

Winter 1997

Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso

News and Publications Office, UTEP

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

Recommended Citation

News and Publications Office, UTEP, "Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso" (1997). *NOVA*. 87.
<http://digitalcommons.utep.edu/nova/87>

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

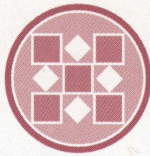
NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

EDUCATION
The Real Thing®

WINTER • 1997





FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear UTEP Alumni:

Things move so fast on the UTEP campus, that we sometimes fail to stop, take stock and celebrate our successes. I know that our *NOVA* readers enjoy celebrating UTEP's achievements with us, and we are always delighted to share our good news with you. Some of you are on the campus and can participate directly in our celebrations; although others are geographically distant, we know and appreciate that you join us in spirit.

1997-98 has been a very exciting year by any measure — and we still have more than half a year to go!

We began this semester with the grand opening of the Undergraduate Learning Center, a splendid combination of the latest in multimedia technology and UTEP's unique Bhutanese architecture. Visitors from all over the world are coming to admire its beauty and functionality, and a large number of UTEP students have already enjoyed the educational benefits of this great new facility. We have just learned that Alvidrez and Associates Inc. Architecture and Interiors of El Paso has received an award for the design of the building from the American Institute of Architects. Well deserved!

In mid-September, I traveled to New York to receive the prestigious Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education. This prize recognizes UTEP's success in increasing educational opportunities for Hispanics. I accepted it on behalf of the many members of the UTEP faculty and staff who have a strong and abiding commitment to the students we serve. I have donated the \$25,000 cash prize to the Legacy Campaign to create a scholarship endowment for students in teacher education.

In late September, a number of us traveled to Springfield, Mass., to participate in Coach Don Haskins' induction into the Basketball Hall of Fame. Several days before, many more of us joined in toasting — and roasting — him in the Special Events Center, which, through an extraordinary approval by the UT System Board of Regents, has been renamed the Don Haskins Center.

Homecoming was highly successful this year, thanks to the outstanding leadership of both the Student and Alumni Associations. Our Distinguished Alumna, Rosa Guerrero, continues to enrich us with her message of love and respect for people of all cultures.

In November, the UTEP football team soundly defeated arch-rival — and nationally ranked — BYU in the Sun Bowl, for a major, and highly satisfying upset. How sweet that was!

The Legacy Campaign, UTEP's first endowment/capital campaign, reached another major milestone this semester with the recent announcement that we have raised \$38 million of our \$50 million goal.

The Coca-Cola Foundation has challenged UTEP alumni to participate in the Legacy Campaign by announcing a \$333,333 matching grant commitment: Coca-Cola will contribute one dollar to the campaign for every two dollars contributed by UTEP alumni. With \$666,667 from UTEP alumni and Coca-Cola's match of \$333,333, we will be able to establish a \$1 million scholarship endowment.

We hope that you will become a participant in our Legacy Campaign. We want to show Coca-Cola that UTEP alumni are eager to respond to the challenge they have placed before us. Your support of the Coca-Cola/UTEP Alumni Scholarship Endowment will enable generations of UTEP students to follow in your footsteps.

Thank you for your support.

— Diana Natalicio, President



VOLUME 34, NO. 2; NO.132

Editor: Kathleen Rogers
 Assistant Editor: Christian Clarke
 Staff Writers: Timi Haggerty,
 Walli Haley and Marianne Johnson
 Production Coordination: Bonnie Elliott
 Art Direction: John Downey
 Graphic Design: Bobby Daniels and
 Phillip Flores
 Photography: David Flores and
 Laura Trejo

Contents © 1997 by the University of
 Texas at El Paso
 NOVA Quarterly (ISSN # 1041-6900)
 is published quarterly by the News and
 Publications Office, UTEP, El Paso, TX
 79968-0522. Second-class postage
 paid at El Paso, TX.
 POSTMASTER: Send changes of address
 to NOVA Quarterly, The University of
 Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX 79968-0522.
 NOVA is sent without obligation to
 alumni and friends of the university.

ON THE COVER

*Photo illustration of the Coca-Cola
 Foundation's commitment to quality
 education at UTEP through an alumni
 challenge grant to support university
 scholarships.*

*The design of the Coca-Cola contour
 bottle, Coca-Cola Polar Bear and "The
 Real Thing" are registered trademarks
 of The Coca-Cola Company. © 1997
 The Coca-Cola Company.
 All rights reserved.*

*Cover design by John Downey
 and Bobby Daniels.
 Photography by David Flores.*

NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y

FEATURES

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| The Coca-Cola Foundation Challenges UTEP Alumni | 2 |
| By Don Keel | |
| Haskins Charges into Hoops Hall of Fame | 14 |
| By Timi Haggerty and Walli Haley | |
| Fall 1997 Convocation Address | 16 |
| As delivered by President Diana Natalicio | |

DEPARTMENTS

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Legacy Ledger | 5 |
| Highlights | 7 |
| AlumNews | 9 |
| Faculty Profile | 13 |

*Above right photo:
 Students participate in a game of musical chairs at a pep rally for UTEP's
 "Under the Big Top" Homecoming. Photography by David Flores.*



THE COCA-COLA FOUNDATION CHALLENGES UTEP ALUMNI

by Don Keel

The quality of education at UTEP received a major endorsement with the announcement of a Coca-Cola Challenge grant to support university scholarships. The grant, totaling \$333,333, will create the Coca-Cola/UTEP Alumni Scholarship Endowment. Alumni who contribute to this endowment through UTEP's Legacy Campaign will have each two dollars of their gifts matched by one dollar from the foundation. Combined, the foundation and alumni gifts will create a million-dollar scholarship endowment.

The Coca-Cola Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Coca-Cola Company, works to strengthen partnerships between universities and public schools, and supports scholarships and other initiatives to create greater

access to higher education.

In addition to the challenge grant, the Coca-Cola Foundation has allocated \$50,000 for scholarships during the next three years while the

endowed fund builds. In fall 1998, six \$2,500 scholarships will be funded, one for each UTEP college. As endowment funds grow, this number will increase to approximately 20.



Commitment to Education at All Levels

The Coca-Cola Foundation has been supporting UTEP since 1992, when it granted \$150,000 to help create the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence. Through the collaborative, UTEP has brought together the El Paso, Ysleta and Socorro independent school districts; the El Paso Community College; city government; and businesses to raise educational standards at all levels.



UTEP President Diana Natalicio presented Michael Bivens, education director of the Coca-Cola Foundation, a limited edition, bronze Miner statue in thanks for the foundation's continued support of UTEP's academic mission.

The foundation's positive experience with UTEP, which proved its commitment to improving education in El Paso at all levels, was a deciding factor leading to the awarding of the challenge grant.

"We have seen the quality and variety of academic programs at UTEP strengthen consistently through the years," said Donald R. Greene, president of the Coca-Cola Foundation. "This is the steady improvement we at the foundation like to see, and it's the kind of progress we endorse with our grants."

In awarding the challenge grant, the Coca-Cola Foundation continues a tradition of more than a century of corporate philanthropy. Greene says that the foundation's support of quality education is one way the Coca-Cola Company fulfills its responsibilities as a corporate citizen.

Michael Bivens, education director of the Coca-Cola Foundation, complimented the university for its

abiding commitment to the region at the Oct. 27 press conference announcing the foundation's challenge.

"We began to support UTEP because of the university's uncommon involvement with K-12 education in the community," Bivens said. "Based on the high return on our earlier investment, we wanted to extend our partnership by making this permanent investment in the successful collaboration between the university and the El Paso community."

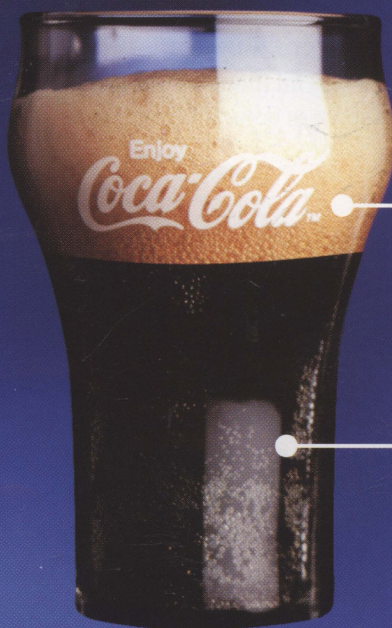
No-Nonsense Education Draws Support

The Coca-Cola Foundation recognizes the non-traditional make-up of UTEP's student body. Many of the university's students commute to school, are of non-traditional age, and many hold down jobs while they pursue higher education.

"We find it most significant that UTEP faculty and students have won an international competition in

Coca-Cola / **UTEP**

Alumni Scholarship Endowment Goal – \$1 million



Coca-Cola
\$333,333

Alumni
\$666,667



Left to right: *John Galindo, business development manager of the Magnolia Coca-Cola Bottling Company; Michael A. Bivins, education director of the Coca-Cola Foundation; UTEP President Diana Natalicio; and Clark McKean, Magnolia Coca-Cola sales manager were in attendance at a press conference to announce the Coca-Cola challenge.*

artificial intelligence against prestigious institutions, that UTEP was the only institution ever to have two teams tie for first place in the Disney Imagineering competition, and that UTEP has a student who made the U.S. National Debate Team," Bivens said. "This shows us that UTEP is providing an education for students who are working hard to earn their degrees, and it shows us that UTEP's faculty is on the right track because their students are going head-to-head with students at universities with international prestige."

UTEP President Diana Natalicio understands the importance of financial support for UTEP students and expressed appreciation for the Coca-Cola Foundation's vote of confidence.

"Scholarships enable our best students to spend more time on their studies and less time worrying about making ends meet," Natalicio said. "For many qualified and eager students, scholarship support makes the difference between going to college or not going to college. It's that simple. Scholarship is the most

important form of support we can receive at UTEP, and it is a great endorsement that the Coca-Cola Foundation, a major national foundation, has chosen to support UTEP in this way. We are most grateful for this support."

Scholarship support at UTEP has risen dramatically during the past decade — from \$3 million annually to more than \$9 million today. Natalicio said this proves that supporting academics at UTEP is a good investment.

Meet the Challenge

The Coca Cola Foundation focused its challenge on alumni because they know best the benefits of receiving a UTEP education.

"Alumni support sends a strong message," Bivens said. "It says, 'We believe in the education we received and will invest in it so that others can have that experience also.'"

During the next three years, alumni will be asked to contribute to the Alumni Fund for Excellence and also to make a special commitment to the Coca-Cola/Alumni Scholarship Endowment through the Legacy Campaign.

"This is an unprecedented opportunity for us to make our voices heard," said Ralph Adame, president of the UTEP Alumni Association. "We can send a message to major corporations and foundations that they should support UTEP and hire UTEP alumni. They get more commitment and better performance from a UTEP alum than from anyone else in the United States. UTEP is a good investment. The Coca-Cola Foundation thinks so, and so do the alumni who went to UTEP."

UTEP alumni are urged to contribute to the Coca-Cola/UTEP Alumni Scholarship Endowment by making a pledge designated for this purpose to the UTEP Legacy Campaign. Pledges can be made on the attached pledge card or by calling 915/747-8533. ■



LEGACY LEDGER

SUPPORTING UTEP THROUGH YOUR WILL

UTEP is committed to offering excellent educational opportunities to this region, but the university's future depends on an endowment that must be large enough to withstand the unpredictable nature of state revenues. Supporters of UTEP know this and are helping to secure its future through generous charitable bequests — designating money to the university or other charitable organizations through their wills.

There are three ways to support UTEP through your will:

Percentage Charitable Bequest:

This allows you to leave a fixed percentage of your estate to UTEP. Many people prefer this option because even if the value of their assets change, the percentage they give stays the same. For example, you may stipulate that 90 percent of your estate goes to your children and grandchildren and that 10 percent goes to UTEP. Whether you have \$200,000 or \$2 million, you can be assured that you are leaving a legacy both to your heirs and the university.

Specific Property or Amount Bequest:

This bequest allows you to designate an actual dollar amount or specify that particular property (such as stocks, a home, rental property, etc.) go to a named heir. If you'd like to include UTEP as a beneficiary using this method, keep in mind that the value of real estate and stocks can fluctuate wildly and inflation can erode a cash gift. It is a good idea to carefully identify the property and its location in your will.

Residuary Bequest:

This type of bequest allows you to provide for family members and friends first and then donate "the rest and residue" of your estate to a charity or non-profit organization. You may leave a family business, real estate and stocks to your children and earmark the remainder of your estate for your favorite charities or non-profit organizations.

Using the residuary bequest also may give your heirs a tax benefit. Under current estate tax law, your heirs may inherit property valued up to \$600,000 tax-free. (That will increase to \$625,000 in 1998.) If your estate is valued at more than \$600,000, you may leave that difference to a charity or non-profit organization, and avoid all estate taxes.

Adding a Codicil:

If you already have a will, but would like to update it to include UTEP, you may use a codicil. A codicil is an amendment to your existing will; it does not replace it. If appropriate, preparing a codicil is easier than redrafting your will entirely.

The UTEP Development Office would consider it a privilege to discuss estate planning with you, your family and your advisors. We can provide information on specific projects and programs that make excellent legacy gifts, as well other estate planning options to help you accomplish your long-range charitable objectives and save on income taxes. For more information, call Steve Meador at 915/747-5533.

LEGACY LEGENDS



VIRGINIA PEELER GREEN

by Judy Jimenez

Virginia Peeler Green was many things to many people. To her family she was a loving mother and doting grandmother, to her friends she was a loyal and trusted confidant, to UTEP students she was a generous and caring benefactor.

Virginia and her husband, J. Leighton Green, believed that an investment in education was an investment in the future. They realized that, by providing opportunities to those who would be the leaders of tomorrow, they would serve others beyond their lifetime. In 1991, Virginia established the Dr. J. Leighton and Virginia Peeler Green Scholarship Fund for nursing and health science students to honor the memory of her husband and his many years of service to others.

Virginia was actively involved with the Green Scholarship recipients and enjoyed receiving correspondence from them to learn more about each and every one.

"Two of her greatest joys in later life were meeting the recipients of the Dr. J. Leighton and Virginia Peeler Green Scholarships and the relationships she had with the faculty and students at the Dr. J. Leighton Green School — a public elementary school named for my father," said the Green's son, Leighton Jr.

Virginia, born in 1905 in Huntsville, Ala., lost both parents at an early age. Grace Walker, a nurse and family friend, stepped in to raise Virginia and her brother, Dan. These early experiences taught Virginia the great importance of family and friends.

Virginia received her precollege education at Havergil School, a private institution in Toronto, Canada, and earned her undergraduate degree at Agnes Scott College

in Atlanta. She received her master's degree from Columbia University. After graduation, she worked in vocational guidance for the public schools in New Orleans. While there, she met J. Leighton, who was a medical student studying at Tulane University. They married in 1930.

The Greens later moved to El Paso, where J. Leighton became a surgical assistant. He eventually went on to pursue postgraduate medical studies in London and Berlin.

When the Greens returned to El Paso, J. Leighton went into private practice. Virginia, a devoted wife and mother to Leighton Jr. and David, served the community and education through active roles with the El Paso County Medical Society Auxiliary, the Junior League of El Paso, and the Austin High and Crockett Elementary School Parent-Teacher Associations.

J. Leighton also was actively involved in the community and education, serving as president and board member of the El Paso Independent School District, the El Paso County Medical Society, the City-County Hospital (now Thomason Hospital), the Downtown Kiwanis, the El Paso-New Mexico Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, and many other organizations.

Virginia passed away on July 18, 1997, but the Green legacy continues as new Green Scholarships are awarded each year to students pursuing degrees in health-related fields. Since 1992, the Green's gift to UTEP has made possible the awarding of 47 undergraduate and graduate scholarships, and those scholarships have produced many success stories.

Scholarship recipient Karen Beaman, a 1995 UTEP graduate, is one of the many Green Scholarship success stories. She is a registered nurse with the Visiting Nurses Association.

"I couldn't have done it without her [Virginia Green]," Beaman said. "I had to work part time and take care of my two children. The scholarship helped with the additional expenses associated with nursing school. What the Greens gave to me was my education, and through their generosity, I have learned that it is important for those who receive to give back."

Recent scholarship recipient Erik Cazares, a prenursing student, echoes those sentiments.

"Receiving this scholarship will provide the funds I need to finish my education," he said. "Virginia Green showed me that after you graduate, you have to give something back. I was impressed by the fact that she read all the letters she received from each and every scholarship recipient. She gave up a lot for students, and I'm very grateful for everything she has done."

Through the success of talented students — known as Green scholars — Virginia and J. Leighton Green's heritage of caring and commitment will continue to live on for many generations.



NSF BIOLOGIST LEADS COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

For Thomas Brady, UTEP's new dean of the College of Science, El Paso is a natural laboratory for studying how a university influences and learns from the community it serves.

"El Paso is a closed community: the university draws more than 80 percent of its students from the region and prepares a large percentage of the teachers who teach in the school districts," he said. "If there is any place in the country where a university is able to work with a community to change education, it is here."

In addition to UTEP's educational and community-outreach programs, Brady said the university's scientific researchers play a valuable role in the region's development.

"The research associated with the College of Science directly addresses issues — pollution, water resources and infectious diseases — that impact the health and economic welfare of the region," he said.

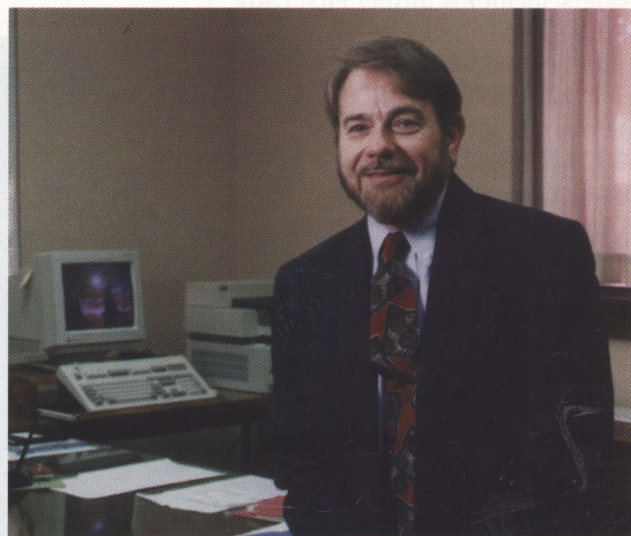
Brady assumes leadership of the college after serving as the director of the Division of Environmental Biology at the National Science Foundation,

where he held biology-related positions for more than seven years. Prior to joining the independent, U.S. government agency responsible for promoting science and engineering programs, Brady held teaching and administrative positions at Hamilton College in New York and at Texas Tech University.

A respected researcher and administrator, Brady brings valuable expertise in environmental biology to the university's newest doctoral programs in biology and environmental science and engineering.

Brady received his B.A. in biology from Beloit College in Wisconsin, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in biology from Yale University. He has held visiting scientist positions at NSF and with internationally recognized laboratories in the Netherlands and Israel.

"Dr. Brady has a broad array of experiences, a distinguished scientific



record, and a genuine dedication to improving science education at all levels," Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Stephen Riter said. "He is committed to making a difference in both undergraduate and precollege science education. His experience and leadership will enable the College of Science to grow, prosper and serve as a model for science programs across the nation."

CHARLES LEAVELL HONORED AS UTEP'S *EL GRAN PASEÑO*

Noted El Paso developer and industrialist Charles Leavell received the *Gran Paseño* award, UTEP's most prestigious honor bestowed upon non-alumni, during the fall assembly of UTEP's Board of Fellows.

Charles and his wife, Shirley, were recognized for their numerous contributions to the university, including creating a permanent endowment to fund an endowed chair in UTEP's College of Nursing and Health Sciences. The



Charles and Shirley Leavell Endowed Chair, will in perpetuity, recruit top-echelon professionals to enhance the university's success in producing highly qualified healthcare professionals.

The Leavells have a long history of supporting UTEP initiatives, beginning with corporate and personal gifts in the 1970s. Charles is a founding member of the UTEP Development Board, serving on the board for 15 years. In 1980, through

the Shirley T. and Charles Leavell Foundation, the couple established a permanent library endowment and Charles has added his own rare books to the UTEP Library's collection.

Through the C.H. Leavell Company, Charles arranged for UTEP to acquire the Stanton Medical Building at a very reasonable price. The Stanton Building now houses the college's cooperative pharmacy program and school of public health.

"In selecting Charles Leavell as this year's recipient, the university recognizes an illustrious citizen of the world, whose long-standing commitment to UTEP and its students has been expressed time and again through generous gifts of time, talent and financial resources," UTEP President Diana Natalicio said.

UTEP PRESIDENT RECEIVES MCGRAW PRIZE IN EDUCATION

At a ceremony held at the New York Public Library, UTEP President Diana Natalicio stood among four of the nation's most respected education leaders, including former First Lady Barbara Bush, to receive a prestigious honor — the 1997 Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education.

This distinguished award, named in honor of the chairman emeritus of McGraw-Hill publishers, is annually bestowed upon educators whose creativity and ideas spark change and who serve as effective models for educating future generations of Americans.

The prize includes a \$25,000 honorarium that Natalicio has asked McGraw-Hill to donate to UTEP for the establishment of an endowed scholarship for teacher education. Natalicio has done a remarkable job in attracting funding to the university and securing more advanced degrees to help UTEP graduates compete in today's

marketplace," Charlotte Frank, vice president for research and development with McGraw-Hill in New York, said. "She has promoted accessibility to a

university education for the citizens of El Paso and made the campus a welcoming and inviting place for students and their families."

The award recognizes Natalicio's commitment to the university and the region, particularly in the area of community service. Among the programs highlighted were the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence, which works to affect change in the public schools; the College of Education's hands-on approach to teacher preparation; and the Institute for Border Community Health Education, which brings primary healthcare services to outlying areas. president also was commended for the university's service-learning programs, such as its water desalinization project through which students are working to improve water quality for residents of El Paso's colonia communities.



UTEP President Diana Natalicio received the 1997 Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in education which honors the nation's most respected educational leaders. Natalicio was welcomed by McGraw, for whom the prize was named, and his wife, Anne, at the award reception held at the New York Public Library.

UTEP FUNDRAISERS RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY

Support for UTEP is among the best in the nation.

For the third consecutive year, UTEP's Development and Alumni Affairs Office has received the prestigious Circle of Excellence Award for exemplary performance for fundraising over a three-year period.

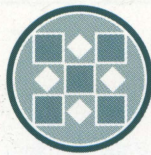
UTEP is one of only four public comprehensive institutions in the nation to receive the 1997 Circle of Excellence in Educational Fund Raising Award for Overall Fund Raising Performance from the Washington, D.C.-based Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

"The award for exemplary performance recognizes a mature and highly effective development operation," Jan Cavin, director of development and alumni relations, said. "At UTEP, credit for this must be given to the faculty members and students who do a great job both in and out of the classroom. In addition, the university's committed volunteers have done a wonderful job communicating these successes to donors, who have been inspired to invest in the university."

Peter de Wetter, chair of the UTEP Legacy Campaign, is a community leader and volunteer who supports the

university because of its important role in the community. For de Wetter, the city's prosperity is inextricably linked to the university, which continues to prosper — with first-rate faculty members and a growing number of master's and doctoral programs.

"Education is the defining factor that will determine El Paso's future, so I see no better place to invest time and energy than in the university," de Wetter said. "With its broad range of academic programs, UTEP offers excellent educational opportunities to students who will contribute to the future of this region."



ALUMNEWS

by Mona Segura

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. By sponsoring and supporting UTEP programs, projects and activities, the association assists the university in its mission to achieve academic excellence. The association brings alumni and friends together throughout the year for events such as pregame parties, Homecoming, Season of Lights and the Top Ten Seniors Banquet.

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.

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The newest addition to Alumni Affairs is Martha Saldaña-Wolf. Martha, previously executive director of Unite El Paso, will be replacing Yolanda Ingle as Alumni Affairs Coordinator. Yolanda is now Assistant Director of Corporate/Foundation Affairs in the Development Office. Martha will concentrate on increasing the active membership of the UTEP Alumni Association and she invites everyone interested in participating to contact her at 915/747-5533.



UNDER THE BIG TOP!

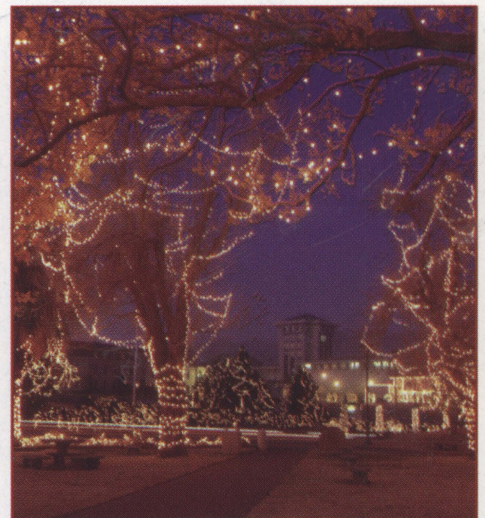
Lions and tigers and bears — and clowns? Oh my! Homecoming was a real circus this year as the UTEP campus traded in the seriousness of everyday academia for the fun of Homecoming's "Under the Big Top." Students, alumni and the university community were treated to popcorn, hot dogs, peanuts, music and trained animal acts — including a dog that danced the

macarena. This year's special treat was a chance to meet Rosa Guerrero, UTEP's 1997 Distinguished Alumna. Rosa — a brilliant teacher, mentor and vital member of the community — is the founder of the Rosa Guerrero International Folklorico. This colorful *grande dame* of dance inspires others to appreciate and celebrate difference.



SEASON OF LIGHTS

Lights twinkled, carolers sang and everyone was filled with the good cheer of the holidays. This year's Season of Lights was illustrated with a Dickens theme. Merry-makers were treated to hot apple cider and hot chocolate as they listened to holiday tunes. Carriages filled with the Alumni Board of Directors and other dignitaries rolled up University Avenue to mark the beginning of the annual lighting ceremony. When all the pomp and circumstance had ended, the university was awash with thousands of tiny, white lights that transformed the campus into a winter wonderland.



DEC...

1997-1998 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 3 - 6** **WINTERWORKS: FESTIVAL OF NEW PLAYS**
8 p.m. - Studio Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.
- 5** **HOLIDAY RECEPTION: OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**
3 p.m. to 5 p.m. - Conquistador Lounge, Union Building East, 747-5664.
- 7** **WINTERWORKS: FESTIVAL OF NEW PLAYS**
2:30 p.m. - Studio Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.

JAN...

- 29 - 31** **"LIFE IS A DREAM" BY PEDRO CALDERON DE LA BARCA**
8 p.m. - William and Marie Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.
- 30 - 31** **"THE FANTASTICKS"**
7 p.m. (Dinner Performances) - Union Dinner Theatre, Union Building West, 747-5481.

FEB... BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- 1 - 8** **"LIFE IS A DREAM" BY PEDRO CALDERON DE LA BARCA**
8 p.m. - William and Marie Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.
- 4 - 15** **"THE FANTASTICKS"**
7 p.m. (Thursday through Saturday Dinner Performances) and
2:30 p.m. (Sunday Matinee Performances) - Union Dinner Theatre, Union Building West, 747-5481.
- 4** **COL. CHARLES DRYDEN TUSKEGEE AIRMAN AND AUTHOR OF "A-TRAIN"**
7 p.m. - African American Studies - Blumberg Auditorium, UTEP Library, 747-8650.
- 4** **DAMEN BECKER: GRADUATE PERCUSSION RECITAL**
7:30 p.m. - Recital Hall, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5606.
- 5** **3RD ANNUAL PAUL DOLBY \$1500 PERCUSSION SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS**
7 p.m. - Recital Hall, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5606.
- 5 - 7** **"LIFE IS A DREAM" BY PEDRO CALDERON DE LA BARCA**
8 p.m. - William and Marie Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.
- 6** **UTEP FLUTE FEST '98 - GUEST ARTIST CONCERT**
7:30 p.m. - Magoffin Auditorium, 747-5606.
- 7** **UTEP FLUTE FEST '98 - CLINICS**
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Recital Hall, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5606.
- 11 - 14** **"COP-OUT" BY JOHN GUARE**
8 p.m. - Studio Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.
- 12** **RUTH WINEGARTEN: "BLACK TEXAS WOMEN: 150 YEARS OF TRIAL & TRIUMPH"**
2 p.m. - African American Studies - Blumberg Auditorium, UTEP Library, 747-8650.
- 15** **"COP-OUT" BY JOHN GUARE**
2:30 p.m. - Studio Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.
- 17** **"JACK AND THE GIANT BEANSTALK"**
by Linda Daugherty & B. Wolf, Dallas Children's Theatre
11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. - William and Marie Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.
- 18** **"JACK AND THE GIANT BEANSTALK"**
by Linda Daugherty & B. Wolf, Dallas Children's Theatre
9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. - William and Marie Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, 747-5118.
- 19** **SPEAKER: MARGARET WASHINGTON**
1 p.m. - African American Studies - Blumberg Auditorium, UTEP Library, 747-8650.
SPEAKER: JOHN AMOS: "HALEY'S COMET"
7 p.m. - Union Programs Office - Blumberg Auditorium, UTEP Library, 747-5481.

CLASSNOTES

By Judy Jimenez

30s▼

Robert Stevenson (B.A. '36) served as chairman of the International Musicological Society meeting in London. He also represented the United States at the fourth Early Latin American Music Congress meeting in Venezuela.

40s▼

Nancy Hamilton (B.A. '49; M.A. '54) was honored as the 1997 Member of the Year by the Rio Grande chapter of the Public Relations Society of America for her many contributions to the public relations profession.

50s▼

Dr. Felipe de Ortego y Gasca (B.A. '59; M.A. '66) has received the Distinguished Faculty Award from the Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education.

60s▼

Col. Timothy Dilliplane (B.A. '69) is working on an archeological dig in Sitka, Alaska.

Richard Godfrey (B.B.A. '68) retired in August after 29 years as a federal criminal investigator with the Office of Labor Racketeering. He has relocated to Graham, Texas, where he plans to open his own investigations business and start a small ranch.

70s▼

Hector Almeida (B.B.A. '73) has been elected senior vice president and commercial loan officer for Bank CNB.

Jack Bonham (B.A. '71; M.Ed. '75) is the New Mexico Athletic Director of the Year.

Katherine Brennand (M.B.A. '79) is a member of the 1997 El Paso Women's Hall of Fame.

Mary Ewing (M.Ed. '78) is president of the Sun City chapter of the American Business Women's Association.

Richard Fleager (B.B.A. '72; M.B.A. '76) is head of West Texas operations for Southern Union Gas.

Rosa Guerrero (M.Ed. '77) is UTEP's 1997 Distinguished Alumna.

Robert Ortega (B.S.Ed. '77) is the principal of Andress High School. He was the principal at Socorro Middle School for three years.

Rick Parr (B.S.Ed. '75; M.Ed. '77) has been promoted from general manager to president of the El Paso Diablos.

Jim Paul (B.S.Ed. '71), former El Paso Diablos president, is athletic director at New Mexico State University.

Rene Pena (B.B.A. '78) is officer of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants Executive Committee.

Gaylor Reaves (B.S.C.E. '71) is the 1997 Small Business Leader of the Year.

J. James Rohack (B.S. '76) was named Physician Volunteer of the Year by the American Heart Association, Texas Affiliate, Inc.

Josefina Tinajero (B.S.Ed. '73; M.Ed. '76) is president of the board of directors for the National Association of Bilingual Education.

80s▼

Deborah Alvarez (B.B.A. '89) is the accounting manager at the John D. Williams Insurance Company.

Alejandro Gonzalez (B.B.A. '81) is the consultant lawyer to the Mexican government for El Paso's consulate general.

Jean Holtom (B.B.A. '88) is coordinator of Psychiatric Services for Omni Home Health Services Inc. in Wallingford, Conn.

Karl Kraft (B.S.Met. '86) is manager of the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center Nondestructive Inspection Program. He also became one of three people in the world to obtain ASNT Professional Level III certification for the magnetic particle inspection method.

Leticia Macias (B.S.Ed. '89) is a pre-kindergarten bilingual teacher at Hueco Elementary School and the 1996-97 Teacher of the Year.

Thomas Michael (B.B.A. '80) has been promoted to Project Real Estate Manager for the Southern California Region of General Motors Corporation.

Hannah Monsimer (M.A. '84) retired from the Las Cruces Public Schools after 25 years of service.

Elizabeth Pilar (B.M. '88) is a professional ballerina with the Nevada Dance Theater at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. Pilar was the outstanding female performer for Viva El Paso in 1984 - 85.

Dennis Vasquez (B.S. '83) is the superintendent of White Sands National Monument.

90s▼

Irene Alonso (B.I.S. '97) is a teacher at Loma Terrace Elementary School in the Ysleta Independent School District.

Maribel Tapia Calderon (B.F.A. '95) exhibited her paintings in the Los Paisanos Gallery at the Chamizal National Memorial.

Alma Cantu (B.A. '94) is media director of the Mithoff-Lopez Hispanic Communications division of Mithoff Advertising Inc.

Susan Eisen (NG) is a member of the International Executive Council of the Gemological Institute of America.

Jason Gillespie (B.S. '93) received a doctor of dental surgery degree from the Baylor College of Dentistry. He is now in the graduate program for restorative dentistry.

Samuel Gomez (B.A. '96) is a policeman with the El Paso Independent School District.

Eileene Grozier (B.S.W. '92) is a Mary Kay beauty consultant and aficionado of theatrical productions.

Mariam Haddad (B.M. '97) performed at a vocal recital at the Chamizal National Memorial. Haddad was the Young Artist of the Year for the 1995 - 96 El Paso Pro-Musica season.

Elizabeth Janice Hernandez (B.I.S. '96) is a bilingual teacher at Eastwood Knolls Elementary School.

John Hobbs (B.B.A. '93) is the new money-market manager for Bank CNB at Furr's Supermarket.

James Jancu (B.A. '95) is assistant director of international development for Golden Key and has relocated to Australia.

Johanes Makahaube (M.S. '93) is an engineer-in-training at the El Paso office of Raba-Kistner Consultants Inc.

Michael Mason (B.B.A. '95) has been selected for the Producer Trainee Program of the John D. Williams Insurance Company.

Isabelle Oaxaca (B.S.Ed. '90) is the assistant principal at Roberts Elementary School in the El Paso Independent School District.

Carlos Saucedo (B.S.C.E. '96) has joined Raba-Kistner Consultants Inc. in El Paso as an engineering technician.

Noemi Tovar (B.B.A. '95) has been selected for the Producer Trainee Program of the John D. Williams Insurance Company.

OBITUARIES

LaNelle Nardin (NG) Jan. 28, 1997. Nardin, a resident of El Paso since 1951, was preceded in death by her husband, Col. John G. Nardin. She is survived by her daughters Patricia and Jenny; grandchildren, Linda, Walter, Gregory, Clare, Michelle and Matt; brother, James; friend, Bob; and great-grandchildren, Charlie, Meg and Logan.

Rosemary Paul (B.A.'42) Feb. 10, 1997. Paul was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a retired schoolteacher from the El Paso Independent School District. She was an alumna of Zeta Tau Alpha and a former UTEP Golddigger. Paul was named in Who's Who of American Colleges, and was honored as Teacher of the Year while at Beall Elementary School. She is survived by her sons James, Thomas and William; daughter, Karen; and grandchildren, Robert, Taylor, Walker and Zach.

Amparo Gamboa (B.S.Ed.'69) Feb. 16, 1997. Gamboa was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a third-grade schoolteacher at Aoy Elementary School in the El Paso Independent School District. She worked in education for 27 years. Gamboa was preceded in death by her husband, Miguel, and her mother, Sofia Ontiveros. She is survived by her sons, Miguel, Thomas and David; grandson, Miguel; father, Bruno; brothers, Jose and Jesús; and sisters, Trini, Bertha and Maria.

Walter Foreman (B.S.Ed.'93) Feb. 18, 1997. Foreman was a resident of Dell City, Texas, where he farmed for 35 years. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rite. He is survived by his wife, Kathy; daughter, Dana; sisters, Judy and Jeanice; and mother and father-in-law, Jimmie and Yuba.

Barbara Rhett (B.M.'68; M.Ed.'83) June 13, 1997. Rhett is survived by her daughter, Barbara.

Mary Porcher (B.A.'52) July 4, 1997. Porcher is survived by her daughter, Megan.

James Johnson (B.S.'63) July 13, 1997. Johnson lived in El Paso for 22 years and was a retired sergeant first class and truck driver. Johnson is survived by his wife, Billie; sons, Alonzo, Kenneth and James Jr.; and daughters, Carolyn, Tita and Terry.

Watson Noles (NG) July 21, 1997. Noles was a longtime resident of El Paso and a poet. He is survived by his mother, Alice;

and sisters, Kathryn, Elizabeth, Ellen and Lenore.

Kevin Payne (B.A.'97) Aug. 6, 1997. Payne served in the U.S. Air Force and worked as a missionary in Mexico and Peru. He was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges & Universities in 1996. Payne is survived by his mother, Sara; father, Graham; brother, Kenneth; grandparents, Marcus and Marie.

Donald Ray Surratt (NG) Aug. 9, 1997. Surratt was a resident of Lago Vista, Texas. He also was a prominent New Mexico rancher. He was president of the El Paso Federal Land Bank, the Clint Lions Club and the East El Paso Optimist Club. He was a member of the Corona and the San Elizario school boards. Surratt is survived by his wife of 47 years, Suzanne; mother, Lillie; brother, Bobby; daughters, Lynda and Leanne; and sons, Rick and Rusty.

Milton Acuff, Jr. (B.B.A.'78) Aug. 10, 1997. Acuff was a retired major from the U.S. Army and a member of the American Legion, where he served for 24 years. He was the past Sergeant-At-Arms of the Department of Texas, the past commander of Post 25 and member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Acuff, a Vietnam Veteran, was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal, the U.S. Air Medal, the Bronze Star Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal. He was preceded in death by his parents, Col. and Mrs. M. L. Acuff Sr. He is survived by his daughters, Cynthia and Liza; sons, Keith and Lorenzo; and sisters, Ann and Catherine.

John Mitchell (B.B.A.'47) Aug. 12, 1997. Mitchell was a lifelong resident of El Paso who was retired from Southern Union Gas Company. He is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Robert and William; and daughter, Cathy.

Harlow Paul III (M.S.'82) Sept. 5, 1997. Paul was a resident of Wisconsin and was employed at W. L. Gore Manufacturing. He was a member of the American Lung Association Running Club and competed in the Boston, New York, Twin Cities and Grandmas Marathons. Paul is survived by his wife, Holly; children, Josalyn and Jeffrey; parents, Harlow and Ruth; sisters, Janice and Robbie; and brother, Douglas.

Robert Dirmeyer (B.B.A.'54) Sept. 7, 1997. Dirmeyer was a resident of Virginia and a 30-year Army veteran. He played in

the North-South football game for Texas Western College and received the top ten senior, Men of Mines and Who's Who awards. He is survived by his children, Robert, James, Rebecca, Sharon and Richard; granddaughter, Amy; and brothers, Donald and Norris.

Janice Jimerson (B.A.'84) Sept. 7, 1997. Jimerson was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a graphic designer with Sure Print Company. She was an avid artist and writer. She was preceded in death by her father, Grady. She is survived by her mother, Willie; brothers, Michael, Grady, Anthony, Roderick and Joseph; sister, Jo; and godfather, Marshall.

Rex Radcliffe (B.S.'50) Sept. 10, 1997. Radcliffe was a resident of Dallas and a retired sales executive for Halliburton. He was a U.S. Navy veteran and a member of the Dallas Petroleum Club, Dallas Athletic Country Club, Society of Independent Petroleum Scientists and the Society of Petroleum Engineers. Radcliffe was preceded in death by his parents, A. E. and Corinne. He is survived by his wife, Polly; daughters, Rebecca, Beverly and Amy; sister, Nancy; grandchildren, Meredith, Blake, Madeline and William.

Mildred Skov (B.A.'54; M.A.'68) Sept. 13, 1997. Skov was a librarian for the Gadsen Independent School District and had worked for the Alliance, the Ysleta Independent School District, Ft. Bliss, Texas Western College and the El Paso Public Library. Skov was preceded in death by her father, William. She is survived by her mother, Edith; sisters, Mary and Marlene; brother, William; daughter, Sharon; and grandchildren, Danielle, Aaron and William.

Jesus Bonilla (B.A.'73) Sept. 14, 1997. Bonilla was a lifelong resident of El Paso. He retired from the Texas Youth Commission as the regional director. He also was a criminal justice instructor at El Paso Community College. While working with the Ysleta Independent School District, he was often referred to as "Grandpa" or "Bear" by the students. Bonilla was preceded in death by his mother, Emma, and his brother, Felix. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Velia; son, Christopher; daughters, Judith and Patricia; father, Pedro; brothers, Fernando and Edward; and sister, Josie.



FACULTY PROFILE

When Patricia Castiglia was 16 and ready to graduate from high school, she had her heart set on attending Katherine Gibbs, the famous New York City secretarial school. Her mother had other plans.

"She said I should be a nurse," said Castiglia with a modest smile.

Her mother was right, and that early insight into Castiglia's career potential proved prophetic.

Since becoming dean of UTEP's College of Nursing and Health Sciences in 1989, Castiglia has implemented a multi-million-dollar training program for disadvantaged students and initiated the Kellogg Community Partnership program, which manages school-based healthcare clinics in Socorro, Fabens, Montana Vista and San Elizario.

Her workload also includes overseeing UTEP's Student Health Center, writing articles for publication and hosting those who come to see the work being done by the Kellogg program. She supports the Socorro Independent School District Superintendent's Business Advisory Council and the El Paso City/County Immunization Action Program Partnership. Castiglia also has volunteered her services as a pediatric nurse practitioner for the El Paso City/County Health Department.

Castiglia's career success is marked by her vision and, most importantly, by her willingness to take risks. Castiglia's plan to create school-based community healthcare clinics had never been done in



PATRICIA CASTIGLIA TAKING HEALTHCARE EDUCATION IN A NEW DIRECTION

by Walli Haley

El Paso, yet it has proved hugely successful, providing much needed healthcare to El Paso's poorest communities while giving UTEP nursing students hands-on healthcare delivery experience.

Castiglia is a force for rapid change in the healthcare field and the vital expansion of UTEP's College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Her success in enhancing the college lies in her ability to foster the cooperation of professionals and practitioners from many different fields. These collaborations have resulted in multimillion dollar funding for the college and, most importantly, in the number and quality of graduates who go on to contribute to the community —

locally, nationally and internationally.

"UTEP has a major role in the future of El Paso's healthcare," Castiglia said. "I think that's well demonstrated by the quality and scope of the programs we offer and by the fact that UTEP prepares a majority of El Paso's healthcare providers."

In recognition of her accomplishments, Castiglia has been named the first recipient of the Charles H. and Shirley T. Leavell Endowed Chair in Nursing and

Health Sciences. The chair was established with a \$656,000 gift from Charles Leavell, chairman of the board of the Leavell Company. As a university professorship, the Leavell chair belongs to a special category of endowed positions established as UTEP's highest professional distinction.

For Castiglia, this recognition follows on the heels of another honor: in May, she was named "Nurse of the Year" by the District I Texas Nurses Association.

"All of us applaud this well-deserved recognition of Dr. Castiglia's many professional accomplishments and her abiding commitment to this university," UTEP President Diana Natalicio said. "Her visionary approach to health professions education, based in community settings, has greatly enhanced the academic aspirations and achievements of her students and brought much-needed primary healthcare to some of the poorest *colonia* communities on the U.S.-Mexico border."

HASKINS CHARGES INTO HOOPS HALL OF FAME

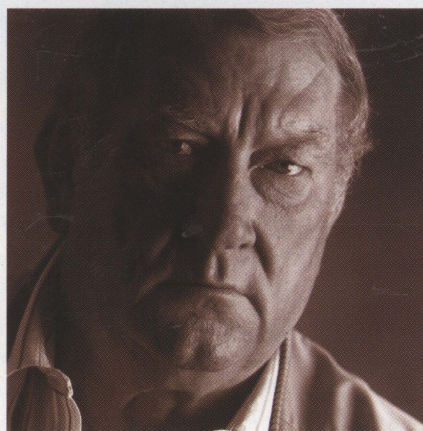
Affectionately known as “The Bear,” UTEP Basketball Coach Don Haskins is idolized as a sports icon and admired for focusing the spotlight on his players, his school and his town — but never himself.

In September, all eyes were on Haskins as the unassuming coach was enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame — basketball’s highest honor. Haskins joins the ranks of basketball luminaries Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Julius “Dr. J.” Erving, as well as his mentor, Henry Iba, and protégé, Nate Archibald.

Haskins’ record — which includes a national championship, 14 NCAA Tournament appearances and 691 victories — had already earned him national recognition. He is one of the winningest coaches in college basketball and has twice been honored as WAC Coach of the Year.

However, it is the 1966 NCAA championship-game win over Kentucky that will forever hold his place in history. Haskins started an all-black Texas Western College (now UTEP) team to upset the all-white team coached by Adolph Rupp, accelerating the integration of college basketball and forever revolutionizing the game.

Haskins said he wasn’t trying to make history; he merely was starting his five best players.



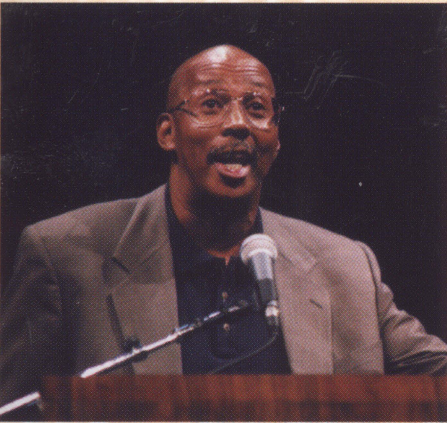
Although he downplays his role in this history-making decision, his impact on basketball, its players and coaches is unquestionable.

UTEP celebrated its coach of 36 years by renaming the university’s Special Events Center — where so many UTEP teams were cheered on to victory — the Don Haskins Center. In a rare departure from UT Sys-

tem Board of Regents rules, the 20-year-old arena is the first building that honors a current system employee.

The announcement was cheered by community members at a “roast and toast,” where an all-star cast of former assistants and players, colleagues, and longtime friends paid tribute to the coach. Those on hand to salute Haskins included Arkansas Coach Nolan Richardson, who played for Haskins from 1961 to 1963; NBA All-star and former UTEP player Tim Hardaway; Utah Coach Rick Majerus; and Gold-medal Olympian and former Boston Celtic Jim “Bad News” Barnes.

El Paso’s salute to Haskins also included the unveiling of a giant commemorative portrait by artist Phil Behymer at the Adair Margo Gallery. Proceeds from the gallery’s sale of numbered, first-edition posters, signed by Haskins, will fund a UTEP scholarship in the coach’s name.



Nevil Shed, member of the 1966 championship team and former UTEP assistant coach: "Coach Haskins called me a 'big girl.' 'You ought to have a skirt on,' he said. He got the job done. I got mad."



Arkansas Coach Nolan Richardson, who played for Haskins from 1961 to 1963: "The thing he instilled in me is a thing that so many have lost so long ago — discipline. What can I say about a man that I love?"



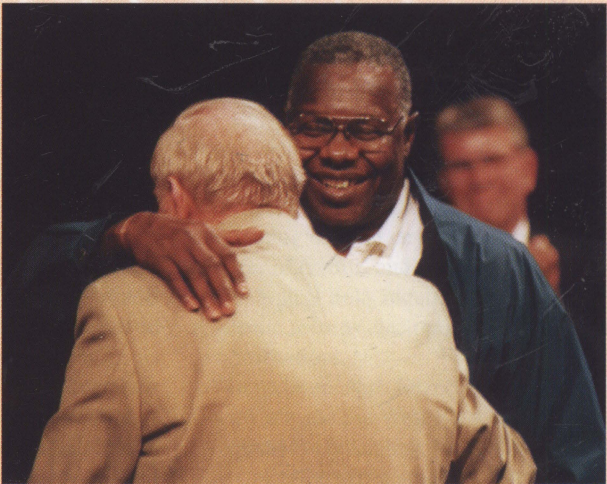
In a rare departure from UT System Board of Regents rules, the Don Haskins Center is the first to honor a current employee of a system university.



NBA All-star and former UTEP player Tim Hardaway: "I wouldn't miss this for the world."



UTEP President Diana Natalicio honored Haskins at a fundraising dinner prior to the Don Haskins Roast and Toast.



Jim "Bad News" Barnes, who played for Haskins from 1963 to 1964: "Coach Haskins changed my game. And because he changed my game, I won a gold medal on the Olympic team and a world championship with the Boston Celtics."

The University of Texas at El Paso Convocation Address Fall 1997



*As delivered by
President Diana Natalicio*

At the beginning of this academic year, we celebrated the grand opening of a splendid new facility, UTEP's Undergraduate Learning Center. Begun in 1993 with the appropriation of \$15 million by the 73rd Texas Legislature as part of the South Texas/Border Initiatives, this facility serves as a strong symbol of UTEP's fundamental commitment to meet the present and future educational needs of undergraduate students. This grand new facility is a tribute to them and their educational dreams.

The Undergraduate Learning Center is a building of contrasts. Modern materials have been employed to convey the traditional Bhutanese architecture of this building, and multimedia technology will support our traditional values and commitment to serve the residents of this region with the best possible opportunities to pursue their educational aspirations.

Early on, we recognized that this building would surely be beautiful, but we also knew that to make it fully functional, faculty members would have to be engaged in preparing courses designed to capitalize on the state-of-the-art learning technology that is available here. Course development in most cases also involved professional development of faculty. My thanks and appreciation to the faculty members who were willing to invest their time and talents on this new venture.

A very special feature of this building is a stunning silk tapestry which was made by a group of Bhutanese monks at the request of Lt. Col. Kado, Aide to their Majesties The Queens of Bhutan. He also happens to be the father of a UTEP electrical engineering student, Sonam Topgay. A year or so ago, Col. Kado telephoned me from Bhutan to talk about his son's academic progress, and asked whether there was anything that he could do for UTEP. This magnificent tapestry is the result of that

conversation across 12 time zones. Eight Bhutanese monks worked five months to produce this masterpiece, and Col. Kado personally delivered it to El Paso last spring. No RFP (request for proposals), no bids, no contract, not even a proper handshake — just good old-fashioned trust.

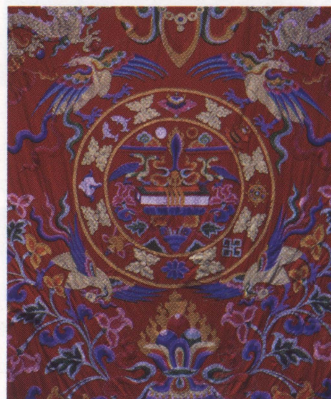


There are undoubtedly those who may be wondering why, at a time when UTEP has been working so hard to establish new doctoral programs, we would focus our attention and capital funding priorities on a facility dedicated to undergraduate teaching and learning. The fact is that undergraduate education is and always has been the focus of most activity on this campus. Eighty-five percent of our 15,000 students are undergraduates, and three-fourths of the organized classes we offer each semester are at the undergraduate level. In terms of effort alone, UTEP faculty and staff spend most of their time, talent and energy on creating opportunities for residents of this region to gain their first university degree.

Who are these students? This fall, 15,166 students enrolled at UTEP, approximately the same as a year ago. The good news is that freshman and new transfer student enrollments have increased, signaling that more El Pasoans are pursuing higher education at a time when they will increasingly need at least a bachelor's degree to gain the kind of employment that will enable them to lead productive and satisfying lives. Eighty-four

percent of our students are from El Paso County, another 8 percent come from Mexico, most commuting daily from Ciudad Juárez. Fifty-four percent are women, and 66 percent are Hispanic. More than half are the first in their families to attend college.

UTEP's Hispanic student population has brought considerable



attention to the campus. Widely reported U.S. Department of Education statistics reveal that UTEP ranks second among all U.S. colleges and universities in the number of Hispanic graduates. In specific disciplines, UTEP ranks second in the nation in Hispanic graduates in business, engineering, and the physical sciences, and first in the health sciences.

This national media attention has undoubtedly contributed to a rapid rise in the number of recruiters who come to the UTEP campus to interview our graduates, a 20 percent increase this past year alone. Workforce diversity continues to be a high priority for most employers, and UTEP is becoming well-known to recruiters as a rich source of highly talented and academically well-prepared graduates.

UTEP students have excelled in major national contests this year as well. Two UTEP teams tied for first place among more than 200 original entries in the Disney Imagineering competition. These six students — representing UTEP programs in business, engineering, computer science, art, and psychology — created original designs for Disney attractions which were judged best among all other entries. This is the first time that two teams from the same university tied for first place! Since our students' designs are now the property of Disney, we may one day find ourselves riding — with our grandchildren, of course! — through attractions inspired by these talented UTEP students.

A team of UTEP computer science students won first prize in a major national robotics competition at the International Association for Artificial Intelligence conference in Providence, R. I. this summer. UTEP's robot "Diablo" defeated robots developed by teams from universities such as Swarthmore, Dartmouth and Georgia Tech in performing a complex task — for a robot at least — of vacuuming confetti from a two-room apartment filled with a variety of obstacles. I guess you could say that we swept away the competition!

Individual UTEP students also excelled during the past year, bringing honor to the university. Richard Pineda, a graduate student in communication, was selected after rigorous competition, as a member of the United States National Debate Team. Together with his fellow team members from Bates, Rice, and Emory universities, Pineda represented the United States in debates across the United Kingdom and Japan.



At UTEP, there are two major factors in student success: the talents and motivation that students bring to the university, and the quality of the academic programs that we offer to them. Judging from our students' success in national competitions and in the job market, I think it is safe to say that UTEP enrolls a large number of talented and highly motivated students. Unlike students in more affluent university settings, our students successfully juggle jobs and family obligations, volunteer for community service, and compete for national prizes, while making steady progress toward their degrees. UTEP's responsibility is to ensure the quality of their degree programs through the recruitment and



retention of outstanding faculty, the availability of first-rate facilities and equipment, and an attitude on the part of all faculty and staff that each of us plays a critical role in student success.



UTEP received strong external validation of the quality of our academic programs during the past year. After a comprehensive self-study and review process, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools re-affirmed UTEP's ten-year accreditation, and issued special commendations for a number of programs. All programs in engineering were re-accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, programs in the College of

Business Administration by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business, and computer science programs by the Computer Science Accreditation Commission. Although these accreditation review processes require considerable time and effort on the part of many faculty and staff members, it is important — and extremely satisfying — to measure UTEP against national benchmarks.

Major strides were made during the past year in achieving UTEP's goal of offering additional doctoral programs to residents of this region. The first Ph.D. degrees were awarded in psychology and materials science and engineering, and the first student cohort was enrolled in the doctoral program in educational leadership and administration. Approval was granted to inaugurate a new Ph.D. degree in biology and the first students are enrolled in that program this fall.

In the health sciences, programs in physical and occupational therapy were officially transferred to UTEP from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, and a new cooperative pharmacy program was established in cooperation with UT Austin.

At the undergraduate level, one of the most significant achievements of the past year has been the strengthening of ties between UTEP and the El Paso Community College. As tuition and fee costs at the two institutions diverge, more and more students are likely to begin their undergraduate degree programs at the community college, a pattern which is increasingly prevalent across Texas.

As a result, UTEP has worked to develop a smoother pathway from EPCC to UTEP for those students who are ready and able to

progress toward a bachelor's degree. Those efforts include reinforcing UTEP's advising presence on the community college campuses, eliminating unnecessary impediments to the transfer of credits, and completing the technological links required to transmit academic records electronically between the two institutions.

In addition, with financial support from Coca-Cola and SunWest Bank, UTEP has established scholarships for El Paso Community College transfer students. The first ten of these scholarship recipients were selected from a pool of 89 applicants. The large number of applicants and the quality of their academic records strongly reinforce our resolve to seek support for additional

scholarships in the future.

Major strides also were made during the past year to re-direct our attention from teaching to student learning, from inputs to student outcomes. Thanks to the leadership of Provost Steve Riter and the deans, and with the help of the National Science Foundation-supported Model Institution for Excellence program, many UTEP faculty have participated in professional development seminars and workshops on such topics as active and cooperative learning and outcomes assessment. Faculty teams are working together, not only to prepare new courses for the multimedia environment of the Undergraduate Learning Center, but also to develop innovative strategies to integrate curricula and to foster a coherent learning experience for UTEP's non-traditional student population.

One of the university's major challenges — and indeed an ongoing challenge — is integrating programs in Academic Affairs with those in Student Affairs. For far too long, at UTEP and most other universities, there has been a disconnect between what is thought to be students' basic academic work and student development activities, which are often viewed as "extra-curricular."

In today's university context — especially in metropolitan settings where non-traditional students are the norm — it is the responsibility of all faculty and staff members, whatever their organizational locus, to create an institutional environment that is supportive of student success. To do that requires open communication and careful coordination across all units that directly — and even indirectly — serve students.

Scholarships and financial aid are a major factor in many students' decisions to attend UTEP. In addition to the new El Paso Community College transfer scholarships, UTEP awarded more than \$29 million in financial aid and more than \$3 million in merit-based scholarships. Thanks to the good work of the financial aid office in efficiently processing financial aid applications and the generosity of scholarship donors, both of these totals represent new UTEP records.



New students at UTEP, whether freshmen or transfers from other institutions, deserve our best efforts to get them off to a good start. Thanks to the commitment of Gary Edens and a dedicated group of student leaders, UTEP's new student orientation programs have improved greatly, partly because they respond to students' feedback, and partly because they are conducted in close coordination with the colleges.

Many other units within Student Affairs have instituted program changes or innovations designed to serve students more effectively. The Tutoring and Learning Center and the Disabled Students Services Office have worked to provide adaptive technology that enhances educational opportunities for students with disabilities. Efforts to make UTEP's physical environment more accessible to disabled students have continued, and each new and renovated facility is designed with these goals in mind.

years, while the cost of operating and maintaining two half-occupied facilities rose considerably. Moreover, the apparent excess capacity in the apartment market has resulted in aggressive competition for customers with offers of attractive incentives. To reduce overhead costs, a decision was made to consolidate all residents in Kelly Hall and to close Barry Hall until there is an increased demand for campus residential living or an alternative use for this facility is identified.

Construction is well underway to convert the Commons Cafeteria into an attractive restaurant and conference center. The location of this facility, adjacent to the Undergraduate Learning Center and across from the Library, makes it a convenient meeting place for the entire campus community.

Campus recreational and athletic facilities took a major leap forward this year with the opening of the swimming and fitness center, a shimmering diamond in the desert terrain of Charlie Davis Park. The near-by soccer field was leveled and sodded, a new scoreboard was installed and the parking lot was paved — improvements important to UTEP's new women's soccer program. A sparkling new track surface was installed at Kidd Field, and new turf has greatly enhanced the appearance of the Sun Bowl, as well as the safety and comfort of the football squad.



In all areas of Student Affairs, and indeed elsewhere on the UTEP campus, an effort is underway to make the university more user-friendly. Richard Padilla, vice president for student affairs, and Frank Hoy, dean of the College of Business Administration, are leading a "customer service" initiative which is charged with examining current policies and procedures to determine how they can better serve our students' needs. Like many large organizations, we must continue to focus on our primary constituents — students — and work to ensure that their needs are met and their opportunities



Two major decisions were made during the past year which affect campus life: consolidating the residence hall population and renovating the Commons Cafeteria. The number of students living on campus has remained relatively stable for the past several

maximized.

I wish that all of us on the UTEP campus could share the pride and satisfaction in contributing to students' success that I heard recently from Efrain Lopez, an electrician in Facilities Services. The setting was an ESL

literacy development class for Facilities Services personnel, and Mr. Lopez read an essay he had written about his responsibility for ensuring that all clocks on the campus run, run on time, and run on the same time. He pointed out that students, faculty and staff depend on his doing his job well, and he particularly focused on his role in helping students get to class on time. He's quite right, of course, about the importance of his contribution to the university's primary mission of serving students. And he is right to remind us that it really does take all of us working together as a team to achieve our full institutional potential. We all can be very proud of Mr. Lopez and all other members of the UTEP community who care deeply about our students.

The Facilities Services team, under Juan Ontiveros' able leadership, continues to make us proud of this campus, its beautiful buildings and grounds. Numerous facilities were renovated this past year, including the sleek new Academic Center for Engineering and Science in the Classroom Building, space for the Development Office and the Pharmacy and Public Health programs in the Stanton Building, and space for student organizations in the Union. The exteriors of a number of older campus buildings including Miners, Worrell, Hudspeth, Cotton Memorial and Magoffin Auditorium were given a much-needed face-lift. \$2.1 million in modifications were made to UTEP facilities to comply with ADA mandates. In addition, a major upgrade was made in the Facilities Energy Management system that will provide better climate control and optimize energy consumption. And, all of this was accomplished with one of the best worker's compensation records within the UT System.

We also can be very proud of more than 40 Facilities Services employees who obtained their GED diplomas during the past year, and the many others who, with Efrain Lopez, participated in ESL literacy development classes directed by Sandra Hurley in the College of Education.

The technology that we celebrate in the Undergraduate Learning Center reflects but a small portion of the activity that has been underway to automate, upgrade and enhance operations across the UTEP campus. Whether it is technology in support of teaching and learning, or networking to improve campus communication, or training staff in technology applications, staff members in Information Technology Services, Customer Technology Services, and Networking and Telecommunications Services have been working closely with every UTEP department to help us do what we do more

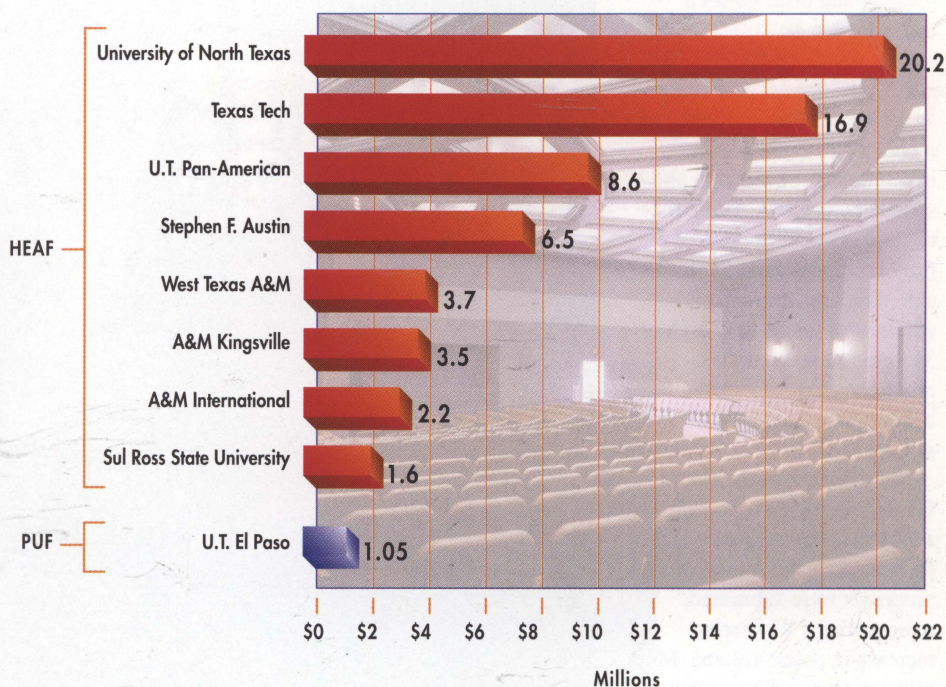
efficiently and cost-effectively. It is important to recognize the good work of Mike Kolitsky, Kati Gerdau, Hermann Masser, Kwan Law, Guillermo Casas and the Multimedia Teaching & Learning Center students, and Don Roberts and Steve Rosenfeld of Networking and Telecommunications Services, who made special contributions to the design and installation of the technology that energizes this exciting new facility.



The Texas Legislature's spring session meant an increased workload for Juan Sandoval, Cindy Villa, and others in Financial Services. Whether providing "fiscal note"

tive session was generally positive for UTEP and other public universities in the state. Although higher education was not funded at the requested level, we were very pleased that provision was made for \$100 per month salary increases for all university staff members, which, when combined with reduced HMO costs, represents a significant net gain for our employees. A change in the funding formula provided sufficient funds for an average 2.5 percent increase to meritorious faculty members as well. Although we were unsuccessful in securing for UTEP and other PUF (Permanent University Fund) institutions the capital funding parity we sought with HEAF

Comparison of Selected HEAF Allocations* and UTEP PUF Support — FY 1997



* Annual allocation for next 10 yrs.

estimates for an endless stream of legislative initiatives, or "running the numbers" on the latest appropriations bill draft, this team never failed to provide the support to plan and respond effectively to ever-changing contingencies. All this activity while simultaneously preparing this year's annual budget and streamlining a variety of procedures and practices. There were entire weeks when it seemed like no one in that shop ever went home. Despite a downturn in enrollment and related declines in local revenues, they even managed to help us strengthen the university's fiscal position during the past year.

The outcome of the recent Texas Legisla-

(Higher Education Assistance Fund) institutions, we did receive tuition revenue bonding capacity that will enable us to continue the renovation of facilities and purchase equipment and library materials.



1996-97 was a bittersweet year in Intercollegiate Athletics. In addition to major facilities improvements at the Sun Bowl, Kidd Field, and the soccer field, the good news was that UTEP student athletes in Track and Field achieved national rankings: our men's track program was ranked second in the nation, and our women's track program 24th. We are especially proud of UTEP

sprinter Obadele Thompson who set a world record in the indoor 55- meters this year and who ran elbow-to-elbow with the fastest runners on earth recently in the World Track and Field Championships in Athens, Greece. Even more impressive is Oba's success in the classroom: despite a rigorous training and travel schedule, this accounting major has maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.89.

Perhaps the best athletics news was the long-awaited election of Coach Don Haskins to the Basketball Hall of Fame. A number of us accompanied "The Bear" to Springfield, Mass., to celebrate his induction. As a warm-up, many more of his El Paso fans and friends joined him, his family and his former players and assistants in the Special Events Center to toast — and roast — his long and distinguished coaching career.

 During the past year UTEP has continued to record a steady increase in expenditures for research and sponsored projects. The Office of Research and Sponsored Projects, under Julie Sanford's able direction, currently administers an all-time high of 343 grants and contracts, representing a combined total commitment of more than \$99 million to UTEP.

With an eye to the future, faculty have been especially active in submitting proposals for new projects. A total of 363 proposals were submitted, representing a 97 percent increase in dollar volume. Most of those are pending, and we look forward to many exciting new initiatives in the coming years. At a time when state funding continues to be both lean and uncertain, this robust activity and success in seeking external funds is extremely important to UTEP's future.

Among interesting new research grant awards is support from the Federal Highway Administration to establish a NAFTA Intermodal Transportation Institute which involves Manny Pacillas in IM³ and Frank Hoy in the College of Business Administration. There also is a Department of Defense-funded thin film deposition and characterization laboratory for research in electroluminescent displays led by Greg Lush and Vijay Singh in electrical engineering and Jon

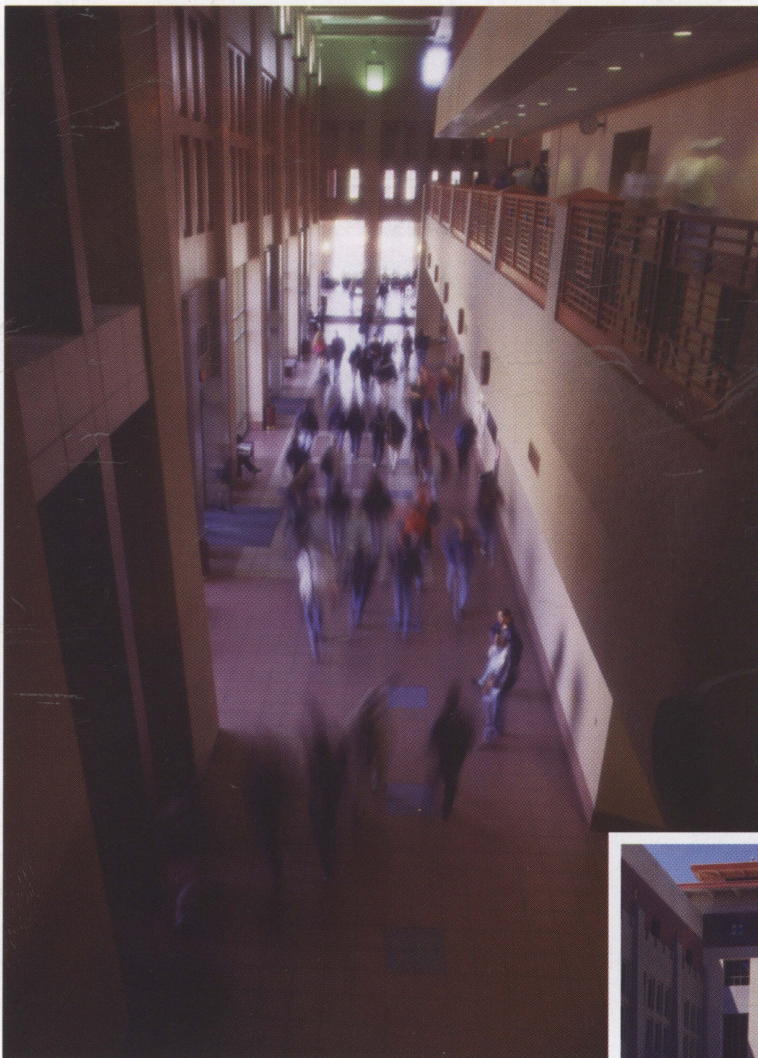
McClure in metallurgical and materials engineering. The Army Research Office has provided support for Bill MacKay's work on the impact of wheeled vehicle maneuvering in desert soils, and Larry Murr's work on the characterization of thick copper and aluminum targets.

Terry McLendon in biology, supported by the U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, is working to refine a computer simulation model to determine ecological responses to various environmental stressors. The Environmental Protection Agency has awarded UTEP \$2.5 million to


community projects, including considerable work on developing strategies to bring potable water and sewerage services to El Paso's Lower Valley colonia residents. Together with the health promotion and education efforts undertaken through the four health clinics that UTEP's College of Nursing and Health Sciences and Texas Tech operate in El Paso County, these environmental initiatives are creating a strong presence and a significant impact on the public health of this community.

An interesting new community outreach initiative is UTEP's leadership role in developing the Rio Bosque Wetlands Park in partnership with the City of El Paso, the International Boundary and Water Commission, and Ducks Unlimited. When fully developed, this park, located along the Rio Grande in Socorro, will use treated effluent from the Bustamante Water Treatment Plant to create lakes for migratory birds, much like those in the Bosque del Apache. In addition to providing birds with a greatly needed water supply during their winter flight along the mostly dry Rio Grande, this park will serve as an educational and recreational facility for the residents of this region.

The El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence continues its good work in fostering academic achievement among all children in this community. Working with our partners in




coordinate efforts of the Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy in partnership with San Diego State, Arizona State, New Mexico State, the University of Utah, and several Mexican universities and technological institutes.

 UTEP's environmental programs have a strong outreach component as well. Faculty, staff and students dedicate their professional expertise and time to a variety of



the school districts, UTEP has been able to phase in new admission requirements that parallel more demanding high-school graduation requirements. Although much of the credit for increased TAAS test scores must obviously be given to the teachers, principals,

counselors, and administrators in the school districts, UTEP has a stake in these accomplishments through our contributions to the Collaborative and enhanced teacher preparation programs in the College of Education.

 Just as UTEP has extended its expertise and energies to this community, we have received enormous support from it. Academic and athletic programs have benefited greatly from the generous gifts that members of this community have designated for them, and scholarship funds grow each year as El Pasoans invest in our students and this region's future leaders. Major facilities improvements have been made possible by donors who stepped up to help when and where there was a need.


1996-97 was a very special year in fundraising as we launched UTEP's Legacy Campaign, the first-ever endowment/capital fundraising campaign in this institution's history. Recognizing that UTEP's endowment of \$25 million was increasingly inadequate in the context of uncertainties in state funding, the Development Office and a dedicated group of community volunteers worked tirelessly for the past three years to analyze the university's needs and our capacity to meet them through an aggressive and well-organized fundraising campaign. The success of their efforts was celebrated at a grand dinner in May when we

announced publicly that we intended to raise \$50 million by Aug. 31, 2000, and that \$30 million of that goal had already been committed.

I am extremely pleased that we have raised another \$5 million, and our campaign total now stands at \$35 million. What an extraordinary achievement! One that many people on this campus and in this community were convinced was impossible. It certainly would not have been possible without the outstanding work that Jan Cavin has done in planning and organizing this effort and the dedication of Peter DeWetter and the many volunteers who have enabled El Paso to prove something very important to itself — that if we work together and really believe in something, we can accomplish almost anything.

Much work remains to be done between now and Aug. 31, 2000 to achieve the goals we have set for the Legacy Campaign. We will continue to work with our community volunteers to gain additional local support from individuals and businesses. We will seek the support of national foundations and corporations. The UTEP Family Campaign, begun last spring, has resumed this fall and we are hopeful that a large percentage of those closest to UTEP — our faculty and staff — will respond generously to our request that they be a part of building the university's

foundation for the future. Additionally, a special alumni challenge has been initiated, enabling those who have benefited from the educational opportunities created for them at UTEP to reciprocate by creating opportunities for others who follow in their footsteps.

 For more than 80 years, this university has served the residents of this region. For more than 80 years, students have come to this campus with dreams and aspirations that we and our predecessors have helped them achieve. As we celebrate the grand opening of the glorious Undergraduate Learning Center, we also celebrate the deep foundation of traditions and values which have contributed to this university's special identity. Whether it is our distinctive Bhutanese architecture, so splendidly rendered in this fine new facility, our many outstanding graduates who have honored us and continue to honor us each day with their achievements, or our fast-growing national reputation, we recognize that all that we accomplish today rests on the solid foundation built by those who have come before us. And, just as new technology and traditional Bhutanese architecture rest comfortably together in the Undergraduate Learning Center, so too do our traditional values, our soaring achievements and our future aspirations. ■



FORTHCOMING FROM
TEXAS WESTERN PRESS

Home Country:

An Elroy Bode Reader

by Elroy Bode

ISBN 0-87404-244-5, cloth, \$30

This anthology spans Bode's 30-year writing career, drawing from some of his popular early works and unpublished pieces.

The book traces the author's experiences, from growing up in the Hill Country of Central Texas to teaching at a high school on the border.

San Elizario: Spanish Presidio to Texas County

by Rick Hendricks

and W.H. Timmons

ISBN 0-87404-242-9, cloth, \$35

This is the first documented history of San Elizario, a small town outside of El Paso, Texas. This book traces the town's colorful history through the Spanish, Mexican and American periods to 1900.

Frontier Cavalryman:

Lieutenant John Bigelow

with the Buffalo Soldiers

by Marcos E. Kinevan

ISBN 0-874004-243-7, cloth, \$35

Kinevan provides an informative, lively narrative of frontier army life in a black regiment from the chronicles of John Bigelow, a young cavalry lieutenant in Texas. Using these writings and other sources, the author paints a vivid picture of the challenges that confronted officers and soldiers in the nation's relentless drive westward.

Warm up your winter evenings with a good book.

To order, call toll-free 800/488-3789.

Visit our web site at www.utep.edu/~twpress

Nova Quarterly readers receive a 20% discount on all books.

NOVA

Q U A R T E R L Y

The University of Texas at El Paso
El Paso, Texas, 79968-0522