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Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso

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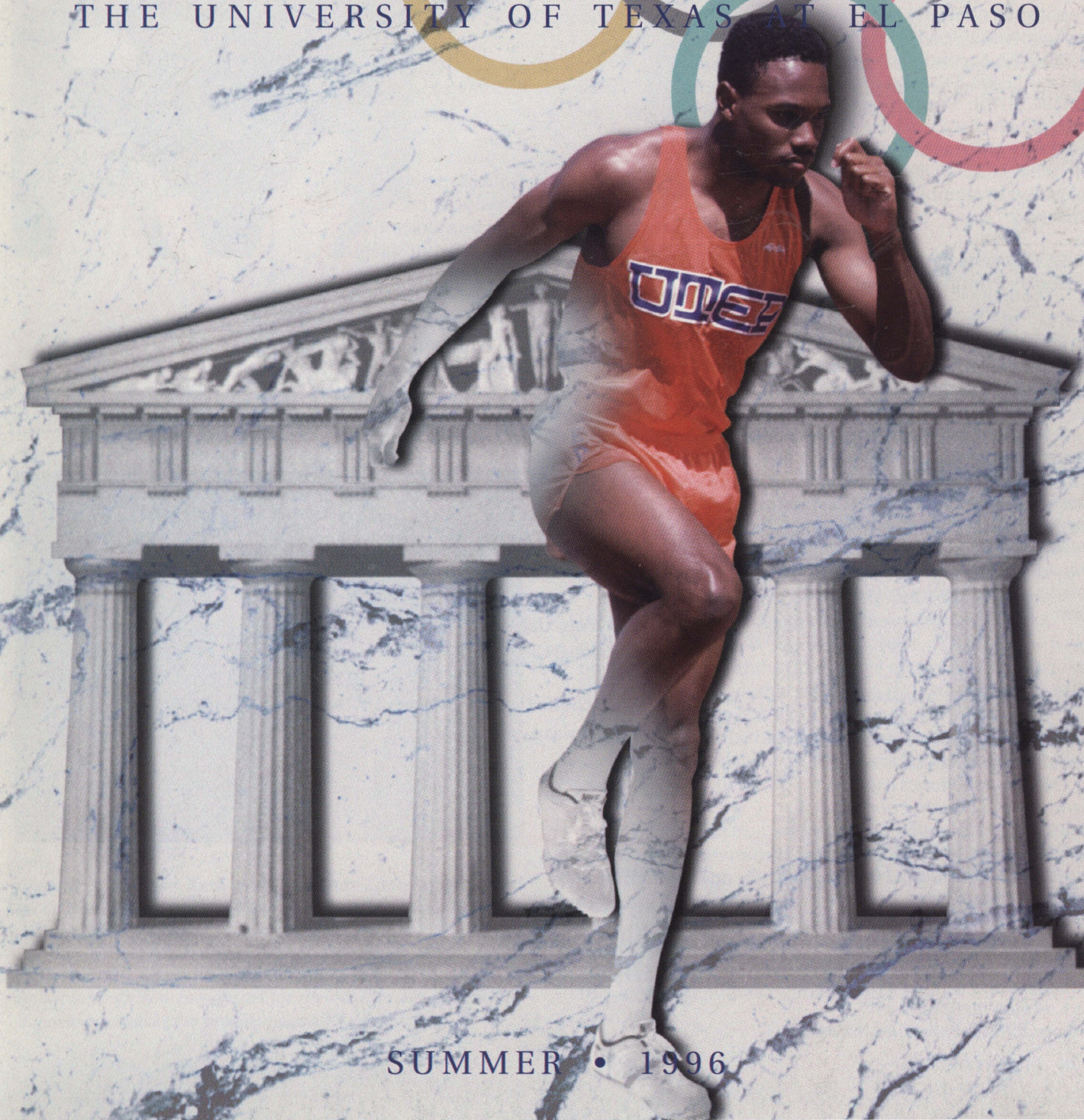
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NOVA

QUARTERLY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO



SUMMER • 1996

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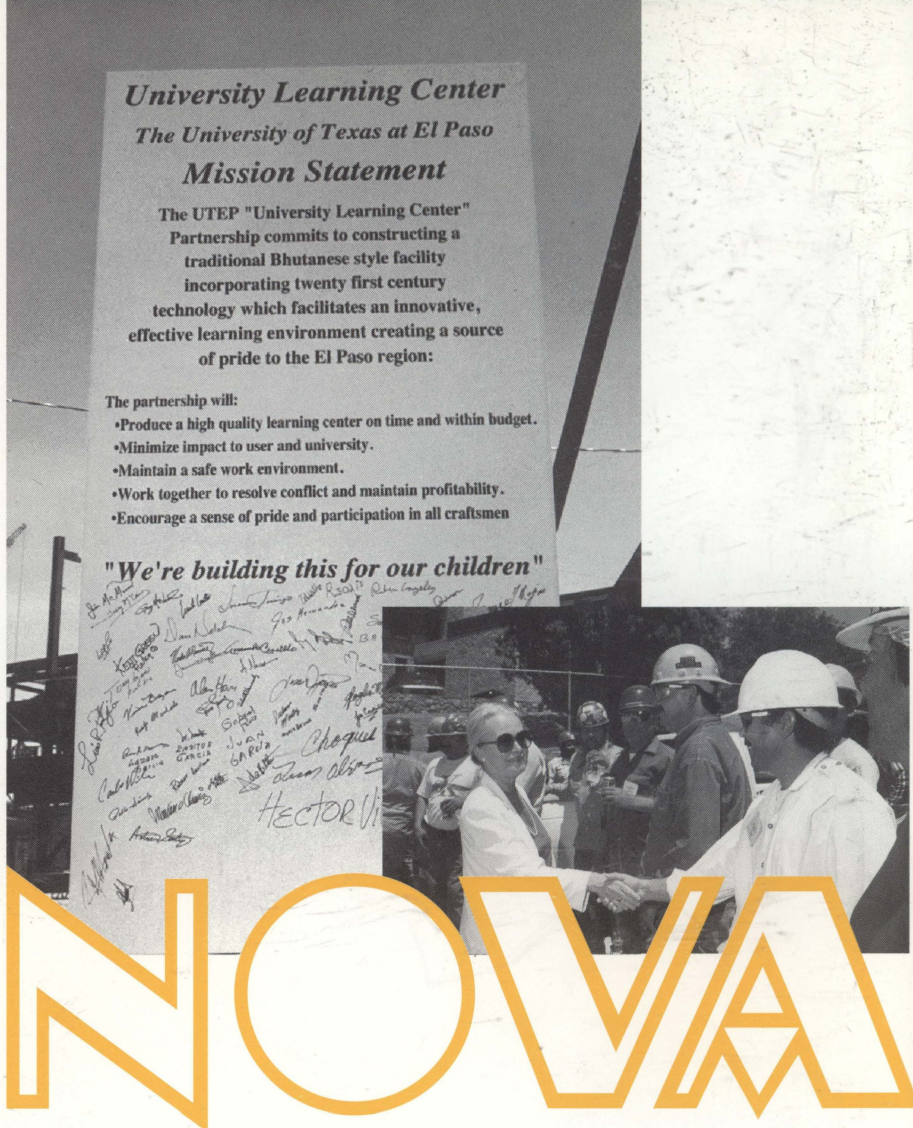
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ON THE COVER

Photo montage depicting Olympic hopeful Obadele Thompson as he emerges from the Temple of Zeus, the site where ancient Greek Olympic games were held. Design by John Downey, photography by Franklin Muñoz Jr.

Above right photo: A mission statement for the construction of the Undergraduate Learning Center was formulated and agreed to by UTEP, the UT System Office of Facility Planning and Construction, Baines Construction Co. and Alvidrez and Associates Architects. The mission emphasizes that, "We're building this center for our children."

Inset photo: UTEP President Diana Natalicio greets and congratulates construction workers at the formal dedication and signing of the mission statement May 23. Photography by Franklin Muñoz Jr.



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FROM THE EDITOR

Education is not a level playing field for all students. The current U.S. educational system, from kindergarten through college, has become obsolete as it fails to meet the needs of young people, especially poor and minority students. Current research shows a strong relationship between poverty and academic failure. Students who attend schools in impoverished areas, whether urban or rural, traditionally face poor academic instruction, low expectations from educators, and a lack of exposure to challenging subject matter.

Policies and practices in both K-12 and post-secondary education were developed without consideration of how they would influence each others' goals and intents. Historically, there has been no connection among the academic standards, the assessment of elementary and secondary students, and college admission criteria that typically is based on standardized college admission tests.

The El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence recently developed a set of standards that will have a significant impact on the academic success of El Paso's children. The "El Paso Standards for Academic Excellence: What every student should know and be able to do" stress the importance of developing each student's ability to:

- read, reason and understand a wide range of subject matter,
- grasp mathematical and scientific principles,
- plan and problem-solve,
- appreciate and participate in the arts, and
- speak and write effectively.

What is meaningful about the Collaborative's standards is that they were defined in conjunction with the development of new admission requirements for UTEP. The El Paso public schools and UTEP, along with members of the community, undertook a process of self-examination aimed at instituting real change in the educational system. This change requires higher education to realign its practices, particularly admissions and teacher preparation. Since UTEP enrolls more than 85 percent of its student body from the El Paso

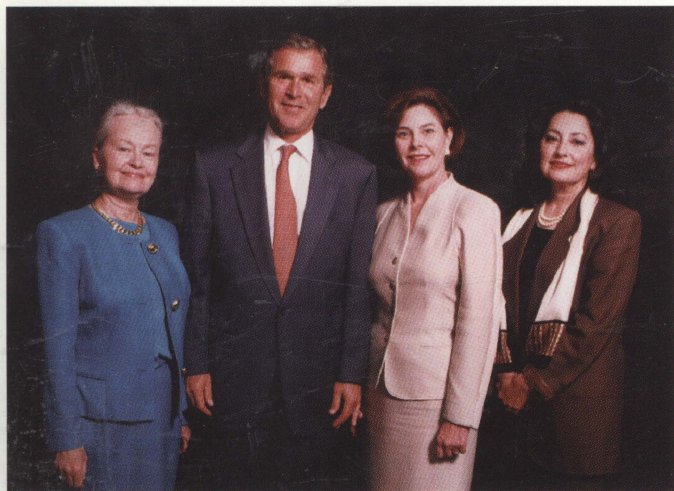
region, and also provides approximately 80 percent of the teachers to area schools, working collaboratively is clearly the key to success for both systems of education.

UTEP's new admission requirements will be phased in systematically, beginning in the year 2000. Meanwhile, the academic standards for K-12 will be implemented, providing students with the tools and skills to do well in college.

An important aspect leading to success in the implementation and achievement of these standards is the involvement of the community — parents, community and business leaders, and students. We must take joint responsibility for the academic success of our young people, who in turn will foster economic prosperity in El Paso. By setting uniform standards that challenge all students, El Paso is saying "no" to a dead-end educational system to ensure that every high school senior is prepared for either college or a career.

This collaboration among public schools, higher education and the community is a model demonstrating how communities can work together to support real and achievable change in education at all levels for every student.

El Pasoans interested in the future of this city's youth must educate themselves about these academic standards and UTEP's new admission requirements to become involved in genuine and meaningful change for this community.



Governor George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush joined UTEP President Diana Natalicio (far left) and Susana Navarro, director of the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence (far right), in unveiling the El Paso Standards for Academic Excellence at an annual awards ceremony May 31. Seven local public schools were recognized for their initiatives in developing new approaches to providing quality education.

UTEP'S EXPANDED

environmental mission

By Marilyn Haddrill

Tucked out of sight on a hill overlooking the UTEP campus, an experimental wind machine churns madly to convert spring gusts into a natural, clean power source generating electricity.

Just across the international border, UTEP researchers and students visit Juárez to explain to brickmakers how burning tires and plastics as heat sources pollute the air. These advisors then demonstrate safer, alternative manufacturing methods such as using the sun's natural heat to dry bricks.

UTEP's environmental missions are many these days, representing a campuswide commitment to address serious regional concerns through research coordinated among the university's different departments.

"Money is getting tighter, and we do not have the luxury of always doing just what interests us. There is a real need to contribute to solving problems," said Chip Groat, director of UTEP's Center for Environmental Resource Management (CERM). "We have required our most recent [research] proposals to address the priority problems of the El Paso area. The overriding issue in this region has to be water. We also have legitimate air and waste concerns."

CERM, established in the spring of 1990, serves as a clearinghouse for many UTEP researchers who receive about \$3.5 million annually in government and private funding for environmental investigations. Eighteen people are directly employed at the center, which also taps the skills of students and faculty from various UTEP departments ranging from engineering to geology. Other UTEP researchers conduct environmental projects funded through grants or programs awarded independently.

"With CERM we have created an organization of people who are aggressively trying to get money for research. We have brought in more resources so more people can



Senior environmental biology students Sylvia Calderon and Hector Navarro collect plant and soil samples from the foothills of the Franklin Mountains to test for traces of environmental contaminants.

et involved in cleaning up the border region, and we are making a binational effort," Groat said.

The center's energy and environmental scholars program actively involves students as research assistants to help guide them into environmentally oriented careers.

CERM also coordinates the newly created Environmental Science and Engineering doctoral program, with a curriculum that employs current technology to address environmental issues in areas such as biology, ecology, geology and chemistry. The program, which began in September 1995, had 16 students enrolled at the end of the spring semester, and with aggressive recruiting, Groat hopes to increase those numbers.

"Right now, most of our students are from the El Paso-Juárez area because we want this to be a binational program," said Groat. Adrian Alvarado, a 24-year-old senior civil engineering student, plans to enter UTEP's new doctorate program. Alvarado works part time for a CERM program that collects data on possible sources of contamination in public utility water wells. As part of the program, students visit with colonia residents to help them manage water and septic systems to avoid contamination and disease.

"I have been interested in environmental issues since high school," Alvarado said. "Once I saw the research they were doing at CERM, I went ahead and pursued this. I want to make environmental engineering my career."

Romy Ledesma, who specializes in administration, industrial engineering and horticultural sciences, said the program she oversees for CERM links 20 UTEP students with Retired Senior Volunteer Program mentors. Together, the students and senior volunteers inventory and maintain data regarding possible contamination sources near wells that provide public drinking water.

Ledesma says the students involved in the program are organized into five-member teams that help educate newcomers to the program.

"We went out and identified potential pollution sources. We are now verifying and expanding information in the inventory," Ledesma said. "We will be going out into the *colonias*, and working with people regarding their wells and septic systems. We'll be including as many *colonia* residents as possible, giving them information and hands-on demonstrations."

The program, funded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Texas Natural

Resource Conservation Commission, also forms partnerships with local organizations and public agencies to protect water resources.

A program that mirrors UTEP's efforts is being conducted through the Juárez city water utility to monitor wells and possible contamination sources across the border, Ledesma said.

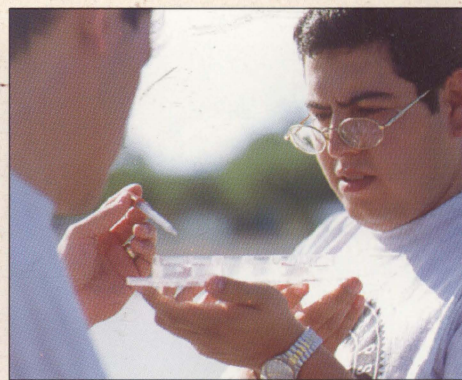
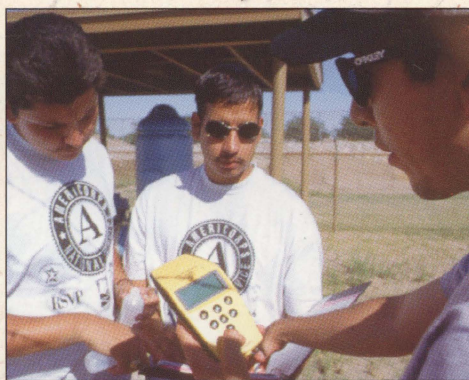
Another CERM project sends staff and students to Juárez to work at a center where brickmakers are shown how to cut down on open burning of noxious fuels that contribute to area air pollution.

A study of how different uses affect the flow of water in the Rio Grande is being funded through a \$432,000 grant administered through CERM and funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

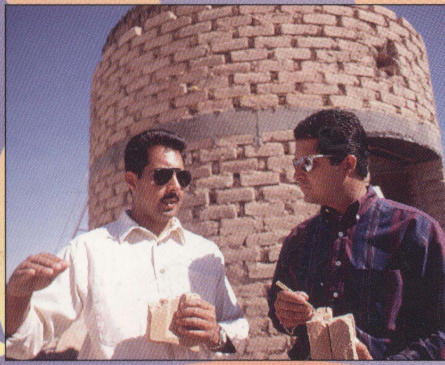
CERM also has received a grant from the Ford Foundation to help serve as a catalyst for developing water management policies among government agencies and experts in the United States and Mexico.

Under another CERM program, researchers are examining trace metals found in food and cooking utensils in the border region, possibly associated with air pollution and sewage-contaminated waterways.

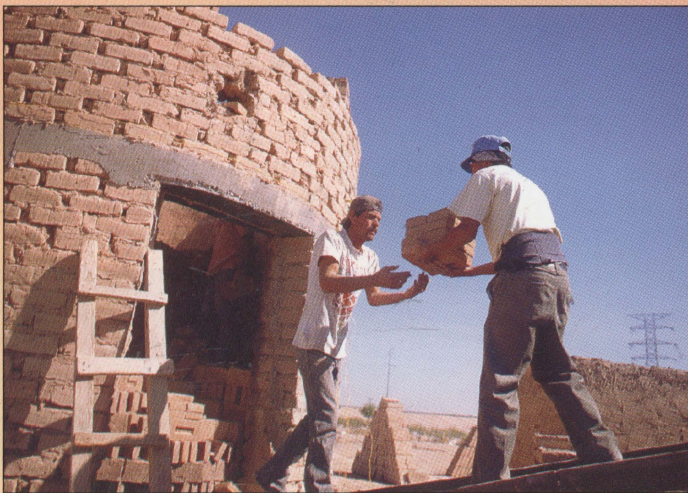
CERM associate director Wesley



UTEP students collect water samples as part of CERM's volunteer program with retired seniors to identify potential contamination sources in the area. Some students (center) specifically analyze well water to educate community residents in areas such as the colonias about maintaining and purifying their water supplies.



José Bernal, a mechanical engineering graduate student, consults with FEMAP engineer Horacio Gonzalez about a temperature problem that causes bricks to dry too quickly.



Brickmakers remove baked bricks from a solar-heated kiln in Juárez.



José Luis Ramírez, a second-generation brickmaker, prepares a mud mold for bricks, which will be finished using simple manufacturing methods such as allowing the sun's natural heat to dry the building blocks.

Leonard said UTEP's environmental mission covers policy, outreach, research, academic programs and student support.

"The glue that holds all this together is the real commitment to try and solve problems in the binational region we live in," Leonard said. "Much of the focus here is on problems that impact both the United States and Mexico. We have a clear understanding that we have to work cooperatively to try to solve these problems."

He said UTEP has been involved in efforts to establish international air quality management agreements. Teaching, outreach and policy activities are aimed at safekeeping and management of surface and underground water resources

on both sides of the border.

"Research must address fundamental issues, because environmental problems are so real and so massive and so serious," Leonard said. "What we are involved in and what we support has to have some immediate application in the real world."

UTEP's different departments also have many environmentally oriented projects, offering diverse opportunities for student undergraduates and graduates.

When Andrew Swift, interim dean of the College of Engineering, joined UTEP's faculty in 1982, he brought with him a background and an interest in wind turbines, a topic in which

he had been immersed for his doctoral dissertation.

"I had an interest that started in the mid-70's during the oil crisis," Swift said. "Wind is one of the viable clean alternatives for electricity production."

Swift's idea was to study teeter rotors, of the style used in helicopter engines, for fabricating wind turbines to harness energy.

Swift received a state-funded grant for his wind program in 1986, which eventually led to the construction of a test facility now located in Charlie Davis Park. The wind turbine, 26 feet in diameter, is atop a 60-foot tower, where studies determine the machine's efficiency at different speeds, angles and directions.

"It's a very promising design," said Lionel Craver, a UTEP mechanical engineering professor who has been involved with the program. "Wind farms in California are producing electricity at feasible costs. They probably will not ever generate all of our electricity, but they will generate some of it."

Craver said wind machines also are environmentally friendly, and ideal for remote locations where electrical lines have not been established.

Among other engineering activities, Swift described a salinity gradient solar pond project started in 1983 and jointly sponsored by UTEP, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Bruce Foods Corp. The project is aimed at controlling salt wastes in water, and finding uses for brine byproducts extracted from salty water.

Swift said other projects included investigating ways to convert sunlight into electricity and refining techniques for conserving energy in building designs and applications.

Another CERM project conducted through the

engineering department addresses air pollution caused from vehicle emissions. Competitions encourage vehicle designs that use cleaner fuels such as natural gas, propane and electricity.

Mechanical engineering professor Ryan Wicker oversaw a team of eight students who converted a Chrysler minivan to use propane fuel. The vehicle was entered in competition with other universities May 30 - June 4.

"The objective behind alternative fuels research is to reduce emissions, and still have the performance required by people who purchase these vehicles," Wicker said. "Hopefully, the infrastructure and refueling facilities will exist so we will have a large-scale conversion to alternative fuels and a significant reduction in auto emissions."

Mechanical engineering senior Luis Andrade is a member of the eight-person team working on reducing harmful emissions to almost zero.

"Some mornings in El Paso, you see that layer of thickness in the air, it's really ugly," Andrade said. "This technology will help us clean up the environment."



A wind turbine at Charlie Davis Park offers a clean and viable alternative to produce electricity.



Bobbie Martinez

UTEP sophomore Bobbie Martinez wears an intense expression along with her white lab coat as she prepares a DNA sample, which she explains has something to do with an experimental cloning

process. The 20-year-old microbiology major is one of many students who investigate the environment at the Border Biomedical Research Center.

Environmental science fascinates 21-year-old junior Ana Mussiott, who has a double major in biology and psychology. Mussiott holds up a poster she has just completed on the difference between deficient and normal DNA cells.

"I love this job," said Mussiott. "I understand my classes better and I get a lot of insight through my research and the experience from the laboratory."

BBRC Director Pablo Arenaz says the center has a strong emphasis on environmental biology, with many varying projects including studies of parasites, such as those associated with contaminated water, and response of human cells to abnormally high levels of heavy metals.

One BBRC project, partially funded by El Paso's La Fe Clinic, investigates unusually high occurrences of hypoglycemia, or low blood sugar, among certain Hispanic populations, apparently linked to the consumption of prickly pear cacti.

"Most of what is done here is basic research," Arenaz said. "Once you begin to understand basic mechanisms, then you can build approaches to alleviate the problem—to find cures."



In the area of biological sciences, a National Science Foundation study of heavy metal contamination in the El Paso region that started in September 1992 will be completed with final results released in August.

The study of soil, plants, invertebrates, lizards, mammals and birds found a high concentration of heavy metals on El Paso's West Side, UTEP professor Bill MacKay said.

"We have no evidence regarding possible sources, but we do know it's fairly concentrated," he said.

The high levels of arsenic, lead, cadmium, copper and zinc were mostly inert—and insoluble in water—meaning they probably would not be easily ingested and were unlikely to pose a health hazard at this time, MacKay said.

Heavy metals and air pollution do appear to be linked to the disappearance of certain plants such as lichens and creosote in the immediate El Paso area. The comprehensive heavy metals study involved about 50 undergraduate students and five graduate students.

Environmental concern is not limited to academic and research-minded students and faculty. Several student organizations have been formed at UTEP, with missions to help clean up the border environment. Christina Martinez, a senior majoring in theater arts, has been active in an organization called Earth El Paso.

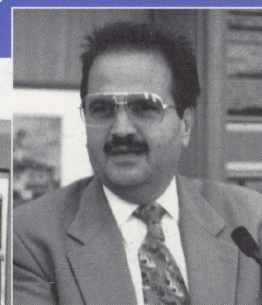
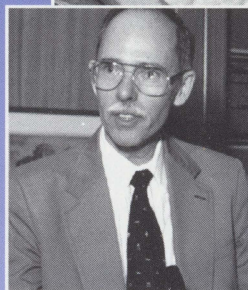
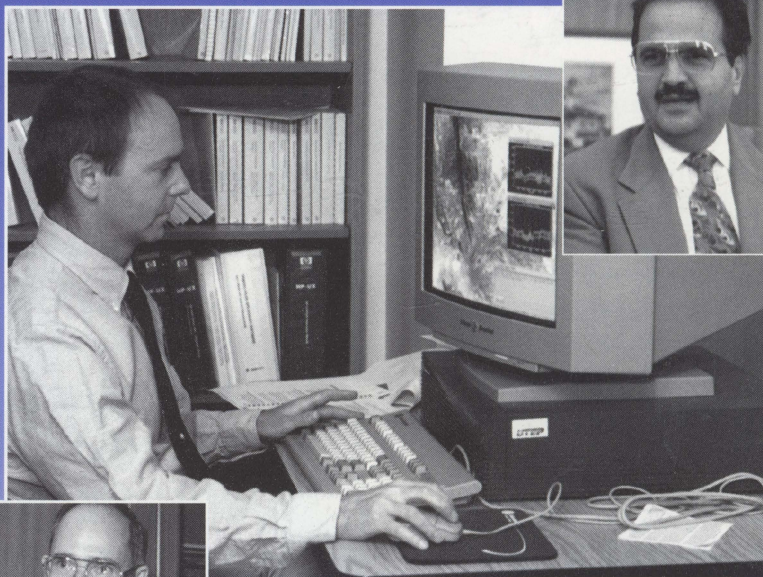
During her years as an undergraduate, Martinez joined in efforts to learn how to test water for contamination and helped organize programs, such as a notebook toss, at the end of each semester. The project encourages students to throw their old notebooks into recycling bins.

"As much as humanly possible, I try to promote recycling," Martinez said.

Freshman chemistry major Sandra Ogaz is vice president of UTEP's Environmental Conservation Organization, founded to educate and motivate faculty, staff and students about environmental issues. Ogaz said the group, which formed during the fall, recently opened an environmental library under a grant from the Student Activities

Association. The group also helped plant trees along the Rio Grande River and conducted a campuswide campaign for recycling.

"If we don't do something now, I think things are going to get a lot worse," Ogaz said. "I don't want to feel the guilt of knowing I could have done something to prevent that. In taking action, I'm getting involved and doing my share."



Satellite images of the El Paso and Juárez area are carefully mapped for environmental studies as part of the on-going programs of UTEP's Pan American Center for Earth and Environmental Studies (PACES). Research specialist and chief remote sensing scientist Brian Penn (center) uses satellite technology to study vegetation and monitor water usage. The official opening of the \$6.5 million PACES center in May was tied into a binational forum on the shared water supply between the Southwestern United States and Northern Mexico. Al Diaz (top right), deputy director of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, officially dedicated the center. Robert Harriss (bottom left), director of the Science Division of NASA's Mission to Planet Earth, spoke about the importance of using space technology to address environmental issues such as water supply and usage.

Messages from the heart

UTEP is proud to be selected as a means through which many individuals choose to pay tribute to those close to their hearts. In 1995, the university received hundreds of tributes with a total in excess of \$2.5 million.

The donors of these testimonial gifts contribute immensely to our university and its students. We are deeply grateful for this generous support and for the honor of being selected to carry their "messages from the heart."

MEMORIALS

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Margaret (Peggy) Abernethy
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Humberto Amaro
Juana Aranda
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Nesa Azar
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WHAT IS THE UTEP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

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

HOW CAN I JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

Membership to the Alumni Association is open to anyone who has taken three semester hours at UTEP. To join, please send your contribution of at least \$25 to:

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

Please include your year of graduation or years of attendance on your check. Also indicate the college, department or academic program for which your donation is intended. A membership card will be mailed with a receipt.

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If you would like to establish a UTEP Alumni Chapter in your area, please call Yolanda Rodríguez Ingle at 915/747-5533.

ALUMNI ONLINE

Be sure to look for the Alumni Association's home page on the World Wide Web. It is loaded with information on the Association and upcoming events such as MINERPALOOZA, Homecoming and Season of Lights. There is a link to the North Texas web site, and an alumni feedback form for immediate address updates and information requests.

The web pages were designed by

Rafael Ortega, a senior engineering major who works part time in the UTEP Multimedia Teaching and Learning Center. We have received several positive comments on his hard work, and we are open to suggestions to improve your alumni web page. You can find us on the Internet at "<http://www.utep.edu/~alumni>." You also can reach the Alumni Office through e-mail at "alumni@mail.utep.edu".

1996 TOP TEN SENIORS

Congratulations to this year's recipients of the Alumni Associations' Top Ten Senior Award:

Laura Arriola majored in mechanical engineering and plans to attend the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign to earn a master's and doctoral degree in automation and control theory.

Karen Beaman graduated in December with a bachelor's degree in nursing. She is a registered nurse with Columbia Medical Center-West.

Julie Marciel Dahlberg graduated in December with a double major in accounting and computer information systems. She is employed at KPMG Peat Marwick.

Christina DeSantos majored in microbiology and will attend the University of Texas at Houston Medical School this fall.

Lourdes Dominguez earned a degree in metallurgical engineering and plans to pursue a doctoral degree in materials science, specializing in polymer engineering.

Gustavo Javier Fernandez, a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, received a bachelor's degree in accounting. He is employed at the El Paso Natural Gas Co.

Joe Christopher Fonseca majored in metallurgical engineering. He worked at the UTEP Chemistry Department and at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, gaining experience in the areas of research and development.

David V. Rodriguez graduated in December with an electrical engineering degree. After participating in the cooperative program at Texas Instruments in Dallas, he was offered a job with the company. Since then, he has started a new co-op recruiting program for the company.

Maria Mayela Rodriguez, a civil engineering major, was a participant in the Electronic Data Systems International Summer Program in London.

Lourdes Jacquez Shaw received an education degree in interdisciplinary studies. Her work at UTEP's Center for Minority Special Education has prepared her for a career teaching students from a variety of backgrounds.

Fun Run



Amidst a crowd of 250 runners, walkers, strollers and spectators, Anna-Maria Valero and Miguel Aragon were the final participants to cross the finish line at the 11th Annual Alumni Association's Fun Run on April 27. The "Cobras," "Walkie Talkies" and "UTEP Greeks" represented the university. Pablo Gonzalez, Student Association President, awarded a cash prize to the Medical Professions Organization when Richard Rubio beat him in the run. Alumni Association board members, Marcia McNamee and Pamela Pippen co-chaired the committee that was responsible for doubling this year's participation.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 7	MINERPALOOZA
September 14	Football Pregame Party UTEP vs. NMSU
September 21	Rally: UTEP vs. San José State*
October 5	Football Pregame Party UTEP vs. Utah
October 12	"Follow the Miners" to Fort Worth: UTEP vs. Texas Christian University
October 21-26	Homecoming
Oct. 25	Distinguished Alumni Award Reception/Banquet Student Spirit Rally
Oct. 26	Pregame Party and Annual Meeting UTEP vs. Rice
November 9	Football Pregame Party UTEP vs. Southern Methodist
November 16	Football Pregame Party UTEP vs. Tulsa
December 6	Season of Lights Ceremony
December 21	Commencement

*For information on the San Jose Rally or the Follow-the-Miners trip to Fort Worth, please call the Alumni Office at 915/747-5533 or e-mail "alumni@mail.utep.edu."

ALUMNI SURVEY

Thanks to everyone who responded early to the post card sent out to inform you that the alumni survey was included in the spring issue of NOVA Quarterly. The Alumni Office has received many replies from UTEP alumni across the country sharing

their success stories. For those who have yet to return a survey, please take a few minutes to complete and return it in the prepaid envelope. For a copy of the survey, please call 800/687-8004. We look forward to hearing from you.

MINERPALOOZA

Circle Saturday, Sept. 7, on your calendar for this year's MINERPALOOZA festival from 5 to 10 p.m. at the center of campus. Join the UTEP community of students, faculty and staff as they celebrate the beginning of the 1996-97 academic and athletic season. MINERPALOOZA is co-sponsored by the Alumni Association and the Union Programs Office.



CLASS NOTES

by Judy Jimenez

50▼

Hector Carranza (B.B. '50) will umpire for track events at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

Park Kerr (B.B. '52) has been nominated for the prestigious James Beard Foundation Media Award for the best local television cooking show. Kerr hosts a cooking show on KVIA-Channel 7 during "Good Morning El Paso." He also is co-owner of the El Paso Chile Co.

60▼

Paul Dean Daniggelis' (B.A. '69) book, *Rodant Pel Mon (Roaming About the World)*, about Mount Cristo Rey sculptor Urbici Soler was published by the International Association for the Visual Arts.

Cole Holderman (B.B.A. '63) was named senior agent of the month in January for the Prudential Insurance Company.

Phillip T. Smith (B.A. '64) was promoted to full professor of history at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. He also received a research travel grant to study the 19th century police in Edinburgh, Scotland.

70▼

Juan G. Ayala, Maj. USMC, (B.B.A. '79) received the Joint Service Commendation Medal for meritorious accomplishments, achievements and performance of duty.

Georgia V. Galloway (B.S.Ed. '71) was honored by the El Paso Chapter of the Afro-American Cultural Association in memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. for her outstanding and enduring contributions to public education and her civic activism.

Richard C. Kaslik (B.B.A. '76) was named president of the North Texas Compensation Association for 1996.

Diana Lehr (B.A. '79) has been appointed director of the Lebanon Public Library. She previously worked as the adult services librarian at the Plainfield Public Library and had an internship at Public Service Indiana in the corporate library.

Clifton J. McCullough, Capt., USMC, (B.S. C.S. '81) received the Roy C. Wilkins Meritorious Award for his outstanding efforts to further civil and economic rights in his community while serving at the Marine Corps Base in Virginia.

Sandra L. Swift (B.S.Ed. '74) was elected vice president-MIS manager at the corporate headquarters of Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation in Richmond, Va.

80▼

Wayne Campbell (B.S. '89) was named provisional manager for Southwest Airlines operations in El Paso. He has been with the airlines since 1991.

Jill A. Holup (B.B.A. '85) was named vice president of McDonald & Company Securities in Cleveland, Ohio. She received an M.B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley in December.

Irma Armijo (B.A. '93) is a flight attendant with United Airlines, based out of the Los Angeles International Airport.

Monica G. Contreras (B.A. '94) is the marketing and public relations manager for American Industries International. She previously worked as a reporter for the *El Paso Times* and the *Dallas Morning News*. **Steve Myers** (B.A. '94) has signed a partnership agreement to produce infomercials for television and radio for Herbs For Health, focusing on Eliezer Ben-Joseph, a naturopath-nutritionist.

Edward J. Robledo, USN, Ensign, (B.S.M.E. '95) was commissioned to his rank while serving at the Naval Aviation Schools Command, Naval Air Station in Florida. He joined the Navy in June 1988.

OBITUARIES

J. L. "Jim" Baker (B.A. '64) November 15, 1995. Baker retired in Denver from U.S. West after 41 years. He is survived by his wife, JoAnn; daughters, Teri and Hollie; sons, Jim and Brian; his mother Winnie; sister, Betty; brother, Clay; and grandchildren, Shan, Kyan, Meredith and Madison. **Felix Ricardo Vargas** (B.A. '71) November 29, 1995. Vargas was a lifelong El Paso resident and is survived by his wife, Eva; three sons; and his brother, Robert. **Nancy H. Crook** (B.S. '65) December 20, 1995. Crook was a prominent El Paso art dealer and co-founder of H.W. Crook Realty Company. She was born in Ireland and came to the United States at the age of 12 with her family. She married H.W. Crook and they established a real estate business and developed the Coronado Hills subdivisions and shopping center on El Paso's west side. Crook retired from real estate in 1972 and founded the Nancy Crook International Art Gallery. She is survived by her daughters, Dr. Nancy Marcus and Belinda; sons, Howard, James and Richard; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; her sister, Mary Padden and brother, James.

John Joseph "Jack" Mischen (B.A. '57) December 21, 1995. Mischen was a resident of Plano, Texas, and retired from Texas Instruments in 1992. Following his retirement, he established Jack Mischen Associates, a consulting service. Mischen is survived by his wife, Betty; mother, Mary; two brothers, William and Edward; and mother-in-law, Dora.

Eugene C. Dow, Jr. (B.A. '70) January 8, 1996. Dow was a resident of El Paso for 35 years. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps and was a veteran of World War II. He joined Pioneer Airlines in 1947 and retired from Continental Airlines after 34 years of service. Dow is survived by his wife of 50 years, Elizabeth; three sons, Eugene, Noel and Maxwell; and a foster son, Dallas; 12 grandchildren; his sisters, Elizabeth and Jo; and his brothers, Roy, Earl and Orville.

Wendell G. King (B.S.Ed. '69) January 9, 1996. King was a resident of El Paso for 30 years and was preceded in death by his wife, Charlesie; his brother, William and his parents. King is survived by his sisters, Oleta and Mildred.

Curtis L. "Jack" Goodwin, CW4, U.S. Army (retired) (B.B.A. '82) January 19, 1996. Goodwin had been a resident of El Paso since 1970. He was a Vietnam Veteran who retired after 20 years of service in the Army. He was awarded the Air Medal (2D-15th OLC), National Defense Service Medal (1st OLC), Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart, Bronze Star and many other service medals and awards. Goodwin is survived by his wife, Patricia; daughters,

Sheree, Jackie and Lisa; sons, Bryan and Brehan; brother, Terry; and 9 grandchildren.

Cecilia Maria Sedillo (B.A. '81) January 30, 1996. Sedillo was a second grade teacher at Pasodale School in the Ysleta Independent School District since 1981. Sedillo is survived by her husband, Larry; three sons, Jason, Joseph and Miles; her parents, Oscar and Lucia; father and mother-in-law, Felix and Irene Sedillo; her brothers, Luis, Miguel and John; and sisters, Lucia, Margarita and Rosemary.

Delia B. Kemendo, February 11, 1996. Kemendo was a dramatic director for WFAA radio station in Dallas. Kemendo was a founder of Delta Delta Delta Sorority at UTEP and member of the Tri-State Opera Guild. She is survived by her son, Vincent.

Madeline Romaine Jastrzembki (B.A. '83; M.A. '90) February 17, 1996. Jastrzembki taught French, Spanish and dance at Loretto Academy. He received her degree in French from the Université de Lyons, France. She was a principal dancer and choreographer for the International Dance Theater of El Paso and also performed with the Austin and Houston Ballets. She is survived by her husband, Joseph; her children, Anthony and Anna; sisters, Mrs. Tom Hilton, Cara and Rachel.

Gerardo (Jerry) Martinez, Sr. (B.S.Ed. '77) February 17, 1996. Martinez was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a member of Corpus Christi Catholic Church. Martinez was a school teacher for 19 years and had been a coach and teacher at Del Valle High School for the past eight years. He was preceded in death by his father, Camilo, Sr.; and is survived by his wife, Dolores; sons, Gerardo, Jr. and Gabriel; daughters, Monique and Angelica; his mother Carmen; brothers, Camilo, Jr. and Ruben; sisters, Olga and Carmen; and grandmother, Victoria Martinez.

Rudolph "Rudy" Rosemond (B.A. '56) February 21, 1996. He had been a resident of Cedar Park for the past nine years and had worked in the Comptroller of Public Accounts Office since 1980 as audit group supervisor. He was working in cooperation with the Texas Rangers, on the Governor's Commission investigating fraud. He taught high school chemistry and math and was a chemist for Shell Oil. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Raymond. Rosemond is survived by his wife, Georgia; sons, Brian and Erick; daughters, Laura and Patrisha; grandchildren, J. Sarah, Keith and Sean; sister, Louella; and brother, Henry.

Richard Allen "Dick" Chapman (M.Ed. '76) February 21, 1996. Chapman was a resident of El Paso for 30 years and a teacher for 20 years. He is survived by his wife, Jean; daughter, Denise; grandson, Tyler; and two stepsons, Donald and Duane.

Meredith Duffy Spangler (B.A. '53; M.A. '60) February 24, 1996. Spangler was a resident of El Paso for 60 years and was a homebound teacher and retired principal of Highland school. Spangler was the great granddaughter of General Sam Houston and a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Paso del Norte Chapter, American Association of University Women, Retired Teachers Association, Alpha Delta Kappa and a Deputy Sheriff of Upton County, Texas. She is preceded in death by her husbands; Henry Madison, Sr. and Arthur W. Spangler; son, Henry Madison, Jr.; sister, June; brother, Jules; and two grandchildren.

Lawrence H. "Larry" Seward (B.B.A. '64) February 25, 1996. Seward was a lifelong resident of El Paso. He retired as a supervisor with the Texas

Employment Commission after 25 years of service. He is survived by his parents, Ruth and Fred; and brothers, Charles and Thomas.

Carolina Muñoz (B.S.Met. '84) February 28, 1996. Muñoz was employed by J & JMI where she was a principal scientist and received the Achievement Award Recognition and the Vocational Education Award. She was previously employed with Northrop Defense Systems Division, Lockheed Space Operations Co., and Lockheed Missiles and Space Company. She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Muñoz; brothers, Elias, Luis and Miguel; and sisters, Andrea and Virginia.

Patricia Fowler (B.A. '70) March 3, 1996. Fowler was employed by Liberty Mutual Insurance. She had served in the Peace Corps for two years in Ghana, Africa. She was preceded in death by her sister, Barbara. Fowler is survived by her husband, Jack; parents, Gene and Helen; and brother, Dennis.

Maria Yolanda Flores (B.B.A. '71) March 10, 1996. Flores was a lifelong resident of El Paso. She is survived by her mother, Thomasa.

Dr. Paul Edward Fenlon (UTEP professor) March 15, 1996. A professor of economics and finance at UTEP, Fenlon was a longtime resident of El Paso and a veteran of World War II. He is survived by his son, Robert; daughters, Dorothy and Barbara; stepchildren, Eileen, Edward and Evelina; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Jenny Crimen Burton (B.B. '41) March 18, 1995. Burton was a life-long resident of El Paso and was active in the PTA at St. Patrick's School, Jesuit High School and Loretto Academy. She also was a member of St. Patrick Cathedral and later All Saints Catholic Church. She was an original member of the Goldiggers' marching unit of UTEP, and she is the daughter of the co-founder of Southwestern General Hospital, Dr. John Chase Crimen. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Bill, Sr.; daughter, Nancy; sons, Bill, John Robert, Michael and Thomas; her sister, Anna; 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Robert L. Schumaker (B.S. '43) March 20, 1996. Schumaker retired from UTEP as an associate professor emeritus of physics. He also served as Director of Admissions. He was a member of the Pro-Cathedral Church of Saint Clement, Kiwanis International, U.S. Air Force and board member for DARE. Schumaker is survived by his son, Robert; and daughters, Betsy and Marianne; his sister, Lenore and his brother, Ray.

James L. Hamblen (NG) March 21, 1996. Hamblen was a resident of El Paso and the owner of 1st Choice Landscaping and Lawn Service. Hamblen was preceded in death by his father Larry, and he is survived by his wife, Lisa; daughter, Jessica; his mother, Kathleen; his sister, Carrie; grandparents, Harrison and Carol; and in-laws, George and Alyse Mitchler.

William T. Cornwall, Jr. (NG) March 23, 1996. Cornwall was a life-long resident of El Paso, and was owner of Cornwall Supply for 40 years. Cornwall was preceded in death by his daughter, Cathleen. He is survived by his wife, Mary; daughters, Carol, Christine, Carla and Martha; sister, Julie; brother, Michael; and six grandchildren.

Margaret N. Dirks (B.A. '34) March 22, 1995. Dirks was a lifelong resident of El Paso. She was a retired school teacher and member of Manhattan Presbyterian Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Herman B. Dirks, and is survived by her son, James; daughter, Marcile; and grandchildren, Greg, Doug Dedrick, Angela and Brent.



FACULTY PROFILE

Kym Hemley left her native El Paso in 1987 to pursue her academic aspirations in international development, but her search for a role model led her back home, to UTEP and to Kathleen Staudt.

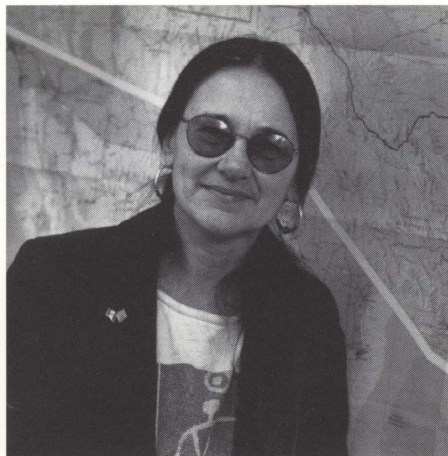
Hemley earned her bachelor's degree from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, but she found no mentor there. While looking for leadership in graduate programs on the East Coast, she was asked, "If you're from El Paso, why aren't you taking classes at UTEP with Kathy Staudt?"

Staudt, a 19-year UTEP political science professor who earned her doctorate from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, has established a worldwide reputation as a scholar in international development.

"I was amazed to find a mentor in my field right here in El Paso," Hemley said. "UTEP and El Paso are lucky to have captured such a rare gem."

Staudt's work in international development has benefitted countries across the globe, including the Philippines, the Caribbean, Kenya, Mexico and the United States. Her impressive vita includes consultant work and more than 100 books, articles, papers and monographs for the United Nations, U.S. departments of Education and Agriculture, and the nations of Jamaica, Dominica and St. Lucia.

Her first contributions to the field of international development were at age 21 in the Philippines, where she taught math to elementary school children as a Peace Corps Volunteer, and as a doctoral student in western Kenya, where she researched inequities in the delivery of government agricultural services between men and women farm managers. Later, as an



A DIAMOND IN THE DESERT: KATHLEEN STAUDT

by Timi Haggerty

analyst with the Agency for International Development, she designed a program that implemented a rural women's extension service in Kenya. Her work helped establish her reputation as a leader in her field.

Since those first experiences, Staudt has contributed to both local and global communities from her home base at UTEP, where she has fallen "in love with the international environment."

Staudt came to UTEP in 1977, moving from Wisconsin to El Paso with her husband, Robert Dane'el, an artist. They now live with their two children, 12-year-old Mosi (Swahili for "first-born son") and 10-year-old daughter Asha (which means "life"), in the dream house Dane'el designed and built in Canutillo.

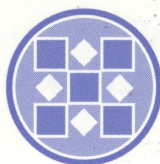
Staudt's latest research focuses on this region and its "informal" economic activity, which includes street vending and home-based work. Partially as a result of this research, Staudt has worked with the Mexican Federation of Private Health and Community Develop-

ment Associations (FEMAP), an organization she helped found, to establish community banks in El Paso and Juarez. These banks allow informally employed El Pasoans and Juarenses to develop microbusinesses in sales and services, which in turn provide more stable employment and contribute significantly to the regional economy.

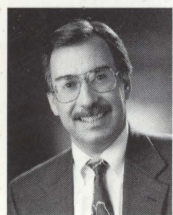
"Dr. Staudt's studies on the border have had tremendous bearing on this community, bringing international attention to this region and this university," Anthony Kruszewski, a fellow political science professor, said. "I have the highest admiration for her. She serves as a role model not only for her students, but also for us, her colleagues."

Staudt has served as this model not only in the classroom and in the field, but also in the administrator's office as founding director of the Honors Program, chair of the political science department, assistant dean of liberal arts and chair of Asian studies development. Staudt helped establish UTEP as a regional center for the development of Asian studies by fostering an affiliation with the East-West Center and the University of Hawaii, cultivating a learning environment that teaches UTEP students to embrace the intellectual and economic opportunities originating in the East.

"Through her accomplishments and the many roles she has accepted at the university, she has helped shape something real and tangible to affect her students' lives as well as the professors who work with her," Robert Webking, associate professor and chair of political science, said.



DAUDISTEL NAMED INTERIM DEAN OF LIBERAL ARTS



As interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Howard Daudistel will collaborate with a diverse set of faculty members to prepare

talented students with marketable skills in the university's largest college.

"Our job is to help students develop skills as critical thinkers and realize their creative potential," Daudistel, chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, said. "Liberal arts training enables students to think for themselves and adapt to rapid changes in society."

Daudistel, who joined the UTEP faculty in 1974, assumed his position as interim dean June 1. He received his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He specializes in the criminal justice process, criminology and minority student education.

Daudistel has researched faculty and minority student stress in higher education for the National Institute of Mental Health and the social influences and impact of ethnicity on jury decision-making for the National Science Foundation.

He has served in a variety of administrative positions at UTEP, including assistant vice president for academic affairs, assistant to the president, interim chair of the Department of Communication and chair of the Department of Criminal Justice and the Social Work Program. He recently was recognized by the College of Liberal Arts with an Outstanding Faculty Award.

Daudistel replaces Carl Jackson, who has returned to his teaching duties in the Department of History

after serving seven years as dean of the college.

"Jackson provided leadership during an important period in the history of the College of Liberal Arts. This period was highlighted with the addition of new programs (including a doctorate in psychology), initial accreditation of degree programs in social work and public administration, and a renewed commitment to serve the students of our region," Stephen Riter, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said. "Daudistel brings a wide range of experiences to the job and we look forward to him building on the strong base that Jackson has left."

AACSB REACCREDITS UTEP BUSINESS PROGRAMS

UTEP's College of Business Administration has achieved reaccreditation of its bachelor's and master's business administration and accounting programs from the primary accrediting agency for U.S. business schools.

The American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business announced the reaccreditation at its annual meeting in Los Angeles in April, which was attended by more than 800 corporate representatives and business school deans and faculty members from universities throughout the world.

Only 325 of the approximately 1,200 U.S. colleges and universities offering undergraduate business degrees are accredited by the AACSB. Half of the 600 master's programs offered nationwide are accredited by the organization. In accounting, only 122 schools have received accreditation at various levels from the AACSB.

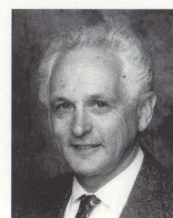
"All of us at UTEP take great pride in this validation of the quality of the academic programs in the College of

Business Administration," UTEP President Diana Natalicio, said. "Dean Frank Hoy and the faculty, staff and students are to be congratulated on their success."

To receive accreditation, UTEP had to meet a wide range of updated quality standards related to curriculum, faculty resources, admissions, degree requirements, library and computer facilities, financial resources and intellectual climate.

"The standards of the AACSB have changed since the college was first accredited in 1989. The new standards require us to be mission-driven, to maintain a high-quality program, and to seek continuous improvement," Hoy said. "Many colleges have had their accreditation deferred because they could not adjust to the new standards. It is a tribute to the UTEP faculty, staff and students and the El Paso business community that supports the university that we have achieved this success."

UTEP NAMES RITER PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



After a year-long national search process, Stephen Riter has become the university's Provost and Vice President for

Academic Affairs.

As Provost, Riter is the chief academic officer responsible for the leadership and administration of the university's academic programs and research. Each of the six academic deans, the associate vice president for research and graduate studies and the librarian will report directly to Riter.

Prior to his appointment as

interim vice president for academic affairs last year, Riter was dean of the College of Engineering since 1989. He received his bachelor of arts and bachelor of science in electrical engineering from Rice University. He received his master of science and doctorate in electrical engineering from the University of Houston.

"This is a challenging time for higher education nationally and UTEP is emerging as a leader in regards to such issues as access, equity and quality," Riter said. "I am proud to use my energy and experience at the university, which has become a model for modern public urban institutions."

Riter specializes in environmental policy and technology transfer, which channels university and laboratory experiences into industry and government. He has conducted research for the National Science Foundation, NASA Ames Research Center, the Ford Foundation and the U.S. departments of Justice and Housing and Urban Affairs.

In the Sun City, he has served on the El Paso Public Utility Regulatory Board and he was awarded the Conquistador Award by the city of El Paso in 1992. He is currently a member of the El Paso Public Service Board.

Since joining the engineering faculty at UTEP in 1985, Riter was chair of the department of electrical engineering and computer science and director of the Center for Environmental Resource Management, which is dedicated to addressing the environmental research and policy issues facing the Southwest border region.

As a respected engineer and strong academic administrator at the university, Riter is poised to address national higher education issues, in which UTEP plays a lead role.

"I am delighted to have this opportunity to continue working with Steve Riter in his new role as provost to achieve UTEP's important national mission," president Diana Natalicio said.

ENDOWED FUND EARMARKED FOR HEALTH CARE CONCERNS ON THE BORDER



Jeffrey Barbakow, CEO of Tenet Healthcare Corporation (left), and L. Marcus Fry, CEO of Sierra Providence Health Network (right), received plaques honoring their support of UTEP's health care programs from Mary Helen Castillo, chair of the Nursing Department, Diana Natalicio, UTEP president and Pat Castiglia, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Less than 40 miles from the heart of Downtown El Paso, residents work long hours to make ends meet in their underdeveloped settlements, or *colonias*, which lack public transportation, health care facilities and basic services such as potable water and city sewage.

With incomes of approximately \$6,500 annually, most residents cannot afford adequate health care, but a new UTEP endowed fund created by Sierra Providence Health Network and its parent company, Tenet Healthcare Corporation, will provide the colonias with a dose of relief in their challenging circumstances.

The Tenet Healthcare Corporation and Sierra Providence Health Network Endowed Fund for Community Health Outreach will support UTEP's College of Nursing and Health Sciences' initiatives to address the area's unique and difficult health care problems.

The \$300,000 endowed fund represents a permanent investment to address health care concerns on the border. Income from the fund will provide an ongoing source of support for the college's outreach programs to offer basic health care services to the underserved and geographically-isolated communities of the area.

"It is unusual for a corporate source to create an endowed fund that provides permanent solutions rather than temporary help," Don Henderson,

chairman of UTEP's Development Board, said. "This impressive example of corporate citizenship was made possible by the leadership of Peter deWetter and Dr. Edward Egbert (both members of UTEP's Development Board and the Tenet Healthcare Corporation Board) and L. Marcus Fry Jr. (chief executive officer of Sierra Providence Health Network)."

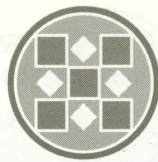
The income from the endowed fund will directly impact university outreach programs such as community health fairs, health education classes, primary care for residents of the Lower Valley, clinical laboratory services and the education of community volunteers who travel door-to-door to educate their neighbors about such health issues as nutrition and disease prevention.

Combating El Paso complex health problems requires creative community solutions such as the strong partnerships formed by UTEP, Tenet and Sierra Providence Health Network.

"UTEP is grateful to Mark Fry and Sierra Providence Health Network for the abiding support for the development of strong health professions programs in El Paso," Diana Natalicio, UTEP president, said.

Pat Castiglia, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, said the support from Tenet and Sierra Medical Center for UTEP's outreach programs has been exceptional. Past endeavors by the two groups will be enhanced by the recent endowed fund, which will help sustain the college's multidisciplinary, community-based educational programs.

"Changes in the health care field all point to the need for health promotion, disease prevention and early intervention to foster the health of our community," Castiglia said. "Through the generous support of Sierra Providence Health Network and Tenet Healthcare Corporation we shall be able to pursue these goals and better prepare the health care providers for the future."



PARTNERS



JULIAN AND ELAYNE BERNAT

by Bob Guidry

Albuquerque? Phoenix? Tucson? El Paso?

Those were the choices facing newly-discharged army veteran Julian Bernat in 1944. Because of an asthmatic condition, the native midwesterner was looking for a dry climate in which he and his wife, Elayne could start a new life.

Bernat accepted a position with the pioneer El Paso law firm of Potash and Cameron, and both the community and UTEP have enjoyed the benefits of that decision ever since.

El Paso has benefited by their lifelong contributions to civic programs and their service to the community. UTEP has gained from their continuing support of education, most recently in the form of the Julian and Elayne Bernat Family Endowed Excellence Fund for Undergraduate Education at the university.

"UTEP is a vital asset for this community's families and young people," Julian said. "Training a skilled work force benefits the entire community, so supporting UTEP is the strongest investment we can make in El Paso's future."

Elayne expands on her husband's sentiment by saying, "Education is the greatest gift a person can give a child. This endowment will help students

who need assistance through their undergraduate years until they can get out on their own."

Education has been a major factor in the lives of the entire Bernat family. Following graduation from the University of Wisconsin, both pursued graduate degrees—Elayne in nursing at Beth Israel hospital in Boston and Julian in jurisprudence at the University of Chicago and the University of Texas Law School.

Even as they were raising a family and establishing a successful law practice, Julian and Elayne continued their education at UTEP, taking or auditing courses that interested them.

In their 42 years in El Paso, they have been major contributors of time and talent to the community. Julian was founding director of the World Confederation of Jewish Community Centers and is past president of the El Paso chapter. He served on the board of directors of El Paso Mental Health/Mental Retardation Services, and was vice chair of the El Paso County Enhanced 911 Emergency Communications District. He was director of First City National Bank and is a trustee for KCOS-TV.

In 1988, Julian received the Hannah G. Solomon Award from the National Council of Jewish Women, and in 1992,

both Julian and Elayne were honored with a Wall of Honor plaque for establishing a Presidential Endowed Scholarship.

UTEP President Diana Natalicio is grateful for the support the Bernats have given both the community and the university. "I greatly admire Julian and Elayne Bernat's deep and sincere interest in higher education and its critical role in the future of our society," Natalicio said. "Their abiding support of UTEP has been a source of strength to me personally, and I deeply appreciate their friendship and good will."

Julian is owner and partner with his son Marc in the law firm of Bernat and Bernat, the firm that administered the Miss Frederick Louise Etter Estate gift to the UTEP library. The family's other son, Andrew, is a faculty member at UTEP. The professor of computer sciences also is director of UTEP's Model Institutions for Excellence (MIE) project. Their daughter, Juli Bernat Furgeson, is a practicing clinical psychologist.

Since the Bernats' decision to relocate to El Paso more than 50 years ago, the city has gained two active benefactors. El Paso and UTEP's gain has proved to be a loss for the cities of Albuquerque, Phoenix and Tucson.

UTEP's Kitchens Cooks Up Olympic Hopefuls

by John R. Corrigan



"THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE OF
BEING A TRACK COACH IS
KNOWING WHEN TO PUSH AND
WHEN TO BACK OFF."

— Bob Kitchens,
UTEP track coach



"In Europe, they do not call it track and field, they call it athletics. In the United States, you are not considered an athlete unless you play with a ball."

In a town ruled by his counterparts — Miner football and basketball — UTEP track coach Bob Kitchens feels like Rodney Dangerfield, as his track program and athletes are in a constant search for respect.

This is changing, as no fewer than 15 current and former UTEP track and field athletes recently received invitations to national Olympic qualifying meets this summer. While his athletes prepare, with dreams of bringing home the gold from the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Kitchens assesses the potential international exposure of the Olympic games as a chance to make El Pasoans more aware of UTEP's track program.

"The Olympics give some respect to our program," Kitchens said. "We are better known outside of the city, where we enjoy more notoriety."

Kitchens' men are ranked 7th among Division I track and field teams in the nation. In addition, the coach from Silverton, Texas, has quietly navigated the men to several NCAA top-10 and top-five finishes. In 1993, the men's team earned 4th-place finishes at the NCAA indoor and outdoor championships. This was followed in 1994 by a 3rd-place finish at the NCAA indoor championships and a runner-up placing in the outdoor championships.

In 1995, Kitchens' men placed 12th at the NCAA indoor meet and 13th in the outdoor. The women placed 12th in the indoor meet. In the winter, the men finished 4th at the NCAA indoor meet.

THE TURN AROUND

Arriving at UTEP from Mississippi State in 1988, Kitchens, 51, single-handedly resurrected the UTEP program, which had fallen on hard times. In 1983, the track program had been put on probation for NCAA violations. Upon finding out that they would not be allowed to compete in upcoming NCAA meets, many top UTEP athletes transferred, leaving UTEP searching for athletes who could compete at an NCAA Division I level.

"The program, when I came in, was down at the bottom. The men were next to last in the conference. Bringing the program back to the top five is one of the things I am most proud of," Kitchens said. "There are about 280 Division I schools that compete in track and field. To be in the top 10 or top five every year is a pretty good accomplishment."

Despite this, Kitchens remains unfulfilled. His eyes come alive when he speaks of his ultimate goal: bringing a national championship to El Paso. He said the key to reaching this goal in the near future depends on his younger athletes finding a way to enhance their potential by building up their skills.

After reviewing the current UTEP roster and its many international stars, one might ask: How does Coach Kitchens get these Olympic-caliber athletes from all over the world? Kitchens explained that the track program's recruiting budget is virtually nonexistent, however, the track office frequently has high phone bills.

"We do a lot of recruiting over the phone," Kitchens said. "We call track federations all over the world and they send us lists of names and phone numbers."

When recruiting, Kitchens looks at each athlete's times, size and grades. He says the fewer academic problems his athletes have, the easier his job is. Currently, the UTEP track program — consisting of about 50 men and women — maintains an average 2.7 GPA.

"Academics are the primary reason they are at this university," Kitchens said. "We tell our kids academics come first, track second, and social life, third. You can run a world record then break your leg and be out of it."

A PROUD FATHER

Personal goals and accomplishments aside, Kitchens said he does feel a sense of pride and happiness for those who have been asked to compete for Olympic positions.

"When young people come in as freshman, some are very good. Some are not. To see them progress as students and athletes is rewarding," Kitchens said. "You feel as if you have invested part of your life in them."

Kitchens said the majority of the credit goes to the dedicated student-athletes.

"When someone makes an Olympic team, you feel like you have had a hand in it," Kitchens said. "It is a justification of what you do as a coach. But there is a lot of talent and hard work involved. The credit belongs to the athletes and their work habits and to God, who gave them the talent. As a coach, I only hope to enhance it."

Kitchens said he will watch the Olympics as if he were watching one of his own children competing. "It becomes a matter of being happy for the individual. It's like having a son or daughter who is able to perform at that high level."

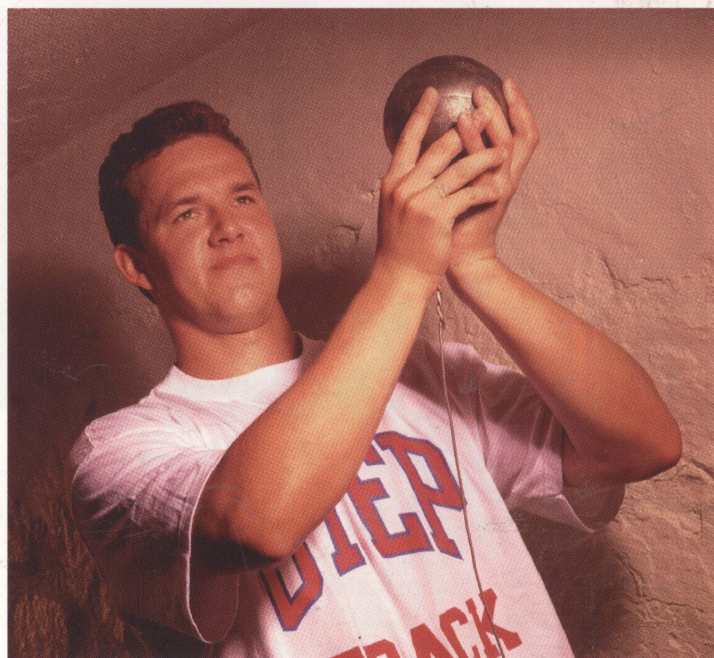
A PRESERVATIONIST

In track and field, Kitchens believes he is in the preservation business. One of the most important aspects of his job is to know when to push athletes and when to let up. He firmly believes that one of the keys to winning the NCAA Championship, or earning a spot on an Olympic team, is simply to remain healthy.

"You have got to be strong, healthy, lucky and good," Kitchens said. "It involves doing the right thing at the right time. The worst thing a coach can do is have someone overworked and hurt. It is better to be a little undertrained but healthy."

Knowing when to drive an athlete for more involves something that cannot be found in any manual.

"The biggest challenge of being a track coach is knowing when to push and when to back off," Kitchens said. "You get a feel for how they look in practice. That is an intangible."



Mikka Laaksonen, 1995 UTEP graduate and hammer thrower



“HE CARES MORE
ABOUT HOW YOU
ARE DOING AS AN
INDIVIDUAL THAN
HOW YOU ARE
DOING ON THE
TRACK.”

— Obadele Thompson,
UTEP junior and sprinter



FROM LAST PLACE TO HALL OF FAME

“The first vivid memory of my career was being in 8th grade and lining up with 50 kids for the 100-yard dash and finishing last,” Kitchens said.

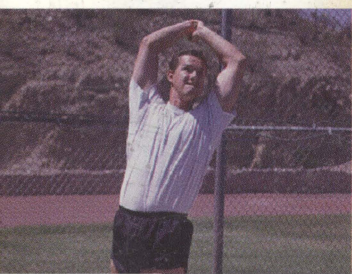
That may have been how his career began, but last-place finishes did not last long. Kitchens would run through sand everyday following his high school practices until he eventually improved his times enough to earn a position on the Texas Tech track team as a freshman. Later, the walk-on received a track scholarship.

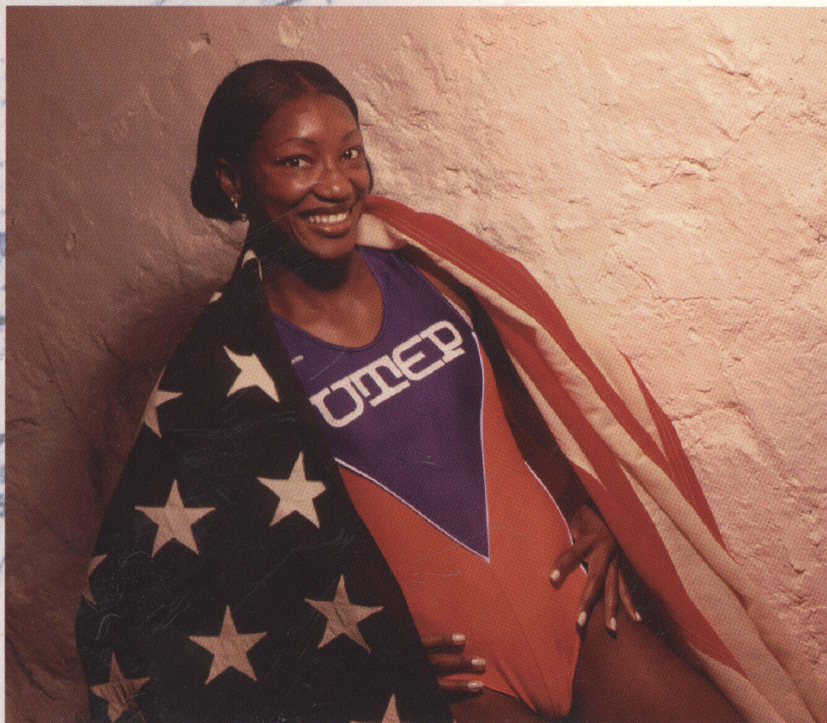
Following his career as an athlete, and after receiving his B.A. in education in 1968, Kitchens was hired as head coach of the West Texas State track program. While there, he completed his M.A. degree in education. In 1979, Kitchens accepted the head coaching position at Mississippi State, where he remained until 1988.

Through it all, the coach has picked up many honors. Among them:

- WAC titles for the 1992 men’s cross country team and the 1989 men’s indoor track team.
- Missouri Valley Coach of the Year, twice.
- WAC Indoor Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1995.

He is slated to be inducted into the Drake Relays Track and Field Hall of Fame later this year.





“SINCE I HAVE BEEN
HERE, I HAVE BEEN ABLE
TO ACCOMPLISH THINGS
ATHLETICALLY THAT I
NEVER THOUGHT I
COULD.”

— Melinda Sargent,
UTEP senior and sprinter

FAST-PACED PHILOSOPHY

As a coach, Kitchens specializes in sprints. He handles the sprinters, hurdlers, and 400-meter runners at UTEP, while two assistants work with the distance runners and other track and field team members.

“My philosophy has changed,” Kitchens said. “When I began my coaching career, I coached all the events — no manager, just me. One of my student-athletes used to call me ‘hot Bob’ because I would get upset when I knew someone could perform better than they were. Now, I am a teacher. I talk to the kids and explain why we are doing things and try to explain that we have their best interests at heart.”

Kitchens credits the late Texas Tech coach Vernon Hilliard as the person who most influenced his coaching career. Kitchens said Hilliard taught him that the individual supersedes the athlete.

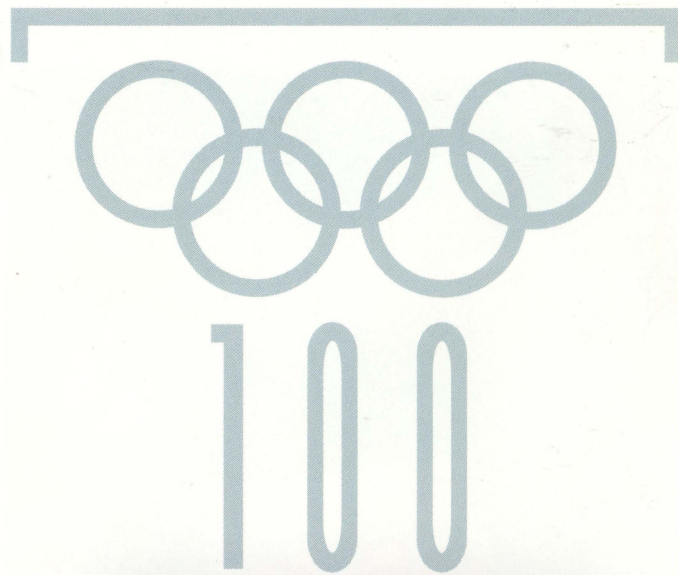
“After I trained under him, he asked me to be a graduate assistant, then he helped me get the job at West Texas State,” Kitchens said. “He also taught me that there are a lot more important things in life than track.”

According to two members of Kitchens’ teams, the UTEP coach has heeded Hilliard’s advice. Both athletes stress Kitchens’ easy-to-approach manner.

“Kitchens is a really good coach,” Obadele Thompson, a sprinter and UTEP junior, said. “He is very understanding and you can talk to him about most things. He cares more about how you are doing as an individual than how you are doing on the track.”

Senior Melinda Sargent, of Houston, said Kitchens has been a father to her while she has been in El Paso.

“He is open to discussion about anything, whether it be track or personal,” Sargent said. “Since I have been here, I have been able to accomplish things athletically that I never thought I could. He also makes you believe in yourself — I look up to him like a father.” ■





SCOUTING REPORT

As current and former UTEP athletes prepared for their respective Olympic trials, Kitchens offered a breakdown of each athlete's potential to make it to Atlanta:

Olapade Adeniken, Nigeria: A 1992 UTEP graduate, Adeniken owns the school records in the 100- and 200-meters. He also set the 100-meter NCAA record and was a silver medalist in the 1992 Olympics. A lock to make the Nigerian team and medal again, Kitchens said.

Paul Benavides, Mexico: Benavides left UTEP before Kitchens' arrival. The coach said if he makes his standard, he should make Mexico's squad.

Arturo Borunda, Mexico: A junior at UTEP, Kitchens feels he could make Mexico's 400-meter relay team.

Jeanette Castro, Mexico: A sophomore at UTEP, Kitchens said she is a "young runner" with a bright future who could make the team running the 800-meter.

Kjell Ove Hauge, Norway: A 1995 UTEP graduate, the shot-putter has a chance to make the Norwegian team, according to Kitchens.

Mikka Laaksonen, Finland: The 1995 graduate of UTEP should qualify as Finland's No. 1 or No. 2 hammer thrower, according to Kitchens.

Marcel Laros, Holland: In the steeplechase, "he has an outside shot," according to Kitchens.

Alex Papadimitriou, Greece: "A hammer thrower with great talent," Kitchens said. He should make the team.

Melinda Sargent, USA: A UTEP senior, "she is a young, talented sprinter," Kitchens said. She could finish in the top three in either the 100- or 200-meters at the Olympic trials, according to the coach.

Hayden Stephen, Trinidad: He has a good chance to make the team as a member of the 4x400-meter relay team, according to Kitchens.

Jim Svenoy, Norway: "In the steeplechase, he has a great chance to make the Olympic finals," according to Kitchens.

Obadele Thompson, Barbados: A UTEP junior, Kitchens said he is "the brightest young sprinter in the world, and he will make the team. He has a good chance to make the Olympic finals in the 100- and 200-meters."

Stella Tsikouna, Greece: A discus thrower with an excellent chance to represent Greece in the Olympics, according to Kitchens.

Andrew Tynes, the Bahamas: "He's the best sprinter and the national record-holder in the Bahamas," Kitchens said. "He will make the Olympic team and has a chance to make the finals in the 200-meter."

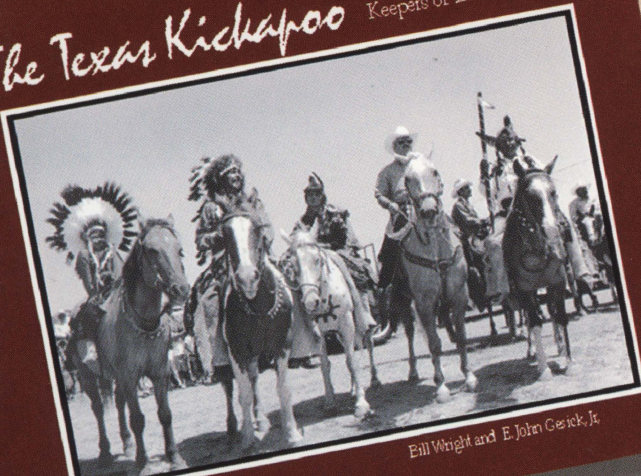
Marko Wahlman, Finland: "He's the No. 1 hammer thrower in Finland and has an excellent chance to be on their Olympic team," Kitchens said.



Photo composite of Olapade Adeniken coming out of the blocks. Elapsed time from start to final position was less than one second.

Native American Studies from Texas Western Press

The Texas Kickapoo Keepers of Tradition



Bill Wright and E. John Gesick, Jr.

Bill Wright continues his photographic study of American Indian tribes in Texas with *The Texas Kickapoo: Keepers of Tradition*, a companion book to *Tiwas: Pueblo Indians of Texas*. Historian John Gesick contributes a historical essay on the tribe's migration from the woodlands of the northeastern United States to the deserts of Texas and Coahuila, Mexico.

The Texas Kickapoo: Keepers of Tradition
Photography by Bill Wright
Text by John Gesick
ISBN 0-87404-237-2, cloth, \$40
August 1996

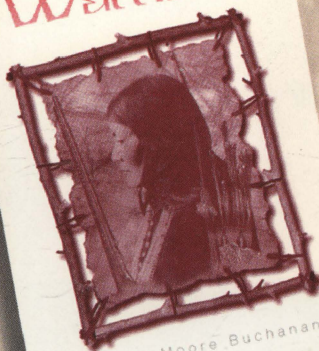
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