

Fall 1995

# Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso

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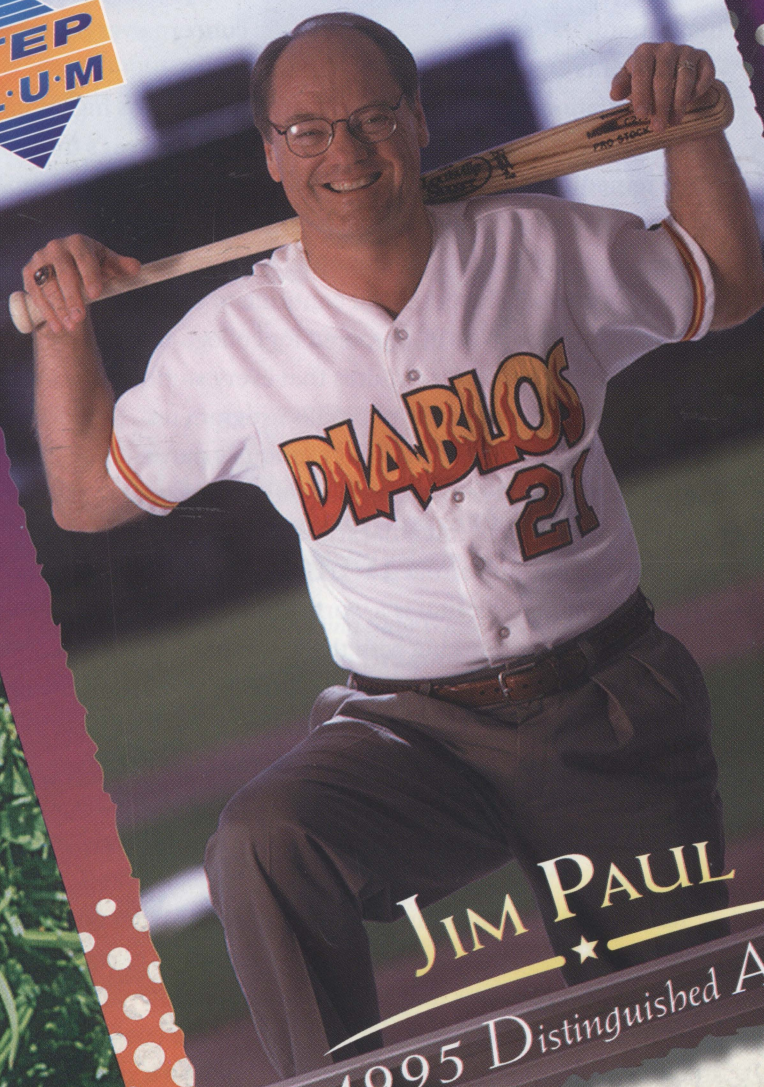
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# NOVA

QUARTERLY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO



**JIM PAUL**  
★  
1995 Distinguished Alumnus

FALL • 1995



## FROM THE EDITOR

UTEP's 1995 Distinguished Alumnus, Jim Paul, is an excellent example of the impact this university's commitment to providing academic opportunities can have on an individual.

Undiagnosed learning disabilities proved to be a handicap to Paul as he attempted to work his way through an academic career. After falling grades placed him on academic probation, he was drafted and sent to Vietnam.

While in Vietnam, Paul wrote a letter to the university expressing his desire and dedication to return and earn his degree. He completed his tour of duty and was readmitted to UTEP. He earned a place on the dean's list and graduated with a B+ average.

It is inspiring and heartwarming to see the tremendous success of one of UTEP's graduates who may not have achieved such success if he had not received educational opportunities and encouragement — especially now, as UTEP and other institutions across the nation face public concern over the large numbers of remedial students enrolled.

Remediation is a dilemma for most of the nation's higher education institutions. Studies show that nationally, nearly a third of this year's freshman class is in need of some remedial education. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that only six percent of college-bound high school seniors meet admissions criteria set by highly selective colleges. Demographic studies point out that the number of students needing remedial education will continue to increase in coming years as high school students continue to be ill-prepared for college-level work.

A Texas state mandate requires that every student entering a public university or college take the Texas Academic Skills Program test. Students who do not pass all three sections of this test must continuously participate in remediation at the institution in which they are enrolled until they pass the entire test.

Fifty-six percent of remedial students who entered UTEP in the fall of 1987 have graduated or are still enrolled at UTEP or another Texas public institution. This indicates that remediation is a worthwhile endeavor until a solution can be found.

UTEP has been working with the community to find answers to the remediation problem for more than three years. Since 1992, through the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence, UTEP has worked with local schools to improve the academic achievement of all of El Paso's children. The Collaborative's efforts have been directed at identifying the necessary secondary courses required for university admission and at helping public schools develop comprehensive college-preparatory programs.

As this region's only four-year institution of higher education, UTEP is proud of its mission to offer excellent academic opportunities to motivated individuals, including those whose talents may require development.

Ultimately, universities such as UTEP should not be judged by the quality of students who enter through their doors, but by the quality of these students when they leave with top-notch educations. Jim Paul, UTEP's 1995 Distinguished Alumnus, is one shining example of the quality of UTEP's alumni.

—Kathleen Rogers

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## ON THE COVER

*Jim Paul, UTEP's 1995 Distinguished  
 Alumnus. Photo by David Flores, cover  
 design by John Downey.*

*Above right photo:  
 UTEP was recently recognized for  
 exemplary fund-raising by the Council  
 for Advancement and Support of  
 Education. A total of \$8.4 million was  
 raised in 1993-94, a 68 percent in-  
 crease over 1992-93. Dr. Natalicio,  
 (center) holding the Circle of Excel-  
 lence Award, is surrounded by some of  
 the benefactors who have been the  
 guiding force behind successful fund-  
 raising campaigns (left to right,  
 clockwise): Alumni Association chair  
 Martini DeGroat; Presidents Associates  
 chair Andrew Guevara; Miner Founda-  
 tion chair Manny Aldana; Matrix  
 Society chair Steele Jones and Develop-  
 ment Board chair Don Henderson.*

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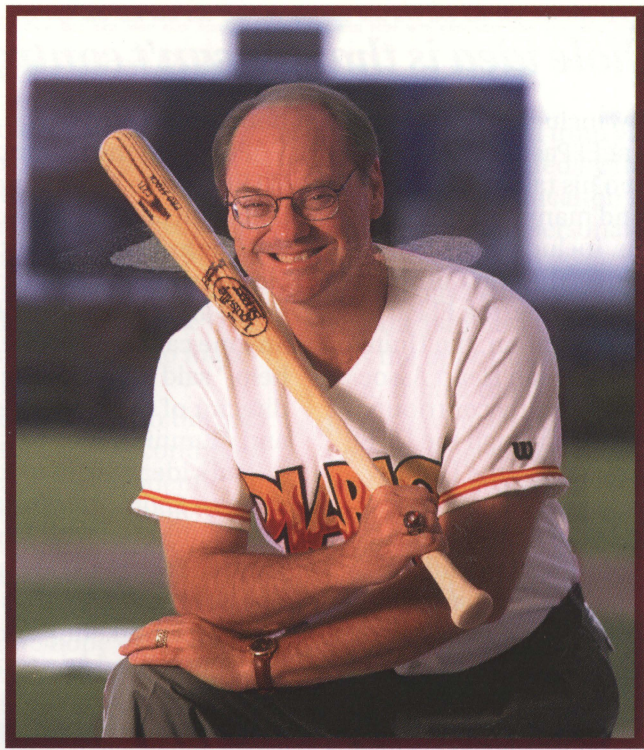
**E**l Paso seemed like an unlikely place to stage the revival of minor league baseball and Jim Paul, a Vietnam vet who thought the infield fly rule had something to do with zip-ping your pants, appeared an improbable candidate to be its guardian saint. But if I had to pick one franchise that placed a premium on fun, that made every game a rollicking adventure, the El Paso Diablos were the winners, hands down. No one even came close.

—from *Stolen Season: A Journey Through America and Baseball's Minor Leagues* by David Lamb.

## 1995 UTEP Distinguished Alumnus

# Jim Paul

# Goes to Bat for UTEP!



by Nicole Greason

**F**or Jim Paul, work *is* fun and games.

He revels at the fans dancing on the dugout, at the prize giveaways and at the good-natured heckling of out-of-town pitchers at El Paso Diablos baseball games.

But don't be deceived. Baseball is more than a pastime. The game has been Paul's passion for 20 years.

In 1975, Paul scraped together \$1,000 with loans from friends and bought the failing AA minor league team. He is now the owner and president of the franchise that pumps some \$7 million annually into El Paso's economy and that brings national attention to the city.

It's been a long haul from the early days when, Paul says, "the most important person on the team was the groundskeeper because not only did he keep the field in good shape, but he woke people up when the game was over," and when naysayers claimed El Paso just wasn't a baseball town.

Today the ballpark is filled on summer evenings with fans whose

affection for the Diablos nears obsession and where fun is the name of the game.

Paul's dedication to El Paso baseball and to the community has earned him the designation of 1995 UTEP Distinguished Alumnus, the highest honor the university can bestow on its alumni.

"I am very happy to receive this award. It is gratifying to know that I have been able to give back to my community in a positive way... baseball really is a fun and healthy pastime for El Paso families," said Paul, who graduated from UTEP in 1971 with a degree in education with emphasis on journalism and English.

Through his uncanny marketing and promotions savvy, Paul took the club from its dog-eared days with few fans at rundown Dudley Field in South Central El Paso to a slick, nationally-known venture at state-of-the-art Cohen Stadium in Northeast El Paso.

Paul laughs at the early days when the field announcer and fans at the "dome" entertained each other by

playing "Take Me Out To The Ball Game" on kazoos. Now, Diablos games are an experience in high-tech sound, fireworks, contests and giant giveaways.

To date, the Diablos are the only sports team to be featured on the cover of *National Geographic*.

In Paul's first six years as owner and operator, the Diablos set six consecutive attendance records. During the 1993 season, the team set its all-time attendance record with 307,000 fans.

For its outstanding achievement within the baseball industry, the team was named Organization of the Decade for the 1980s by *Baseball America* magazine.

Locally, Paul has been inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame and has received the Hicks-Middaugh Award for Outstanding Alumni from the UTEP Communication Department. In December 1983, the city of El Paso honored Paul with its highest honor — the Conquistador Award.

Baseball is not Paul's only passion. He is ardent in his efforts to serve the

## "The whole idea is that we can't control whether the team wins or loses,

community, including the University of Texas at El Paso.

He has given his talent to numerous causes and many community organizations, including the Sun Bowl Committee, the Sun Carnival Basketball Committee, the El Paso Community Foundation, the United Way and the American Heart Association. And he has greatly contributed to his alma mater through the UTEP President's Associates, the UTEP Alumni Fund for Excellence, El Dorados, the UTEP Golf Century Club, the communication and electrical engineering departments and KTEP. Paul also has established a fund for students working in the Sports Information Office.

Possibly his most notable contribu-

tions are his ideas.

"People in the community and at UTEP turn to him all the time for help with all sorts of worthy causes and for brilliant promotional ideas. He has worked hard to promote UTEP and he stays involved. Anytime anyone calls on him, he is there to help," said Marcia Cohen, assistant director of the UTEP Development and Alumni Office.

Paul's ideas are in a book titled *Modern Sports Administration*, that he co-authored with James G. Mason, a former UTEP professor. The book, the first of its kind, focuses on sports marketing and administration and is used as a textbook at some universities, Paul said.

Beneath Paul's brilliant exterior lies

a lifelong struggle with Attention Deficit Disorder and hyperactivity.

"About four years ago, I was diagnosed with ADD and hyperactivity. I always had a hard time concentrating on things, always been a little too active. When I was at UTEP I couldn't concentrate in classes. I probably had it (ADD) then, but just didn't know it. But now I know and I've learned to capitalize on it," Paul said.

"When you combine an active imagination, an overload of energy, the willingness to work 12 to 13 hours a day and God-given intuition, you can do just about anything," he added.

That intuition and energy has translated into top-notch promotions know-how that not only has benefited the Diablos and other minor league baseball teams, but also the university.

"The whole idea is that we can't control whether the team wins or loses, but we can control how much fun people have at the ballpark and make a game into the best darn time for everyone. Marketing and promotions are the keys," Paul said.

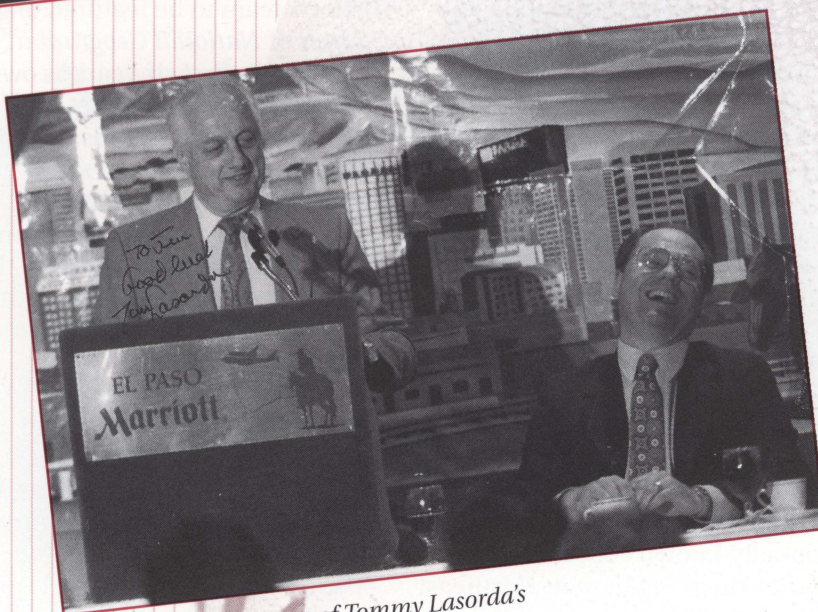
Paul used those keys in 1979 when he was called upon to help attract more fans to UTEP football games.

According to Paul, then UTEP President Arleigh B. Templeton said increased attendance at Miner football games would result in funding for expansion of the Sun Bowl. Templeton reasoned that the UT System Board of Regents would be more willing to finance an enterprise that was popular within the community.

Paul headed a two-person committee charged with bringing attendance at UTEP football games to 25,000 per



Two members of Jim Paul's top management team are also UTEP alumni. Paul's sister, Karen Paul, B.A. '76 is the Diablos' chief financial officer. Rick Parr, B.S. '75; M.S. '77, is the general manager for the Diablos.



Jim Paul laughs at one of Tommy Lasorda's comments at the 1992 Sunturians banquet.

## *but we can control how much fun people have..."*

game. Even though the Miners had suffered two consecutive 1-10 seasons, Paul organized a promotional campaign including hard-hitting advertising, UTEP memorabilia giveaways and of course, fun, that drew an average of 27,000 fans to each game. As Templeton predicted, the Regents approved the Sun Bowl expansion in 1980.

In 1987, attendance at the Sun Bowl dropped again and Paul pulled more promotional tricks from his bag that helped to pump up attendance at all six home games. The Miners had the largest attendance increase of any collegiate team in the nation that year, with a record of 7-4 and average attendance of approximately 46,000 fans per game.

"Jim is a real pioneer in sports marketing and promotion. The things he has done not only for the El Paso Diablos, but for UTEP, have had a profound effect on all sports from semi-professional and professional to collegiate to high school," said John Thompson, UTEP Director of Inter-collegiate Athletics.

"He has put entertainment and pizzazz into sports marketing. When you go to an El Paso Diablos game or another sporting event Jim has promoted, you're going to a happening," Thompson added.

Why does Paul give so much to UTEP and his community?

It started in 1962 when Paul admit-

tedly accepted a UTEP basketball scholarship in order to postpone serving in Vietnam.

Within a year, Paul's grades slipped and he lost his scholarship. He got two jobs, one at the Sunland Park Racetrack and the other at the UTEP Sports Information Office to make money for tuition.

His work put studying on the back burner and Paul's grades continued to slide. He landed on academic probation three times. Finally, the draft sent him from El Paso to the jungles of Vietnam.

Paul left UTEP with a D grade average and little hope of ever returning. But, while in the trenches in South Vietnam, he received a letter that literally changed his life. The letter was from Eddie Mullens, UTEP Sports Information Director and Paul's former boss.

"He told me I could petition to get back into school under special conditions if I wrote a letter of interest to the university.

"Well, there's nothing like being in a muddy field in the rain with the noise of firefighting on the perimeter to give you inspiration. I sat down right there and wrote the most outstanding letter I had written in my life," Paul said.

Upon his return from Vietnam, Paul was readmitted by then Dean of the College of Education John McFarlane, who personally set up Paul's degree plan.

"The day I came back to school was the happiest day of my life. It was the opportunity of a lifetime. I went from a three-time flunkout to never having less than a 3.5 grade point average and making the dean's list. That obligated me to UTEP," Paul said.

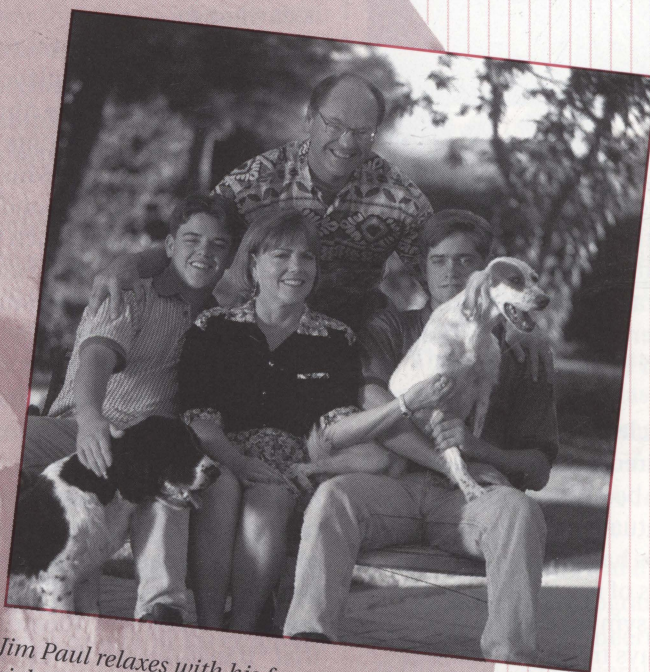
UTEP gave Paul something else to be grateful for. While attending summer school in 1968, Paul met the woman he would marry six months later. Jim and Connie Paul have been married for 27 years and have two sons, 19-year-old Robert and 16-year-old Taylor.

"I do not feel I have made enough of a contribution to my university yet. I have a lot more to give, and not just monetarily. (UTEP President) Diana Natalicio and I have a very good relationship and she knows that anytime she picks up the phone and calls, I will do whatever she asks," he said.

And surely, no matter what is asked of him, Paul will put a racketsy, fun spin on it. ■



*Jim Paul, 1963*



*Jim Paul relaxes with his family and two dogs. Left to right: Taylor, Connie, Jim and Robert.*

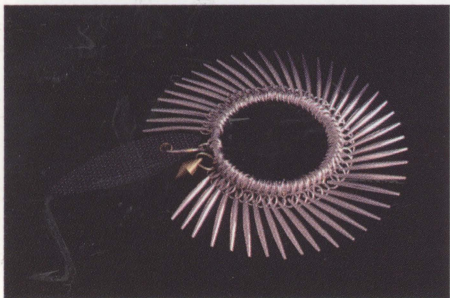


Rachelle Thiewes does not create "user-friendly" jewelry.

Instead, the internationally renowned metalsmith creates interactive jewelry that pokes and jabs wearers into appreciating the subtle movements of their bodies.

"The body is a mobile piece of sculpture; my jewelry interacts with the wearer to challenge the body," said Thiewes, a UTEP art professor. "In today's fast-paced world, this jewelry makes people slow down and truly think about how their bodies move and function."

Some of Thiewes' brooches are more than a foot long. These sharp metal pieces are not designed for comfort, but to make people more aware of how they hold themselves. "It is possible to hurt yourself with my jewelry, so you need to have good posture to wear some of my pieces," she said.



*Ring of Thorns* 1995

When in motion, Thiewes' jewelry make sounds that are audible only to the wearer. With each step, delicate strands of metal gently sweep across the body to alert the wearer to the sound of his or her own personal rhythm.

From the eclectic music that inspires the direction and titles of her artwork to the beautiful purples that brightly accentuate her hair and home, Thiewes has incorporated art into all aspects of her life. Her home has become a symphony of colors and sounds that pays tribute to Thiewes' art collection and her husband's love for music.



### RACHELLE THIEWES METALSMITH USES SOUND AND FORM TO SHAPE ART IN MOTION

*by Christian Clarke*

Music posters line the walls of the couple's sound room, while records fill the wall-high shelves of their listening room. Throughout the home designed by award-winning architect Morris Brown, Thiewes features carefully selected pieces of furniture, art and jewelry. In a sound-proof studio at the rear of the home, bulky mechanical tools await Thiewes' active hands.

Beyond the Southwest region, Thiewes' works are displayed at the public collections of the American Craft Museum, Art Institute of Chicago, Evansville Art Museum and Royal College of Art in London. A bracelet by Thiewes, which measures 17 inches when laid flat, has been accepted into the prestigious Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institute.

Thiewes' work also has been in a variety of industry publications. *One of a Kind: American Art Jewelry Today* celebrates the innovations of American artists who create art that can be worn. In the European edition of this compilation, Thiewes' work is featured on the cover. The editors applauded Thiewes' theatrical pieces that "transform the wearer into a performer and everyday attire into costume."

Thiewes received her B.A. from Southern Illinois University and her M.F.A. from Kent State University. As a new artist, she came to the Sun City to join the UTEP art department almost 20 years ago.

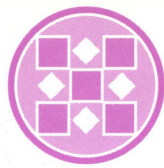
Since then, Thiewes has gained an international following among critics, artists and collectors including members of nationally-known families such as the Rockefellers. Despite her popularity, which could draw her out of the Southwest region, Thiewes continues to call El Paso home.

"As a young artist, I was taught to be independent. Living in El Paso isolates me from being influenced by [national art trends]," Thiewes said. "This has allowed me to stay out of the mainstream to create pieces that remain unique and pure." ■

*Editor's Note: The "New Works of Rachelle Thiewes" will be featured at a one-woman show at Adair Margo Gallery in January 1996. The gallery is located at 415 E. Yandell in El Paso. For more information, call (915) 533-0048.*



*Reflections of St. Mary's* 1993



### CREATING ROBOTS THAT REASON — UTEP RESEARCHER RECOGNIZED FOR ROBOTICS DEVELOPMENT



*Chitta Baral works with one of his cognitive robots.*

A simple object such as a box becomes an impenetrable obstacle for a robot incapable of reasoning for itself. UTEP assistant professor of computer science Chitta Baral is working to change this by creating robots that can make their own decisions.

The National Science Foundation's Faculty Early Career Development Program has recognized Baral as one of the country's most promising computer science researchers for his work on constructing a new generation of "thinking" robots.

Through this program, which identifies high-potential researchers in the first four years of their tenure-track appointments, Baral will receive \$45,000 per year for three years to research the development of intelligent agents (cognitive robots) that can reason and act in a changing environment.

"Most robotics programs need a human backup in case something goes wrong," said Baral. "My aim is to make a robot that thinks for itself and that can recover when an unexpected situation occurs. This ability allows a robot to complete a task and make plans even when an obstacle is placed in its path."

This technology will enable robots to complete a wide array of tasks — from having one robot carry a message from a professor to the departmental secretary to having hundreds of robots acting on their own to take samples or conduct experiments during space missions.

This is the second NSF grant that Baral has received. In 1992, he was awarded a Research Initiation Award for almost \$90,000 to study how to write computer programs for common sense reasoning.

Baral received his bachelor of

technology in computer science and engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur, India, and his master of science and doctorate in computer science from the University of Maryland in College Park.

### STARKS AND SWIFT TAKE REINS OF PACES AND ENGINEERING

The university officially announced the opening of its new research center, the Pan American Center for Earth and Environmental Studies (PACES), in July.

The \$6.5 million center, funded through a grant from NASA, will incorporate student participation into academic research.



*Scott Starks*

PACES, directed by Scott Starks, is one of only seven university-based research centers that will provide NASA with information about the

geological, ecological and environmental processes and changes in land use in the Southwest.

The center was created by NASA to expand the national base of aerospace research and development and increase the number of minorities participating in NASA-related research.

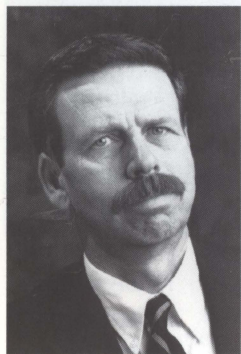
PACES is of critical importance to UTEP's doctoral program in geology and computer engineering and to UTEP's newest doctoral program in environmental science and engineer-

ing, said Stephen Riter, interim vice president for academic affairs.

Scott Starks brings a wealth of academic and professional experience to the new center. Since joining the UTEP staff in 1989, he has served as interim dean and associate dean of the College of Engineering and as associate director of the UT System Alliance for Minority Participation (AMP).

"Starks brings to this effort a unique combination of professional experience in space-related technologies and an understanding of how students can be integrated into a research enterprise," Riter said. "This should provide a winner for both UTEP and NASA."

Starks' appointment as director of PACES left a vacancy in the College of Engineering administration, which has been very ably filled by Andrew Swift.



Andrew Swift

Swift was appointed interim dean of engineering in July. Prior to this appointment, Swift was a UTEP professor of mechanical and industrial engineering

and the assistant dean for research. Swift has been recognized in his field as a Macintosh Murchison Chair in Engineering.

"Swift has provided leadership in the development of alternative energy programs at UTEP. This leadership extends to his involvement with students, who he encourages to participate in activities that will enhance their education," said Riter. "UTEP is fortunate that Swift has taken control of this critical leadership role."

## STANTON MEDICAL BUILDING ENHANCES HEALTH CARE EDUCATION AT UTEP



The university took a major step in its commitment to providing quality health care education by acquiring the Stanton Medical Building.

The nine-story building on North Kansas Street was purchased for \$1.2 million, said Wynn Anderson, assistant vice president for finance and administration.

Charles Leavell, owner of the Leavell Co., a real estate investment firm, facilitated the purchase of the building, adjacent to UTEP's College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

"This new building helps accelerate the momentum of our growing College of Nursing and Health Sciences," said UTEP President Diana Natalicio. "The fortuitous availability of the Stanton Medical Building has made it possible to realize our vision of an extension of the UTEP campus in central El Paso that is dedicated to the health professions."

The building, which has 55,000 square feet of usable space, currently contains leased office suites for physicians and other health care

providers. The university will continue to make a portion of the building available for such commercial leasing.

Among the first UTEP programs to take residence in the Stanton Building will be the master's in public health program offered in cooperation with the University of Texas at Houston Health Sciences Center, and a new pharmacy program in cooperation with the University of Texas at Austin.

In the future, the building will serve the growing teaching and research space needs of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, according to Patricia Castiglia, dean of nursing.

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences has grown from three divisions to seven and has added four new graduate programs since 1990. Enrollment at the college also has increased from 850 students to 1,700 in five years as the college's scope has widened to include community and rural health education.



## WHAT IS THE UTEP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

The Alumni Association is an organization of former UTEP students and faculty members that promotes the interests and welfare of the university. The association's goal is to assist UTEP in its mission to achieve academic excellence by sponsoring and supporting programs, projects and activities that promote that image. The association provides opportunities for alumni and friends to come together during the year for several events such as Homecoming, Season of Lights and pregame parties.

## HOW CAN I JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

Simply send a minimum annual contribution of \$25 per person to:

UTEP Alumni Association  
Office of Development and Alumni Affairs  
University of Texas at El Paso  
El Paso, TX 79968-0524

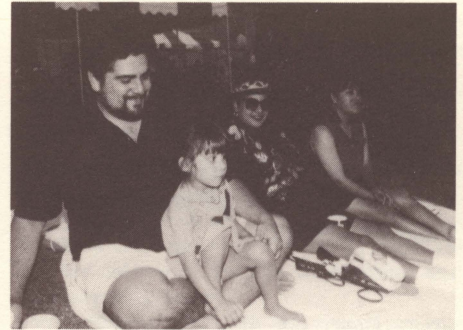
Please include your year of graduation or the years you attended UTEP on your check. Indicate the college, department, academic program or scholarship for which your donation is intended. A membership card will be mailed to you.

## ALUMNI RALLIES

UTEP President Diana Natalicio, Alumni Association President Martini DeGroat, Assistant Director of Development/Alumni Affairs Marcia Cohen and Coordinator of Alumni Affairs Yolanda Rodríguez Ingle traveled to Irving, Texas, Sept. 20, for the 1995 Reception and Annual Meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the UTEP Alumni Association. On Sept. 21, Ron Rush, Alumni Association vice president, joined the group as they traveled to Washington, D.C., to hold a reception for local UTEP alumni and special guests. Representatives from the White House, FBI, the Texas State Society, U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Education also attended the reception.

## MINERPALOOZA '95

Fun and excitement abounded at MINERPALOOZA this year! UTEP kicked off the new school year with its annual back-to-school picnic Saturday, August 26. UTEP community members, friends and the public were joined by Paydirt Pete, coaches, members of the 1995-96 athletic teams, cheerleaders and the UTEP band for a campus-wide street festival with live music, games and food. A parade through campus started the pep rally at 6:30 p.m. that featured



Miner student athletes. The event culminated in a performance by the River City Band.

## THE NEW WAC (WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE)

The WAC is no longer "just a small conference west of the Rockies." The conference is moving east and expanding in all directions! Beginning in July 1996, the WAC will become the nation's largest NCAA 1A league by expanding from 10 member universities to 16. Spanning nine states, five time zones and 4,000 miles, the WAC will become the nation's first true

"Super conference." Joining UTEP in the new conference will be:

Air Force	New Mexico
Texas Christian Rice	Brigham Young Tulsa
Colorado State	San Diego State
Utah	Fresno State
San Jose State	UNLV
Hawaii	Southern Methodist
Wyoming	

## ALUMNI CHAPTER CONTACTS

If you would like to establish a UTEP Alumni Chapter in your area, please call Yolanda Rodríguez Ingle in the Alumni Office 915/747-5533. She will be happy to answer your questions and furnish all the information to get you started. To date, we have chapter contacts in the following areas:

### NORTH TEXAS

Robert Vargas 214/783-6539

### LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTY

Richard Bengston 310/793-0299

### SAN ANTONIO

Ralph Murillo 210/229-5924

### HOUSTON

Charley Smith 713/495-0514

Dean Allcorn 713/862-4050

### SAN FRANCISCO

Charlie Brown 510/548-5848

### SAN DIEGO

Emma Ciriza 619/282-4741

### JUAREZ

Javier Urbina 011-52-16-1498-22

## WELCOME HOME!

Yolanda Rodríguez Ingle returned to UTEP and is eager to assume her new duties. She is the new Coordinator for Alumni Affairs. When you visit the Alumni Lodge, stop by and say hello!

Since receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education in 1968, Yolanda has lived and

worked in various regions of the United States and Latin America. She received her M.A. in education from California State University at Chico and is currently working toward the completion of her Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate School.

## HOMECOMING '95: OCTOBER 9 - 14



This year's Homecoming theme is THE SUPER 60s.

Alumni from the College of Mines, Texas Western College and UTEP will journey back in time to recall the happy moments they knew (or had heard about) some 30 years ago. Come visit the Alumni Lodge where you can reminisce with former classmates and make new friends.

### HOMECOMING EVENTS

Oct. 9 - 14

College and Department Reunions  
— Call individual colleges or departments for information

Oct. 13 7 - 9 pm

Distinguished Alumnus Award.  
Reception honoring JIM PAUL,  
owner of the El Paso Diablos  
baseball team. UTEP Library

Oct. 13 9:00 pm

Spirit Rally  
Fox Fine Arts Parking Lot

Oct. 14 5:00 pm

Alumni Association Annual  
Meeting and Homecoming  
Pregame Party. Alumni Lodge

Oct. 14 7:05 pm

Homecoming Football Game  
UTEP vs. Tulsa

### ALUMNI DIRECTORY

The first UTEP Alumni Directory will be delivered this fall. It will include comprehensive profiles ranging from the most recent grads to the oldest living College of Mines alumnus from the Class of 1921!

Thanks to all the alumni who helped Harris Publishing Co. compile and update information for the directory.

## CLASS NOTES

by Jean Johnston

### 30s ▼

**Edith Schell Zanker** (B.A. '36; M.A. '58), fresh out of college in 1936, worked as a boys' football and basketball coach. She was the first female football coach in Texas, and possibly the United States. She opened "Opportunity Room," for the retarded in the El Paso Independent School District. She was Director of Memorial Park School, operated a pottery business, and volunteers for the United Way.

### 40s ▼

**William Lynch** (B.A. '49) is enjoying his retirement at his home in Naples, Fla. He is a Master Mariner and Captain USNR.

### 50s ▼

**Dr. Laurence Nickey** (Attended '50s), director of the El Paso City-County Health and Environmental District, was one of eight government leaders in the country to receive the Dr. Nathan Davis Award.

**Jimmy Walker** (B.A. '52; M.A. '75), former UTEP football star and administrator, was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

**T. W. Harvey** (B.S. '54) retired after 39 years as a teacher and coach in Artesia, N.M. Harvey was head coach and defensive coordinator for the school football team, which won nine state championships. He now teaches economics at Austin High School. **Manny Pacillas, Jr.** (B.A. '56), longtime athletic trainer at Burges High School, was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Lorenzo LaFarelle** (M.A. '56), student teacher supervisor at UTEP since 1989, spent the summer as a guest lecturer at Kansas State University in Wichita and at Colima University in Mexico.

**Juan Alva** (B.A. '56), an internist and gastroenterologist, has a private practice in Durham, N.C. He is also a Lt. Col. in the U.S. Army and worked with the troops during Desert Storm.

**Robert E. Shipp** (B.A. '57) is in semi-retirement in Harrisonburg, Va. He was El Paso's recreation director from 1950-59, and served in similar capacities in various military, youth and senior establishments throughout the country.

**Anita Goodrich Harvey** (B.A. '56) retired from teaching world history at Artesia High School in New Mexico after 22 years.

**Ellen Jayne Maris Wheeler** (B.M. '58) recently published *Cherokee Outlet Cowboy* through the University of Oklahoma Press. The book pays tribute to her grandfather, Laban Records, and the people who participated in the Wild West days of Southern Kansas.

### 60s ▼

**Pat Mora's** (B.A. '63; M.A. '71) book, *The Desert is my Mother - El Desierto es mi Madre*, has been named one of the best books of 1995 by *Skipping Stones* magazine. *Skipping Stones* book awards recognize

outstanding works encouraging a multicultural world.

**Steve Edwards** (B.A. '64) retired from teaching art in 1992. He now frequents ESTEBAN, Arroyo Arts Gallery, in Kern Place. The artist's works have won juried acceptance in every Kermezaar in El Paso since its inception, in addition to various other arts and crafts fairs throughout the Southwest.

**Betty Jackson Phillips** (B.S. '66; M.Ed. '71) recently retired after 29 years with the Gadsden Independent School District. She began her career as a seventh grade teacher and was senior counselor at Santa Teresa High School prior to her retirement.

**Karen Peterson Tolbut** (B.A. '67) gives real meaning to the word "busy." She is assistant branch manager of the Louisa County Library in Virginia, a member of the town council; graduate student in library and information science at Catholic University in Washington, D.C.; attends classes at the off-campus location of the University of Richmond; and is a partner in the Louisa Shoe Shop.

**Yvonne Johnstone Lanelli** (B.A. '68; M.A. '73) lives in Alto, N.M., where she works as a freelance writer and photographer. She specializes in travel and skiing items for newspapers and magazines. Her recent itinerary has included a photographic safari in Kenya and a cruise through the Indian Ocean.

**Edmund Moore** (B.A. '68) is director of visual information services with the U. S. Army in Europe. He was recognized for his award-winning video coverage of the European Theater's contribution to the Gulf War.

**William Doyle Smith** (B.A. '68; M.A. '74), associate professor of economics and finance at UTEP, was honored with the prestigious Minnie Stevens Piper Professorship for exceptional achievements in the teaching profession.

**Larry R. Thompson** (B.A. '69) played bass clarinet in the U. S. Army Field Band in Washington, D.C., for three years after receiving his music education degree from UTEP. He received his master's degree from Baylor in 1976 and performed with the Ft. Worth Symphony and the Dallas Ballet for 15 years.

**Leila Safi Hobson** (B.S. '68; M.Ed. '74) has joined the law firm of Mounce & Galatzan. After graduating from UTEP with highest honors, she received her law degree from U.T. Austin. She is a member of the UTEP College of Business Administration Business Advisory Council and chair of the Women in the Profession Committee of the State Bar of Texas.

### 70s ▼

**Lynn Hunt** (B.A. '70) was elected to the El Paso Baseball Hall of Fame. He is owner and operator of the H & H Door Company.

**Lynda Del Valle** (B.A. '70; M.A. '90) is a full-time tenure-track English instructor at El Paso Community College's Valle Verde campus.

**Adam Nieto** (B.A. '71) moved to the Texas Panhandle

### CORRECTION

In the summer 1995 issue of *Nova Quarterly*, we inadvertently reported that Liliana Woo was the first UTEP student to be admitted to Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Raul Rodriguez was admitted to Harvard Medical School in 1976. He received his medical degree from Harvard in 1980 and earned his master's degree in Public Health in 1981 from the Harvard School of Public Health. In 1991, he opened a medical practice in El Paso located at 1530 N. Lee Trevino.

to raise cattle, wheat and a relatively new crop, kochia. Kochia is a form of the reviled "tumbleweed," but Nieto transforms it into high protein feed for cattle and horses.

**Julio Ramirez** (B.A. '71; M.Ed. '75), assistant principal at Jefferson High School, was named principal at Lincoln Middle School.

**Alfredo D. Barela** (B.A. '72; M.A. '80; B.S. '86) is a civil service consular officer in the Visa Examiner Program at the U. S. Consulate in Juárez. He is included in the '94 edition of *Who's Who Among Hispanic Americans*.

**Roberto Hein** (BSME '72) is 1995-96 vice president of the Ysleta Education Foundation.

**Howard T. Cain, Jr.** (M.Ed. '72) was selected 1995 Volunteer of the Year for his mentoring of students at Bowden Elementary School in San Antonio. Cain has also received one gold and three silver medals in swimming at the recent National Senior Olympics. Colonel Cain retired from the Texas National Guard, but continues to work at the U.S. Army Medical Center.

**George L. Muñoz** (B.B.A. '72) was unanimously elected to a third term as president of the Socorro Independent School District Board of Trustees.

**John E. Ryan** (B.A. '72) recently reported for duty at the Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Santa Ana, Calif.

**Robert Cordova** (BSED '74) has been named head boys basketball coach at Bowie High School.

**Samuel Villareal** (BSED '75; M.Ed. '91), former assistant principal at Coldwell Elementary School, was recently named principal at Hawkins Elementary School.

**John Wedel** (M.Ed. '75), former UTEP head track coach, has been inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Irma Avila** (B.B.A. '76) shifted to teaching after 15 years in the business world. This year, she mentored a UTEP student teacher and sponsored the 1994 graduating class at Montwood High School.

**Manuel Barraza** (B.A. '76) has been elected the 1995-96 Secretary/Treasurer of the Ysleta Education Foundation.

**Graciano Cervantes, Jr.** (B.A. '76) is interim director of UTEP's department of Information and Telecommunication Services. He has been with the university since 1977 and was associate director of the department for two years.

**J. James Rohack** (B.S. '76) will serve a three-year term on the American Medical Association's Council on Medical Education. He is senior staff cardiologist at the Scott & White Clinic in College Station, Texas. After graduating from UTEP with highest honors, he earned his medical degree from the U.T. Medical Branch in Galveston.

**Robert Muñoz** (B.S. '77) is chairman and instructor of management at Odessa College. The National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development honored Muñoz with an Excellence Award and recognized him as a master teacher.

**Wayne Thornton** (B.A. '77), longtime city parks and recreation worker, was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Ed Carpenter** (B.A. '78) completed his theology studies at the University of St. Mary's in Houston and was ordained at El Paso's St. Patrick Cathedral. He is parochial vicar at Santa Rosa Parish in Pecos, Texas.

**Luis Mata** (B.B.A. '78) is office manager at the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission in El Paso. He joined the editorial board of the *El Paso Times* as a community representative.

**Michael Bulko** (BSSW. '79) was appointed program coordinator for the new Community Achievement Program — Residential Treatment Center at the

Life Management Center in El Paso.

**Mark Gorman** (B.A. '79) graduated from the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., with a master's degree in national security and strategic studies.

**Phil Martinez** (B.A. '79), a judge in El Paso's 327th Judicial District Court and the county's juvenile court, has received the Law Enforcement Achievement Award from the El Paso chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars. He was recognized for his activities in juvenile justice issues and legal representation for economically disadvantaged defendants.

## 80s ▼

**Dale Rash** (B.B.A. '80) has been promoted to senior manager at the El Paso office of KPMG Peat Marwick. Rash specializes in assurance services to clients in manufacturing, retail and distribution.

**Daniel Salazar, Jr.** (B.M. '80), nationally recognized classical guitar virtuoso, was selected by the U.S. Information Agency on Cultural Arts as the 1995 Artistic Ambassador.

**Rick Cantu** (B.A. '81) is a sportswriter for the *Austin American-Statesman*. He worked for the *El Paso Times* for nine years after graduating from UTEP.

**Jose Vasquez** (B.A. '81), an accomplished linguist, has been teaching foreign languages (French, Spanish, Russian) to middle and high school students for 12 years. He has studied and traveled extensively throughout Canada and Europe. Vasquez teaches at Parkland Middle School.

**Samuel Forsythe** (M.Ed. '82) has been named executive director of Radford School. Prior to this appointment, he was principal of Loretto Academy for eight years. He also serves as the Texas private school representative to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

**Louisa Huerta-Butts** (B.A. '82) was named 1995-96 Teacher of the Year for Del Valle High School. Huerta-Butts is a certified coordinator for the Student Assistance Program and teaches special music education.

**Ana Quirarte** (B.A. '82), formerly with Columbia Healthcare System, has joined Coldwell Banker Hovious Associates as a sales associate in the firm's West Side office.

**Rosa Lovelace** (B.S.Ed. '83; M.Ed. '86) had lunch at the White House with President and Hillary Clinton in a reunion of "Faces of Hope." The group of 50 Americans were invited to discuss education, health care, crime and safety issues with the president's administration. Lovelace is principal at Bliss Elementary School.

**Matthew Ellis** (B.B.A. '84) was promoted to vice president of commercial and consumer lending at Sun World Savings Bank.

**Debra Fritsche Belknap** (B.A. '84) is senior production manager for the Psychological Corporation/Harcourt Brace & Company in San Antonio.

**Donna Gray** (BSN '84; MSN '90), a clinical nurse specialist, is certified in reality therapy/control theory. She practices rural community mental health nursing in Nova Scotia.

**Rodolfo Ramirez** (BBA '84) has been named operations support director for the adult protective services section of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services in El Paso.

**Cesar Cortez** (BSCG '87), an FBI special agent, has been assigned to the El Paso Division. Following graduation from the FBI Academy in 1992, he served as a special agent in Brownsville.

**John Makowski, Jr.** (BSEE '87) received his medical degree from Southwestern Medical School in 1991 and completed his residency in psychiatry at

Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas in June. He is an attending physician at Terrell State Hospital.

**Benjamin A. Sáenz** (M.A. '87) spent his summer on a promotional tour of his first novel, *Carry Me Like Water*.

**Renee Barrera** (B.A. '89) works for TCI Cablevision of Oakland County, Mich., as an access studio coordinator. She is also vice president of Janiceps Productions and recently won a Philo T. Farnsworth Award for best sports programming for her show "Inside Mountain Biking".

## 90s ▼

**Edward Campos** (B.A. '91) is marketing coordinator for Herman-Miles Trucking, Inc.

**Jack Johnston, Jr.** (B.B.A. '91) is a professor at the Pontificia Universidad del Ecuador in Quito. He teaches advanced English in business and contemporary thought.

**Emilio Pittman** (B.A. '91) was named account executive for Herman-Miles Trucking, Inc.

**Mark Navarro** (B.B.A. '91) has been promoted to the assurance management group of KPMG Peat Marwick. Mark specializes in retail, merchandising and health care.

**Rudy Saucedo** (BSED '91) has been honored by Farmers Insurance Group for his outstanding sales achievements during 1994. Rudy was invited to attend the 1995 annual meeting of Farmers' top sales producers in San Antonio.

**Christopher Harle** (BSEE '93), **Alexandra Harness** (BSEE '93), and **Larry Morales** (BSEE '93) were recently hired by the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center at Tinker Air Force Base for electronic engineering positions. As new engineers they will provide software support for aircraft, missiles and other computer systems.

**Jennifer Lowenberg** (B.B.A. '93) received her MBA in healthcare management from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is education coordinator for the Office of Border Health at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in El Paso.

**Philip Gabbard** (B.A. '94), former Miner football player, is a general sales manager at KAMZ and has been elected president of the Advertising Federation of El Paso.

**Laura Gomez** (B.A. '94) is a child development specialist for Child Care Management Services. She works with local daycare centers and homes to provide training and technical assistance.

**Albert Gonzalez** (B.S. '94) was promoted to Navy Ensign while serving at Naval Aviation Schools Command, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

**Thomas Hunt** (BSIE '94) graduated from the Basic Civil Engineer Corps Officer School in Port Hueneme, Calif.

**Gilbert E. Lara** (B.B.A. '94) graduated from Officer Candidate School at Naval Aviation Schools Command, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

**Silvia Cabrera** (MPA '95) was selected for a three-year management development internship at the National Cancer Institute in Washington, D.C., through the Presidential Management Internship Program.

**John Geronimo** (BSN '95) completed Officer Indoctrination School at the Naval Education and Training Center in Newport, R.I.

**Sergio Muñoz** (B.A. '95) is one of only two fine arts recipients of the Philip Morris Fellowship from the California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles.

**Mark Ouimette** (Ph.D. '95) is an assistant professor in geology at Hardin-Simmons University. A U.S. Marine Corps veteran, Ouimette and his family live in Abilene.

**Sylvia Peregrino** (B.A. '95) was awarded a \$1,000 fellowship to attend graduate school at the New School for Social Research in New York.

**Maria Victoria Ramirez** (BSED '95), Ysleta school district Team 4 science mentor, has been named to Who's Who at UTEP as a result of her 4.0 GPA.

**Luis A. Saenz** (M.A. '95), KTEP's news and public affairs director, has been awarded a Texas Media Award for his interview, "Celebrating Life," a post-breast cancer discussion.

## OBITUARIES

**Ouida Louise Stone Bentley** (B.S. '75) May 2, 1995. Mrs. Bentley lived in El Paso for more than 60 years. She retired in 1992 after teaching school for 24 years, primarily at Scottsdale Elementary. She is survived by her husband, Max, three sons and two grandchildren.

**Nanci Jo Bleuler** (B.A. '77) May 8, 1995. Bleuler worked at Citicorp Financial Services in Dallas. She is survived by her father, Jack Bleuler.

**Kenneth Edwin Carroll** (B.A. '88) March 4, 1995. Carroll was a substitute teacher in the Gadsden Independent School District and a cameraman at KCOS. Survivors include his mother, Elizabeth, and a sister, Ann Cadwell.

**Margaret H. Dickson** (M.A. '50) July 27, 1995. A retired educator and administrator with the El Paso Independent School District, Dickson was recognized as an international authority on the Spanish language. She was invited to Ecuador to present one of her works, and was voted both El Paso and Texas teacher of the year. She served as a consultant to all the modern foreign language departments in the EPISD and was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She is survived by a sister, a brother and several nieces and nephews.

**Joseph L. Dunigan, Jr.** (B.A. '66; M.A. '70) June 15, 1995. A teacher and writer, he is survived by his mother, Agnes Dunigan, a brother and two sisters.

**Amelia Branch Foster** (B.A. '37) May 4, 1995. Daughter of Dr. & Mrs. William Branch, Amelia was married to Gene Foster, whose death preceded her own by eight days. She is survived by her brother, Dr. William M. Branch of Dallas, and several nieces and nephews.

**Mary Etta Haag** (B.A. '44) May 15, 1995. Haag taught art classes in El Paso and retired early to travel extensively. She enjoyed painting the wild animals of Africa and Australia. She is survived by her husband, George P. Haag, her sister, Fanny Lane, and several cousins.

**Cynthia Lee Harper** (B.S.E.D. '71) April 22, 1995. Harper was a native El Pasoan who died in an automobile accident in Plano on her way to her job as a flight attendant with Sun Jet Airlines in Dallas. She is survived by her parents, Cordie and Ada Harper of Lago Vista and a sister, Linda Nelson, of McKinney.

**Charlie Haywood, Jr.** (B.S.E.D. '77; M.Ed. '88) April 13, 1995. Haywood came to El Paso in 1967 and was a teacher and coach with the Ysleta Independent School District for 18 years. Survivors include his wife, Mary E., two sons, Erik and Mathew, and his parents, Ernie and Alta Haywood.

**George T. Ihorn** (M.A. '74) May 23, 1995. A past dean of occupational education and instructor at El Paso Community College, Ihorn designed degree programs for international trade and business, travel and tourism. At the time of his death, he was working on his Ph.D. Survivors include his wife, Christine; son, Sean; a brother; sisters; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**David M. Juárez** (B.A. '77) June 29, 1995. Juárez

retired as a senior master sergeant after 27 years in the U.S. Air Force. He was a member of VFW Post #812 and an avid golfer. He is survived by his wife, Maria L., several children and grandchildren.

**Willie Alleen Kelsay** (M.A. '52) July 10, 1995. Kelsay retired as an English teacher at Gadsden High School in 1970. She was named Woman of the Year for Beta Sigma Phi. Survivors include a son, W. R. (Bill), of Calgary, Canada; a brother, Alvin Wakeland, of Dallas; and several grandchildren.

**Miriam Catterall Kriechbaum** (B.A. '68) Aug. 4, 1995. Preceded in death by her husband, James Ritner Kriechbaum, Miriam is survived by her sons, Ritner, Victor and Steve; a daughter, Sherry Kriechbaum Lannan; a sister, Sybil McDaniel; several grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**Fred W. Lampert** (B.A. '48) Aug. 10, 1995. Lampert lived in El Paso since 1935. He retired as principal of Clint High School in 1980 after 27 years. He was also an Elder in his church. Survivors include his wife, Maxine; a son, Bill; a daughter, Susan Eastman and his granddaughter, Erin Eastman.

**Stanley Simon McCallick** (B.S.E.E. '58) Aug. 10, 1995. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, McCallick retired from White Sands Missile Range after almost 33 years of federal service. While at WSMR, he was awarded the highest civilian honor for his outstanding service. After retirement, McCallick was manager of West Texas Communications and worked for Cherokee Communications. He is survived by his wife, Londa, a son and seven daughters.

**Robert Gerald McIntyre** (UTEP Physics Prof.) June 14, 1995. A Navy veteran of World War II, McIntyre lived in El Paso for 30 years. Survivors include his wife, Ernestina, two sons and eleven daughters.

**Joseph David Mora** (B.B. '51) Aug. 6, 1995. Mora, an Arizona native, was a Navy veteran and owned Mora Upholstery in Phoenix. He is survived by three sons, two daughters, a sister and 10 grandchildren.

**Tom B. Newman** (B.A. '39) July 8, 1995. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Newman was an attorney and a member of the Downtown Kiwanis Club. Survivors include his wife, Jane; son, George; and two grandchildren.

**Alfonso Ortega** (B.A. '53; M.Ed. '55) July 9, 1995. After 30 years of service in elementary education, Alfonso retired from the El Paso Independent School District, but remained active teaching adult education and citizenship through 1994. Ortega was a 71-year member of the Boy Scouts of America and received the Silver Beaver Award, the highest honor for a Boy Scout volunteer, in 1965. The Rotary Club of El Paso honored him for his lifetime of service to the community in 1993. He is survived by his wife, Hortencia, two sons and two daughters.

**W. C. Peticolas** (Attended TCM) May 13, 1995. An attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Supreme Court, Peticolas began a practice with his father. He was a member and past president of the El Paso Bar Association, member of the American Bar Association and a fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation. Survivors include his wife, Anita; sons, Craig, Ed and Bob; daughters Anne Peticolas and Susan Lahti; and several grandchildren.

**Sarah Guinn Putnicki** (B.A. '70) May 18, 1995. Daughter of the late Judge Ernest and Mary Guinn of El Paso, she worked as a legal assistant specializing in family law. She is survived by her husband, William G. Putnicki (UTEP '70), three sons and several sisters and brothers.

**Morris Raney** (1930's) July 14, 1995. Raney was one of the toughest offensive and defensive ends ever to play football at UTEP. In 1938 Raney helped the Miners triumph over the University of Arizona 26-

14 and 14-6 the following year.

**Louise Maxon Rea** (B.A. '38) June 21, 1995. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Rea has served as an editor of the World of Women department at the *El Paso Times*. She was in *Who's Who of American Women* and was appointed by Texas Governor Briscoe to the Texas Commission on the Status of Women in 1977. Survivors include her husband, Joseph; two sons, Robert and Stephen; a sister, five grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. A scholarship has been established in her name at UTEP.

**Ricardo Rios** (BBA '70) July 10, 1995. Rios was a stockbroker and community activist. A native of Juárez, Rios joined the U. S. Air Force where he learned English from a German soldier. Rios co-founded the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and was active in the city's art community. He was chairman of the El Paso Symphony Orchestra and president of the Southwest Repertory Organization theater group. Survivors include his wife, Renee and two daughters, Danielle and Gabrielle.

**Ruben Rodriguez** (B.S.N. '95) July 14, 1995. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Rodriguez had worked at R. E. Thomason Hospital and Sierra Medical Center. He had also served in the U.S. Navy for six years. Survivors include his wife, Virginia Ellis, a son, Erin Anthony, his parents, Amalio and Rafaela, a brother, sister and grandparent.

**Barbara Calisher Rosenwasser** (B.B. '50) Aug. 8, 1995. Rosenwasser was a member of the UTEP Alumni Association, UTEP Women's Auxiliary Board, El Paso Riding and Driving Club, Society to Prevent Blindness, National Council of Jewish Women and the El Paso Chamber of Commerce. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joe, and is survived by her daughter, Frances Niethamer and son, Samuel Charles Rosenwasser.

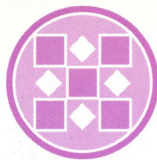
**Jennie L. Shannon** (B.A. '51) May 11, 1995. Shannon was an El Paso resident for almost 75 years. In 1972 she was honored as the Outstanding Elementary Teacher of America. Survivors include her brother, James R. McPherson, and several nieces and nephews.

**Jay Dean Smith** (BSED '77; M.A. '85) May 14, 1985. President-elect of the UTEP Touchdown Club, Smith was editor of the *Journal of the Little Big Horn Associates Research Review*. He was also a board member of the El Paso County Historical Society. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 23 years, retiring as a major. He is survived by his wife, Vivian; daughter, Mary Agnes; son, Nathan Young; several grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**Lewis W. Teel** (B.A. '34) June 10, 1995. Teel taught in the El Paso Independent School District for seven years prior to moving to California to work as an engineer for Douglas Aircraft, where he worked for 30 years. He was married to the former Adelaide Bevan, also a UTEP graduate, and is survived by four children, nine grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**George Valdez** (B.A. '71) May 10, 1995. Valdez was a lifelong resident of El Paso and Vietnam veteran of the U.S. Navy. He was a counselor for the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for more than 20 years. Survivors include his wife, Mary; daughters Sonia and Nicole; a grandson; his mother and several brothers and sisters.

**Billie Frances Sellers Washburn** (B.A. '33) May 12, 1995. Washburn was active in the El Paso Women's Club, City Panhellenic, PEO, and was a member of Kappa Delta Sorority. She taught school in the El Paso Independent School District and worked with her husband, A.L., in their construction supply company. She is survived by her daughter, Ona W. Fern; son, John D. Washburn; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



As Thelma Morris explains how she and her husband share a life of politics, puppies and precious antiques, Everett quietly observes his wife's energetic mannerisms from his recliner.

Thelma's dark eyes then cross the room to focus on the photographs of Republican figures such as Oliver North and Newt Gingrich, which prominently adorn the walls of the Morris home.

"Thank you for all you have done to help us build a more promising future for America," reads the 1992 limited edition photograph of former president George Bush.

Thelma, 79, has been a fierce Republican since she was 14 years old. The Minnesota native frequently writes letters to politicians and stays informed about current issues by reading newspapers and tuning in to "talk radio."

"I do not remain active in politics for myself. My interest is in the future," Thelma said. "I worry about the kids who will live with the decisions being made today. I just want to do my part to see that everyone is taken care of."

The Morrisses exhibit a concern for their surroundings that transcends time and builds on the strengths of the future, which they believe begins with college-aged students.

As a waitress in California, Thelma watched university students struggle to finance their education. Although Thelma was unable to attend college, she would like to offer that opportunity to promising students at UTEP.

In the spring, the Morrisses created the Everett F. and Thelma Morris Endowed Scholarship Fund for undergraduate Hispanic students in chemistry, biology, physics, mathematics, engineering or any computer-related area. A few months later, Thelma developed the Thelma E. Morris Endowed Graduate Scholarship Fund for graduate students in science or engineering fields. This is the eighth endowed scholarship available exclu-



### MORRISSES FOCUS ON FUTURE OF EDUCATION THROUGH ENDOWMENTS

*by Christian Clarke*

sively to graduates at the university.

The Morrisses have continued their support to UTEP by rewriting their wills and making the university remainder beneficiaries for their estate. This selfless gesture ensures that the Morris scholarship endowments will provide enduring assistance to a greater number of science and engineering students throughout the coming years.

"Science and engineering are necessary for any future advancements," Thelma said. "Twenty years ago, no one would have guessed the impact that the development of plastic would have on the world. Now, look at how many purposes it has."

Thelma and Everett met in a restaurant in Pasadena, Calif. after World War II. Everett, who was recently discharged from the Navy, approached an extremely bashful Thelma, and asked if she made enough money as a waitress to support a good man.

"Everett has a queer sense of humor," Thelma said. "Later on he walked up to me and showed me his

paycheck. He asked me, 'Do you think you can live off of that?' "

After Thelma paid the \$2 marriage license fee, she and Everett were married at the First Lutheran Church in Pasadena. The couple subsequently moved to Idaho where Thelma ran a convenience store and Everett worked for the City of Boise.

The Morrisses were drawn to the Sun City 13 years ago by Everett's sister and by the region's warm climate, which "just makes their bones feel much better."

Since then, the couple has lived a quiet life with their dog Maggie, who Everett playfully describes as a Heinz 57 mix. This fall, Thelma played midwife to Maggie, who gave birth to a set of five frisky puppies.

Although the puppies will be allowed to roam around in the carefully planted backyard gardens, they probably will be restricted from playing in the den. This room contains some of Thelma's most cherished antique collectibles.

Some of the crystal on display dates backs to the late 1800's and the tables lining the room were crafted at the turn of the century. A piano at the center of the back wall remains the focal point and momentarily draws Thelma away from the conversation.


While her husband Everett is a listener, Thelma is a talker. For almost 50 years, this dichotomy has defined the couple's simple but active lifestyle that has been seasoned by leisure activities such as fishing and camping.

As individuals, the Morrisses' have the insightful ability to respectfully remember the past, while looking toward the future. Their selfless contributions to the development and care of future generations is a legacy that will make a difference in the lives of students pursuing their degrees at UTEP.

# Slaying Dragons, Demons,

## the Mythology of War.

by Paul Haeder, lecturer, English Department



Flying over the dark, mossy forest and patchwork of clouds bombarding steep hills, and the glimmer from flooded fields and serpentine rivers from 26,000 feet, I momentarily felt like a B-52 pilot ready for some R and R after the drop.

My anticipation was shrouded by a sort of despair at seeing how run-down Hanoi looked from the air. I remembered the words of Ho Chi Minh, the poet, not the revolutionary:

High in the trees, amongst the sparkling leaves all the birds sing at once.

Men and animals rise up reborn.  
What could be more natural?  
After sorrow, comes joy.

Even though the main impetus for my going to Vietnam was to slog through primordial forests along the Laos border in quest of trees and birds, in hopes of an environmental truce, I was also returning the ghost of my military father to a land of despair.

As soon as I boarded the bus from the Russian-style bunker airport to Hanoi, after cutting through rice paddies tended by women in conical hats and watched over by teary-eyed water buffaloes, I knew I was in another world. It felt like Vietnam instantly.

I had come to work with scientists from England, Scotland, Canada and Vietnam. We would be encamped for two months in primary rain forest — a cloud island — hundred of miles from Hanoi.

Hanoi is like a “soaring dragon” — Thang Long, its Chinese name in 1010 AD. Colors and noise reverberate in the streets. In the old quarter of North Hanoi, streets are set up for one product and named accordingly: Music Instrument Street, Tin Sheet Metal Street, Nuts and Bolts Alley, Paper Street, Raw Silk Street, and on and on.

Hanoi is incredibly compact, and its urban population is forced into the streets, and not just on holidays or for celebrations. With a new open door policy and the lifting of U.S.-backed embargo on trade, the streets have literally blossomed. At sunrise, steam drifts through streets as children, young professionals and bent-over elders crunch down to hot bowls of rice porridge or lush rice noodle zup. The bouquets of flowers, warm French bread and deep colors from fruit stands set up throughout Hanoi compete with hundreds of packaged goods from Europe, Japan and the United States. Almost every per-

son in Hanoi uses his or her home to double as a hot food shop and import stall. Hanging from front windows are dried squid and any number of fish, large or small.

Major changes are taking place in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City weekly. The streets are scenes out of mainland China — like a riot about to explode. Vietnam has one of the highest population growth rates in Asia. So much work has to be done to preserve the environment and study the few pockets of relatively untouched territory still left in Vietnam.

And yet the concept of “biodiversity” is foreign, treated like a guided missile from America and the West. Even the word “conservation” hadn’t made it into the Vietnamese’s lexicon until a few years ago. Leading scientists I spoke with still rebuff some of our intentions for saving forest areas.

A thousand years of fighting invaders has put the Vietnamese into a short-term mentality — turning everything into a commodity — trees, animals, people.

Hanoi could have been any number of ciudades in Central America; it has the same gritty appeal of Juárez ten years ago and the elegance of Guadalajara today.

My British counterparts and I had taken to the outdoor dining



Photographs by Paul Haeder

*Editor's note: In commemoration of the end of the Vietnam War twenty years ago, UTEP and El Paso Community College are launching a weeklong series of films, lectures and discussions focused on the issues surrounding this tumultuous period of history.*

*"Vietnam War Week: A Community Remembrance" takes place October 28 through November 4, 1995, on the UTEP campus and at EPCC's various campuses.*

*In the spirit of this commemoration, NOVA Quarterly is publishing excerpts from two essays, winners of the English Department's annual John and Vida White Travel Essay Contest. This year's contest produced three winning essays, two of which focused on Vietnam. Unfortunately, space limitations prevent publishing the third essay "A 'Mexican' Village in the Alps" by Frederick Kluck and Sandra Beyer, associate professors of languages and linguistics.*

*For more information on "Vietnam War Week: A Community Remembrance," please contact Paul Haeder, at (915) 747-5374 or 833-7531.*

halls — bia hoi's — where barrels of weak beer are served in dirty mugs, where 18-inch rats scamper between our feet, fighting for the scraps of split King cobra bones and dog meat. Without war, Vietnam — Hanoi — has been immolated in the same

throbbing sensuality and pain wrenched up in a continuous ecstasy of brawling life and survival that is Latin America.

Hanoi had become an extension of my experiences on the border. Vietnam had become a country, a frontier, not a war. ■



# Shoes for Srun Yem

by Marlee Clymer, former staff nurse, UTEP Student Health Center

As Srun Yem offered me a fresh coconut to drink, she did not look up from the tray in her hands, did not see me smile at her. Her thick black hair had been pulled back off her face and woven into a braid over one shoulder, perhaps to keep the wind from playing with it. But the breeze off the turbid Mekong River caught the hem of her long, full cotton pants and trim black blouse as she walked the deck of the weather-worn ferry, causing them to billow. There are still so few visitors to Phnom Penh, so few who will take the rides down the river past the Royal Palace and eat the chicken curry with rice dinner Srun Yem serves.

As I sipped the soapy-tasting juice while relaxing in a rattan chair in the ship's bow, I caught myself stealing glances at Srun Yem's legs as she passed among the other guests. She bent down a bit to clear the low roof

over the deck, all the while neatly accommodating to the slight sway of the ship, as she returned to the galley for more food. No, I decided, there was no way one would know that one of those feet was a new prosthesis. And no, she could not suspect that I knew her story.

Bill had just told me her story. He told me as I rode in his dust-choked white land rover owned by the non-governmental agency for which he worked. Bouncing at 20 miles per hour in the rover while avoiding potholes, I saw thick venerable trees, newly cut by the roadside, like so many dead soldiers in a row over 20 miles long.

Bill said nothing about the trees as we drove, but instead said, "This evening you will meet Srun Yem. She is now a hostess on the boat. She comes from a typically poor village family. A year ago at this time she went from her village into Phnom

Penh to shop. No one knows why a land mine was so near the central market, which is considered a safe place. Perhaps it had been planted to target a specific person, but it was she who stepped on it, and it blew off her foot." The war had come to her.

Srun Yem was rushed to the city hospital where she lingered near death for several days. Ron, an American Vietnam veteran living in Phnom Penh, read about her accident in the newspapers and visited her. Srun Yem did not want to live. She said, "I will be a cripple all my life, I will not be able to work, no one will ever marry me, so I want to die." Ron and the staff tried to give her hope, but she continued to decline. In desperation Ron brought with him two men, each of whom had lost both legs to land mines. Here were two examples of others who were in even worse situations than was she. Ron then showed her how they had been fitted with prostheses and were now not only walking but working for wages. Then Ron looked into her eyes and said firmly and slowly, "and you will walk again. A man will love you and will marry you and I will dance at your wedding."

Srun Yem rallied after that, and when she was released from the hospital was fitted with an artificial foot funded by a prosthesis and wheelchair project sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation for which Ron worked. Within six months she was married to a young Cambodian man. Ron came up to Srun Yem after the wedding ceremony and taking her hand said, "I believe you owe me the dance." And I had cried.

Ron sat with me in the bow that Christmas night in this Buddhist lan as we watched the full moon rise over the placid Mekong, silhouetting palm trees on its banks. Fishermen who never learned to swim but spend most of their life on the water, set out floating candles in hopes their twinkling will attract the fish into the nets. "It is beautiful here," Ron said. "I don't think I can ever leave. But stay long enough, and Cambodia will break your heart." ■

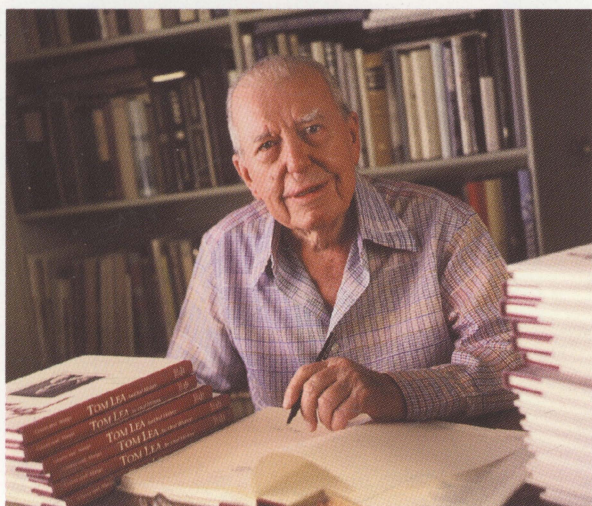
# Tom Lea

## A n O r a l H i s t o r y

And one thing [that happened in Capri], I don't know how to explain it. I was by myself up on the path that led to the top of Monte Solaro, where there was a little shrine. And this old beggar woman appeared out of nowhere and she had a stick that helped her walk, a crooked stick, and she held out her hand and mumbled something in Italian, which I did not understand. She was asking me for alms, and I didn't pay her any. It frankly frightened me. I didn't ... I couldn't acknowledge her. I was very emotionally impressed by this old beggar woman. I came back to the pensione ... [and said], "I'm going to make a drawing of it." ... Many years later, I found the picture in a portfolio. ... Then I [realized] what it was, what I had seen. ... I was this kid, this ignorant youth from a new world, encountering the past and the past was asking for something.

— Tom Lea





*I don't even know if painting is a profession or if writing is a profession. I think it's something like preachers call[ing] themselves professionals. In a sense maybe, painters and writers are a type of preacher preaching about the structure and beauty, or ugliness, of the world. To me, painting and writing are all of one piece.*

— p. 138.



*Hokyanya, 1930*

The youth in this haunting tale has since repaid the past a hundredfold with his gifts to the present and the future in the form of great art, beautiful prose and a personal recollection of our nation's history for others to enjoy and learn from. El Pasoan Tom Lea, a world-renowned artist and author, recounts this story and other remembrances from his work and adventures throughout the 1900s in the autobiographical narrative on his life, *Tom Lea: An Oral History*, edited by Rebecca Craver and Adair Margo.

The incredible life story of one of the Sun City's most treasured citizens is recounted in his own words in this beautifully crafted book that captures not only the essence of this celebrated artisan, but the history of the 20th century.

Lea's amazing life, spanning 88 years; his work as an illustrator, painter, muralist, novelist, historian and World War II correspondent; and his association with some of the era's most noted people are related in this very candid, very personal narrative, which also features exhibition pieces and photos from Lea's own collection.

*The war was perhaps the most vivid and maybe one of the most meaningful things that I did with myself in my life because I really tried to be a voice for a lot of people. I knew they were with me and I was with them. That's the kind of thing that few artists ever feel. And I think it was a point of some egoism and pride that I did go where people were getting shot at. I didn't stay in headquarters or sit on my butt in a battleship and make up what I was seeing; I went out and took a look at it.*

— p. 73.

Lea's legendary artwork can be found throughout El Paso and all across the nation. His works include illustrations and paintings documenting World War II which he created while working as a correspondent for *Life* magazine, and portraits of historical figures including General James (Jimmy) Doolittle and Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek. His murals grace buildings in Washington, D.C., Dallas, San Antonio, St. Louis and El Paso, including the main branch of the El Paso Public Library and the U.S. Courthouse.



*Design for the Western Frontier: First Phase, 1935*



*Lonely Town, 1937*



*Southwestern Landscape, 1993*

Among Lea's most widely known literary works are *The Brave Bulls*, which was published in 1949 and became a bestseller and successful film, and the two-volume history, *The King Ranch*, published in 1957. His book, *The Wonderful Country*, published in 1952, was also made into a film. The movie starred Robert Mitchum and featured Lea in a cameo appearance.

Adair Margo, owner of El Paso's Adair Margo Gallery, began an extensive biographical interview of Lea in 1993 for Rebecca Craver, director of UTEP's Institute of Oral History. The mission of the institute is to document the history of the El Paso-Juárez, U.S.-Mexico border. The Institute has the largest border-related oral history collection in the United States. More than 15 hours of Lea's memories were recorded, providing the basis for Margo and Craver's definitive work on Lea's life.

"This book appeals to people of all ages," Craver says. "Tom Lea talks about his childhood and what life was like as the son of El Paso's mayor during the Mexican Revolution, about the Roaring 20s and the Depression and how that affected him. He talks about the war and the lives of the people of that generation and on up through the prosperous 1950s. This is not just the history of a life, but a documentation of the whole 20th Century."

*I have tried to stay on a path that would lead to something better in the performance of my craft. After all, so much of what I've tried to do has been craft. I've had the greatest respect for people who are able to, oh, create a cabinet or a table, or to build a house, or to set a window into a wall. A plumber or an automobile mechanic are wonderful; they're craftsmen. And as a painter, I have tried to have that respect for the tools of my trade and that knowledge that will allow me to use them well.*

— p. 138.

The book itself — a three-piece bound, cloth-covered volume with Lea's signature stamped in gold foil — is a beautiful tribute to Lea.

Lea proclaimed the tome to be in the tradition of Carl Hertzog, internationally known typographer and book designer and Lea's long-time



Rebecca Craver and Adair Margo.

*I don't know all of these things about talent and genius—and all of these high words. I think that what's known as talent is strong desire rather than a nebulous gift you were born with. ... I've been blessed with great good fortune. In mind and heart, I've had high adventure. In work, I have found quietly abiding happiness as well as never-ending challenge. Throughout the years, I have never relinquished the hope that I may learn to make tomorrow's work better than today's.*

— pp. 138, 140.

friend and colleague. It is an incredible compliment to the book's designer, John Downey, coordinator of graphic design for News and Publications, and to Texas Western Press, the book's publishing house (which Hertzog founded).

"It was very humbling to work on Tom Lea's book," says Downey. "Being an artist working on this book was like being a writer working on a book about Walt Whitman. I was a little in awe and a little apprehensive and I ran just about everything past him. Tom is a real stickler about how things are done and how things look.

"Reading the narrative helped me to create the design for the book. The fact that it was an oral history dictated that it would be a lot less formal — simpler and a lot more personal. It also helped that he had no problem telling me what his favorite color is [China red], what his favorite typeface is [stone serif] and showing me a couple of examples of books that he liked — so he was very helpful."

Downey was not alone in his nervousness about working with Lea.

Margo, whose family has been acquainted with Lea's for generations, says she has always held him in great awe.

"Tom is such a perfectionist and such a fine craftsman, and everything he's done has been done so well, that it was somewhat intimidating to try to do a book on him," she says. "It was very intimidating for me to write an introduction to a book where the subject is such a fine writer."

The presentation of the final product to Tom and his wife, Sarah, was very emotional.

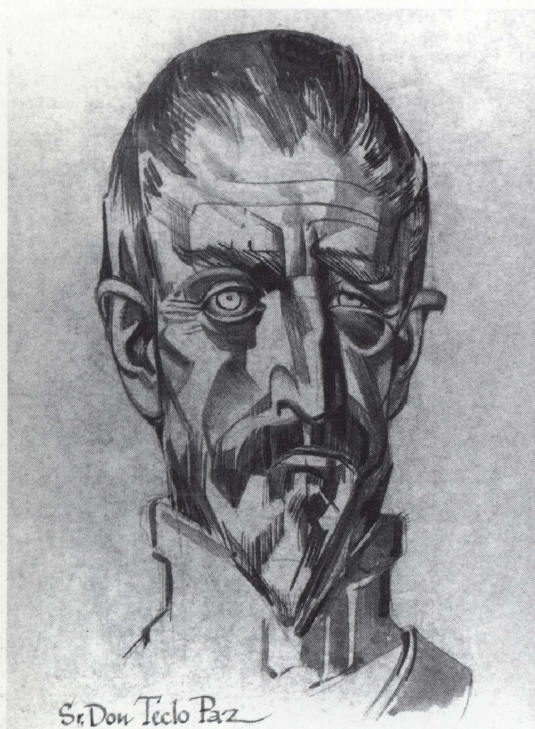
"When the book was done, I went over to the Lea's home with Jack [Bristol, interim director of Texas Western Press], Dr. [Diana] Natalicio, [President of UTEP] and Marcia [Daudistel, associate director of TWP] to present it," Downey recalls. "Tears welled up in Tom's eyes and his wife started crying. It made all the long, rigorous nights working on the book worth it. He seemed very touched — and if he hadn't cried, I would have."

Margo says the time she spent with Lea made a real difference in her life.

"After interviewing him, I decided that I was



Helen Moore, 1924



Don Teclo Paz, 1963

skimming life, that I was somewhere just skimming on the surface," she says. "Now I try to pay more attention. Tom has lived his life with fairness and integrity and has always been true to his art. He taught me how lives are lived well.

"What also struck me was his true humility — that genuine humility amidst all that great talent. He walks with kings and paupers alike. He has been the guest of the president of the United States [Lyndon B. Johnson] and yet he treats people on the street with great respect, too."

*In looking back through the years, I've been fortunate that there were several people that have continuously bought my work. Friends would come around to the studio and say, "Oh, let me have that." So really, it wasn't much of a selling job for me. It was a matter of trying to produce something that spoke to people.*

— p. 137.

"This book was a labor of love for everyone who worked on it and helped fund it," says Daudistel. "At Texas Western Press, we put out six to eight books a year, but there are some that come through that are just your favorites, and this was one."

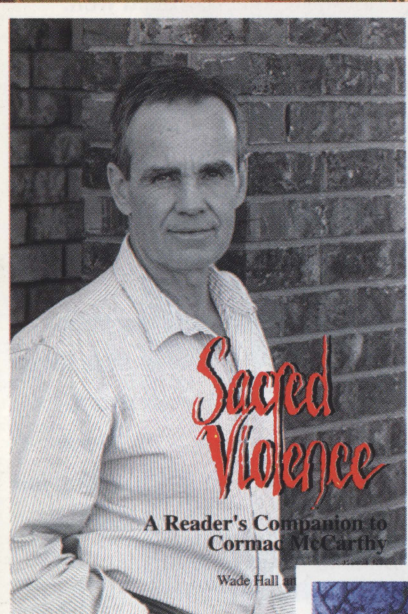
The book apparently is fast becoming a favorite for many others, too. Just released in July, *Tom Lea: An Oral History* is already on its way to a second printing.

A limited, boxed edition of the book, signed by Lea, Margo and Craver, will be made available by TWP for the holidays.

"I'm very proud of [the book]," Lea said. "It's a fine thing and, certainly, I feel very personally about its being about part of my life and part of the things that I've tried to do over 70 years of professional work, so I'm delighted. I'm also delighted that it's in this format. My friends all seem to like it, and my kinfolk like it, so I like it too." ■

by Timi Haggerty

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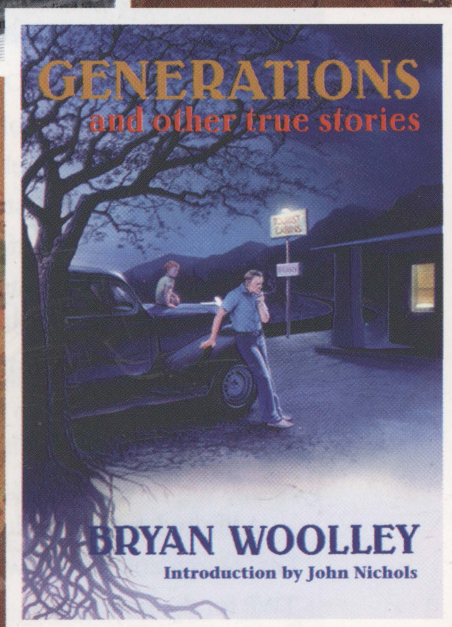
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