El Paso Independent School District, in El Paso, December 7, 1989. His wife, Patsy Cox, and two children survive him.

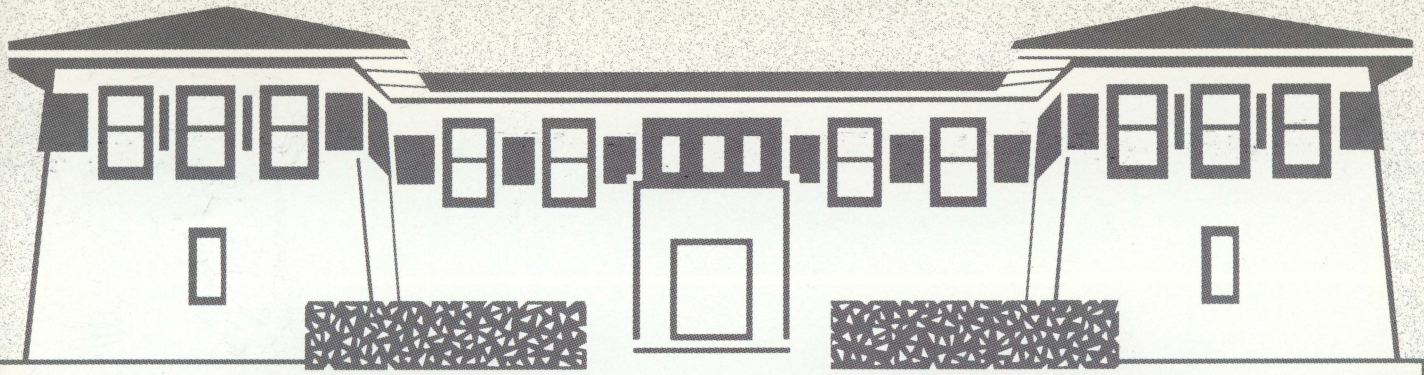
Nannie E. Rogers (M.A. 1954), retired El Paso teacher and a resident of Carlsbad, New Mexico, December 8, 1989. She is survived by her son, James T. Rogers, of Dallas, Texas.

Fred W. Bailey (B.S. 1920, Outstanding Ex 1960), last surviving member of the Class of 1920, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, December 8, 1989. A mining engineer for over 42 years, he retired as general manager of the Fresnillos (Mexico) Mining Company in 1962. Mr. Bailey was instrumental in establishing the Lloyd Nelson Memorial Professorship in Geological Sciences at UTEP. His son, George F. Bailey, of Albuquerque, survives.



Myrtle E. Ball, retired UTEP professor of drama and speech, December 12, 1989, at age 98. Mrs. Ball joined the faculty of Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy in 1928, teaching speech interpretation and drama, and establishing the College Play-ers and the forensics program. She and her husband, the late William H. Ball, who taught chemistry at UTEP, both retired in 1958. Survivors are her sons, George H. Ball, Russell E. Ball and Joe M. Ball.

Gori P. Bruno, retired consul general of the U.S. Foreign Service and former director of International Students Office at UTEP, January 4. He is survived by his wife, Toni Bruno, and several children.



JOIN THE JUBILEE

JUBILEE SQUARE, a monument to UT El Paso's 75 years of achievement, is being created. The main courtyard in front of the Centennial Museum will be paved with inscribed bricks contributed by students, alumni, staff, faculty and friends. This is your opportunity to have a permanent reminder of your contributions to UTEP. You can also honor or memorialize a loved one, your company or business. Join the Jubilee in 1990 by creating a lasting tribute to the people who made UTEP a great university.

CENTENNIAL MUSEUM JUBILEE SQUARE

Enclosed is my gift of \$_____ for _____ brick(s) at \$75 each for the Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Patio.
Please inscribe my brick(s) as follows (names, "class of", etc.):

1st brick

2nd brick

3rd brick

12 characters per line, two lines maximum (space counts as a letter) PLEASE PRINT.

Please make checks payable to The University of Texas at El Paso. Forward with this form to the:
Development Office, The University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas 79968-0524.
Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by the law.

EXTRACTS...(from page 6)

J. Rene Nunez, 1st Vice President; Steve Tredennick, 2nd Vice President; Ricardo Rios, Treasurer, and Stanlee Rubin, Secretary. The 1989 directors were Dr. René Casavantes, Amy Castillo, Martini DeGroat, Algje Felder, Dia'n Learakos, Joseph Mullings, Mary Alice Prendergast, Grady Ray, Larry Trejo, Steve Yellen and Dr. Dave Williams. Incoming directors-at-large for 1990 are Jackie Guevara, Alan Johnson, Ron Rush and Tina Sigler.

Year-End Giving At All Time-High

By December 31, 1989, year-end giving to the Alumni Fund for Excellence brought the annual program to an all-time high of \$439,729 surpassing the \$357,036 in gifts raised during 1988.

J. Rene Nunez, 1989 Alumni Fund Chairman, credited the many fund

volunteers and the spirit generated by the University's 75th Anniversary as the major factors for this record-breaking tally.

A preliminary figure for December 31 showed the Alumni Fund with 3,387 gifts for \$439,729 - an increase of \$82,693 and 206 gifts over the 1988 giving year.

Matrix Society Membership Expanded

A substantial increase in the number of gifts from friends of the University has encouraged the Matrix Society to open its membership to non-alumni who contribute \$200-\$499 to academics in a calendar year. President Natalicio approved their decision to expand the Society membership, which had previously been limited to alumni, staff and faculty donors.

During 1989, the 334 members of the Matrix Society, chaired by James

P. Maloney (USA Ret), contributed \$78,695 to academic areas of the University, and as unrestricted support for discretionary use by the President. Incoming chairman of the 1990 Society is Lloyd V. Stevens, Jr.

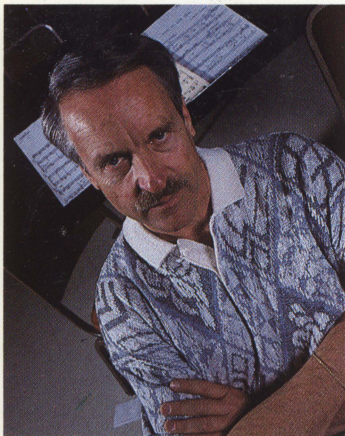
Another key donor group, the President's Associates, chaired by Lindsay B. Holt, is composed of donors to academics of \$500 or more annually. The Associates membership has always been open to alumni and non-alumni contributors. In 1989, its 194 members contributed \$332,665 in personal gift support for academics, compared to \$249,640 in 1988. The incoming 1990 chairman of the Associates is Leonard Goodman, Jr.

In future issues of the University's Annual Gift Report, members of the President's Associates and Matrix Society will be listed separately in order to distinguish memberships within these two fast-growing donor clubs.



Above: Legendary trumpet and flugelhorn Jazzman Clark Terry played at Magoffin Auditorium in a concert with the UTEP Jazz Lab Band. The February 23rd performance was produced by Public Radio KXCR to raise funds for the Band's summer invitation to play at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland.

UTEP SWINGS WITH COOL CATS



As an educator, Sam Trimble has developed jazz programs of exceptional quality his bands have been featured with such entertainers as Bob Hope, Vicky Carr, Gladys Knight, Dizzy Gillespie, Ed Shaughnessey, and Linda Carter. Presently, Sam is the inspiration

for one of the hottest student jazz bands in the Southwest — the UTEP Lab Band. Sam's a real treat to see on stage. He conducted a concert with Clark Terry that brought to the audience pure magic: the kind that only seasoned veterans like Terry and Trimble can make with young aspiring musicians.

by Steve Almond

Hector Alvarez and Horacio Gomez are doing the "Cold Tater Stomp," lost in the swirl of swing dancing out of their instruments. A few feet behind them on the Magoffin Auditorium stage, jazz deity Clark Terry awaits his solo, a golden trumpet dangling impatiently at his side. He smiles broadly at the crowd, then sinks into a Groucho Marx crouch and attempts an end around run to the microphone.

Without missing a beat, Alvarez sidesteps into his path and nudges the world renowned trumpeter back. His sneak attack on Gomez meets the same fate and for a moment he simply stares at the two youngsters wailing into the



At the pre-concert rehearsal, Lab Band student musicians receive expert advice on how to interpret the subtle nuances in some of the music Terry brought for the concert.

spotlight. Then, with deceiving agility, he ducks through their red rover defense, draws his instrument into line and glides seamlessly into the riff.

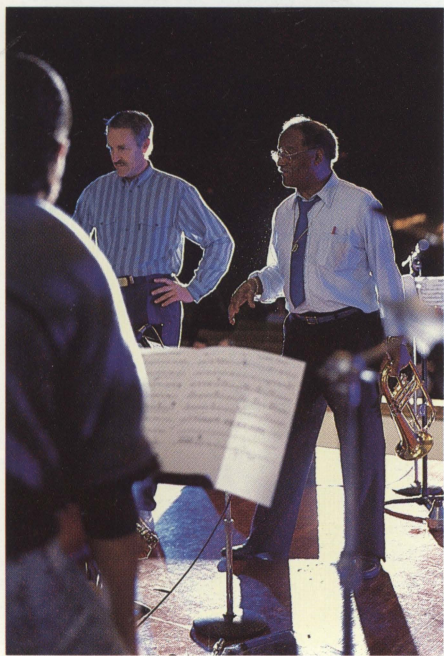
Now, if it seems a bit cocky for a couple of greenhorns to usurp center stage from Clark Terry, consider that both blow for the UTEP Jazz Lab Band - an ensemble that has hobnobbed with Dizzy Gillespie and played with the assorted Jazz glitterati at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland.

Scan the group's stunning resume, or, better yet, listen in on its daily practices and it becomes plain the Lab Band is no ordinary college ensemble.

"The band seems to have made a name for itself," concedes conductor Sam Trimble, who will lead the band on an unprecedented second visit to Montreux this July. "But that's not the point." The point, he quickly notes, "is to give the students here the chance to become the best they possibly can."

In his eight years at UTEP, Trimble - who plays principal trumpet in the El Paso Symphony - has built UTEP's already solid jazz band into a perennial powerhouse that in 1985 earned statewide bragging rights as the only Jazz ensemble to receive an invitation to the Texas Music Education Association's annual convention.

The band's 20 members (five trumpets, five saxophones, five trombones and four man rhythm section) credit



Trimble and Clark team up to prepare the Lab Band for the Friday evening concert.



Alto saxophone whiz Hector Alvarez performs one of several solos during the Lab Band's concert with Clark Terry.

Trimble's sensitive-but-demanding teaching style for much of the improvement.

"He knows how to take a bunch of turkeys and make them into a damn good group," says lead trumpet Tommy Fraga. "He motivates by taking a positive approach to playing. It's not like he's just going to tell you suck-eggs or you're a biscuit eater." Nor, on the other hand, does he tolerate players slacking off.

"If you get a piece of music one day you're expected to memorize it the next," reports Marty Olivas, a fellow trumpeter.

On a more subtle level, Trimble has been able to instill in his pupils - especially the veterans - a sense of professional pride that breeds intense discipline.

"If you don't know your part someone's going to tell you don't know. It's really blunt, but that's what you have to do to have this type of group," notes Olivas, who still remembers being "ridden all the time" in his first semester with the band, five years ago.

Lead saxophone Hector Alvarez says he owes his professional ambitions to Trimble and the Lab Band. "He told me to take a serious look at music," recalls the former electrical engineering major who now performs as the featured player in the rising jazz band "Tangent."

Trimble estimates that about 10 percent of his students will go on to

play professionally and another 35 to 45 percent end up teaching music. His alumni include a member of Glen Miller's band and a handful of studio players.

"You learn a lot from day to day," says Alvarez. "Everyday you refine your skill because, it's a challenge to stay on your toes".

Aside from four weekly practices, the band divides into sections once a week, to hone each group's part. "Trimble kind of lays down the law and the section leaders enforce it," explains Wes Wadley, the trombone section leader.

To buttress the required classes, players practice four to six hours a day and perform in a variety of area bands. "That's all we do, play. We try to make a living playing and teaching," says Olivas, who sits in with the symphony, a salsa band and a soon-to-form jazz quartet.

With such high-caliber ambitions, Trimble admits competition between players is inevitable. "But competition is really an inner drive they have to get better," he stresses.

"It was really intimidating being in there at first," Wadley notes. "But it made me work harder to play up to the best players."

Trimble fuel-injects his normally rigorous workouts, with celebrity guest conductors, giving his band a chance to study - if only for a few hours - under jazz masters. At the band's pre-concert rehearsal with

Clark Terry, for instance, the virtuoso offers incisive advice between swigs of Cherry Coke.

"Give it a little more air," he tells the sax section, then turns to work with drummer Eddie Montoya on his opening run. Calling out song titles that the band has had only a week to learn, Terry grins around his mouth-piece as he hears the numbers gel.

"It's neat to get to meet and play and get criticism from the big boys," Alvarez says. "And hey, if somebody hears you and likes it, you never know what can come of it."

At the evening performance, Terry seems at times awed by the band's precociousness. On several occasions, particularly during a trumpet solo that leaves Fraga's face tomato-red, he just staggers back to watch.

"They were fantastic, just beautiful," Terry gushes backstage. "They latched onto everything we talked about at rehearsal. Not only did they understand it, but they did it. I just hope they had as much fun as I did."

The performance also gave some 650 fans a chance to witness the lab band's specialty: experimentation. "It's called a 'lab' band because we consider it a laboratory where we can play far out stuff," Trimble notes. That's why the band spices Terry's

jazz swing standards with odd gems such as the funky "Eye of the Sphinx," and Gershwin's sultry "Embraceable You."

Solos leak out of the microphone at center stage, from Terry's trumpet and fluehorn and - just as often - from the Lab Band vets.

"The whole thing about jazz being an American music is that it started in fields, on the steps of houses, in the ghetto," Trimble explains. "It grew from unpretentious beginnings and it should stay that way."

Trimble himself embodies this spirit, bouncing from master of ceremonies to stand-up comic ("shad-dup!" he screams jokingly, when an infant in the crowd starts crying). At one point he even interrupts the show to urge folks to vote down a tax rollback that would threaten music programs in schools.

By the end of the set, closed out in a flourish of Terry's scat mumbling, the audience is on its feet and the loudest applause, by far, goes to the band. The concert will help fund the band's two week tour of Europe this July, highlighted by several performances at Montreux.

Fraga was a freshman when the band visited the world's most celebrated jazz fest in 1984. He still

remembers setting up on a little loading dock, up a steep mountain in Old Montreux and wondering if any fans would show.

"There was no one there. Absolutely dead. And then, within five or ten minutes it got packed. I couldn't believe the response," he recalls.

Wes Wadley, who also went on the 1984 trip, recalls more than jazzed European crowds: "We took a lot of time just checking out the culture and sights." For Wadley and Fraga, the return to Montreux seems somehow fitting. Both seniors view it as a kind of last hurrah.

Since the band is made up exclusively of students, turnover is an inevitable reality. But this year it seems especially trying, since by all accounts the 1990 lab band is one of the best ever. Still, with the band's rising reputation, Trimble shouldn't have much trouble recruiting new talent.

Tommy Fraga, who will complete his masters degree in music this year, is looking hopefully toward a career as a professional trumpeter. But he makes no bones about his sadness at leaving the Lab Band.

"Oh, I don't want to go, man," he says, ruefully. "I keep thinking maybe there's another degree I can get to stay in the band."

EUROPE AND ALL THAT JAZZ - July 3-17, 1990



Cafe dining on a flower covered hillside...

A medieval castle...

Shops filled with old world crafts...

A walk through a glacier...

And some of the world's best jazz!

These are just a few of the highlights you'll enjoy as you travel with the UT El Paso Jazz Band to the famed Montreux Jazz Festival.

This year the Band's reserved 40

places on their deluxe Swiss touring coach for some very special people. If you have dreamed of seeing Europe as a series of adventures, then this is your tour.

Unlike most tours, we're not locked into a rigid itinerary months in advance. Even as you're reading this, we're still comparing cities, taking advantage of recently announced special events we know you'll enjoy.

Like skiing and hiking in an Alpine village. Wandering through medieval cities filled with magnificent architecture and breathtaking gardens. Visiting shopping districts whose European prices make fine crafts a bargain.

During your trip you'll be accompanied by an experienced tour guide. There are many exciting activities available, including an unforgettable ride up the Matterhorn. But there's also lots of time set aside for independent sightseeing, for romantic walks, for trips to museums and art galleries, for lingering afternoons in European cafes.

And wherever you go you'll hear

some of the world's best jazz. This year the UT El Paso Jazz Band is one of only a handful of college bands invited to play at the prestigious Montreux festival. They're also booked to appear at other festivals throughout northern Europe.

When you book passage on the Band's 1990 European tour, you're helping to underwrite their performances in France, Germany and Switzerland. The name of your city and university will be seen all over Europe. Your Jazz Band Tour price includes:

- round trip air fare
- all hotel accommodations (three and four star hotels)
- all continental breakfasts & dinners
- tour guide
- admission to the chairlift in the Alpine village of Grindelwald; and a special scenic boat ride.

Cost: \$2,500, \$500 of which is tax deductible.

For more information, call Sam Trimble, UT El Paso Music Department (915) 747-5606.

Ask about the Jazz Tour.

