

Summer 2000

Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso

The University of Texas at El Paso University Communications

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SUMMER 2000

NOVA

QUARTERLY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

A marble statue of Lady Justice, blindfolded and holding a scale of justice, set against a background of a map of El Paso County. The statue is positioned in the lower half of the frame, with its head tilted slightly to the right. The map in the background shows various towns and geographical features, including El Paso, El Paso County, and the Rio Grande. The overall color scheme is a deep purple and blue, with the statue appearing in a lighter, almost white, tone.

SUMMER 2000

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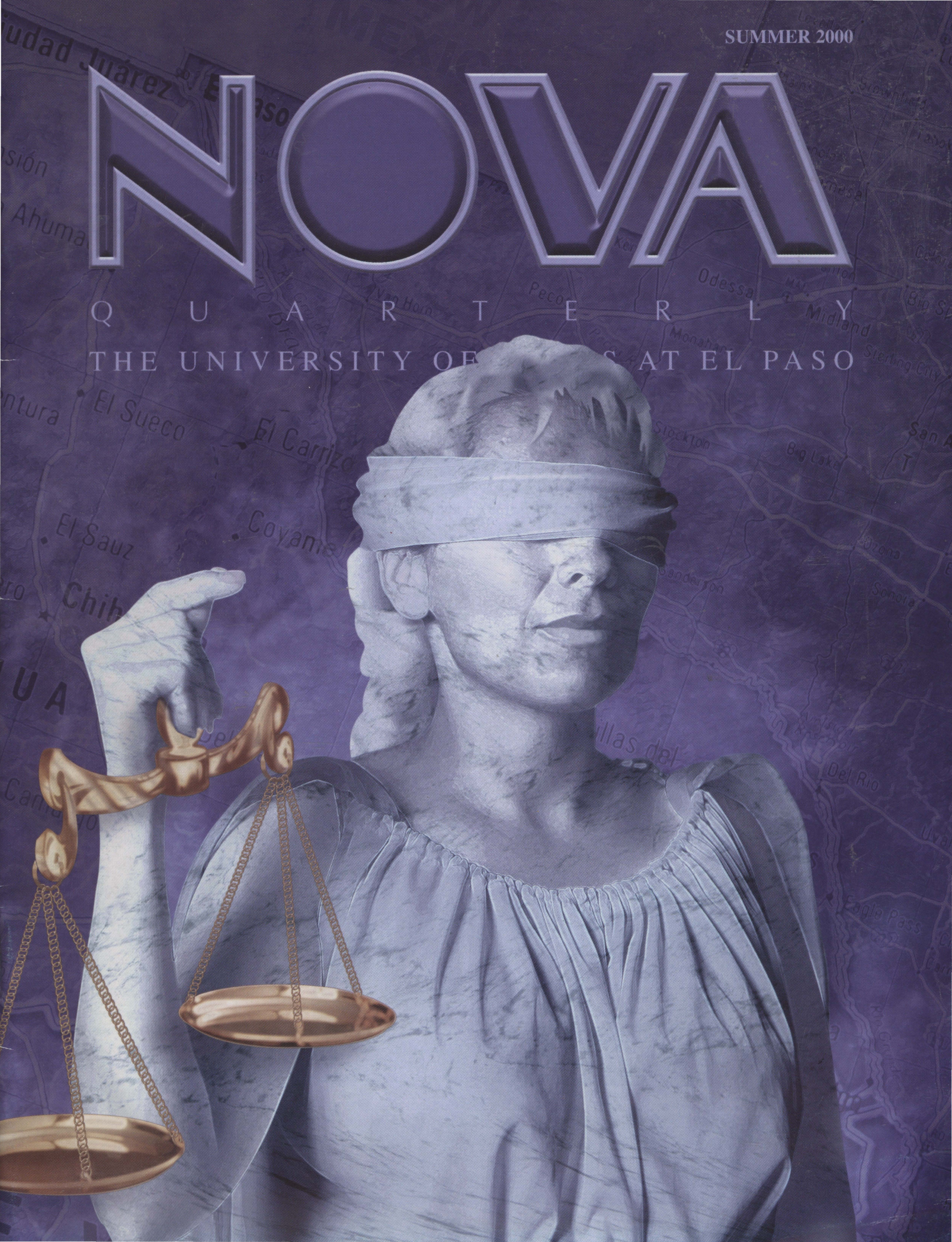
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A new message,
“Success Begins at
UTEP,” has begun
to appear on
billboards and
television channels
and in newspapers
throughout the
El Paso area.

This public awareness campaign was motivated by the El Paso Education Summit, held on the UTEP campus in February. Some 350 summit participants — El Pasoans from all walks of life — agreed upon three primary recommendations, one of which was to initiate a regional campaign that identifies education as one of this community’s highest priorities. As a part of that effort, UTEP developed the “Success Begins at UTEP” campaign to underscore the importance of education for our region’s young people — and to communicate UTEP’s commitment to serve as a source of high-quality educational opportunities for them.

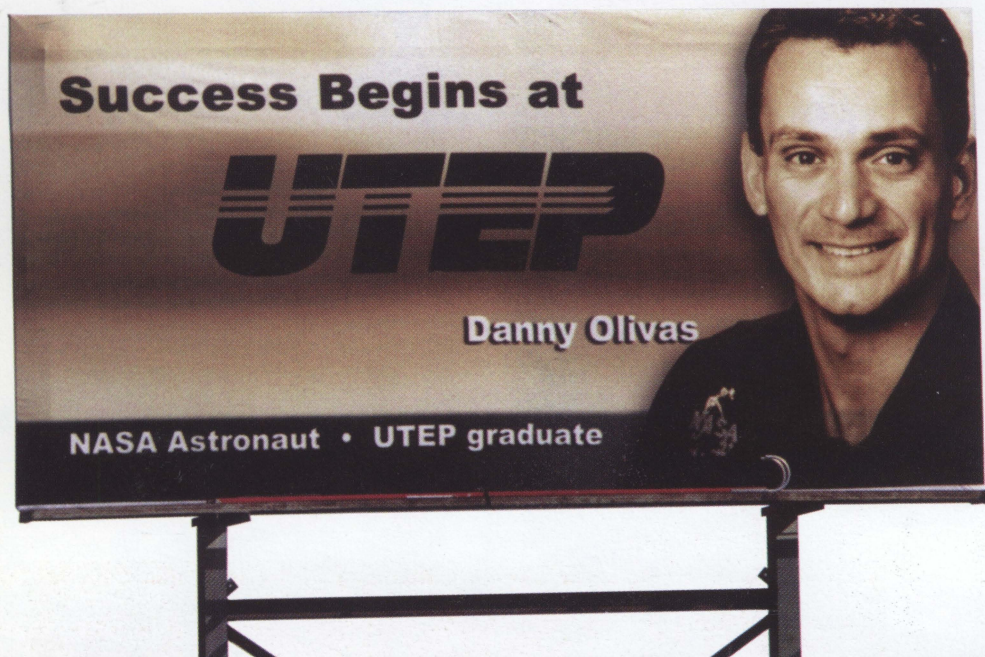
Because we firmly believe that the success of this and any university is best measured by the quality of our product — our graduates — we quickly decided that the best way to convey the campaign message was to focus on successful UTEP alumni. With so many success stories among our more than 69,000 graduates, we did not have to look far to find great examples. In fact, our biggest challenge was to select, from the many wonderful stories, a small group of alumni who could be featured in a single campaign. I trust that all UTEP alumni who see our campaign will feel the same pride that we do in the accomplishments of the graduates representing them.

UTEP’s public awareness campaign is our effort to remind all of us in this region that our future rests on developing the full potential of all our young people through education. It is about setting high expectations for all children and ensuring that they have access to quality educational programs that enable them to meet those high expectations. It’s also about believing in ourselves and in El Paso’s human potential. The UTEP alumni featured in this campaign convincingly communicate the tremendous depth and diversity of the talent pool in this community.

Success began at UTEP for a large number of alumni whose lives have been

more productive and satisfying because UTEP was here for them, offering accessible, affordable and quality higher education opportunities. With the “Success Begins at UTEP” campaign, we enthusiastically applaud the many outstanding accomplishments of our alumni, and we encourage young people throughout this community to follow in your footsteps.

— Diana Natalicio



NOVA

QUARTERLY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

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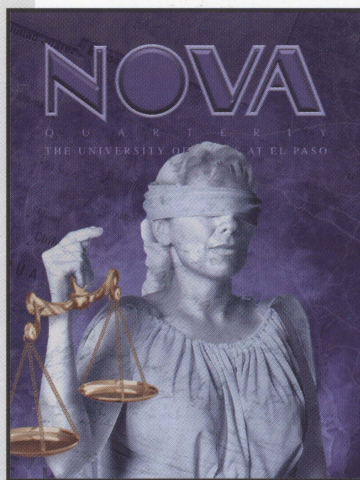
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Lady Justice may be blind, but UTEP has the vision to respond to the needs of the region's legal professionals and university students preparing for law school. Through its new Center for Law and Border Studies, UTEP is focusing research and educational outreach efforts on legal and social issues unique to the borderlands while increasing diversity in the nation's law schools.

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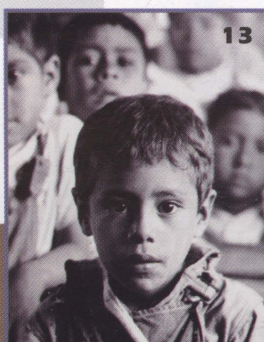
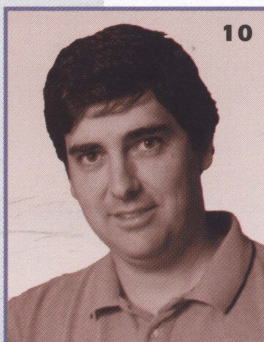
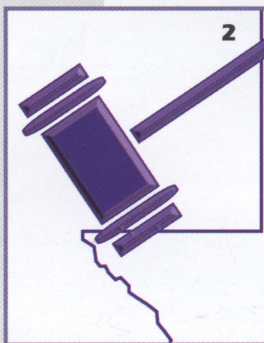
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Law & Border

‘The good of the people is the chief law.’

by Cindie M. Powell

— Cicero

More than 70 criminal and family law attorneys from El Paso, Juárez and Las Cruces — and from as far away as Austin and Houston — listen intently to an explanation of U.S. immigration law, information they need to protect their clients’ rights.

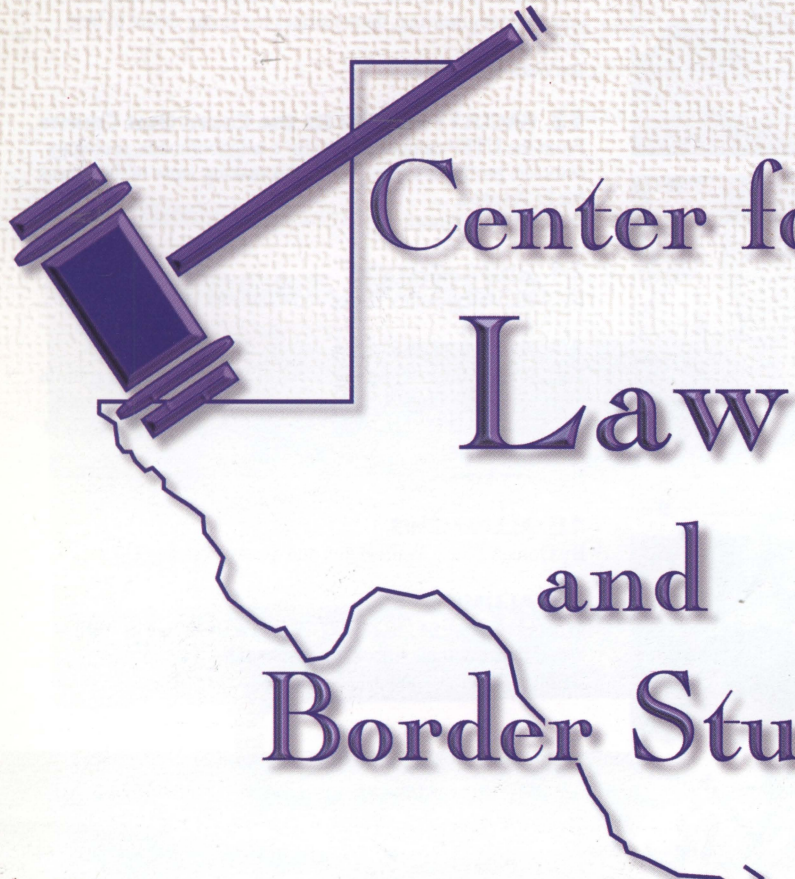
Meanwhile, Jackie Ramos, a first-generation college student who graduated from UTEP in May, prepares to leave for Harvard Law School this fall.

Both are among the achievements of UTEP’s new Center for Law and Border Studies, which combines education, outreach and research to assist the region’s legal community, study issues that are unique to the borderlands, and provide educational opportunities that help area students successfully apply to and complete law school.

“This center adds an important new dimension to the educational opportunities and experiences offered to our students and to this community,” says UTEP President Diana Natalicio.

Opened this spring with funding from the Texas Legislature, the center includes a model undergraduate pre-law program, the Law School Preparation Institute, that already has helped dozens of UTEP students apply successfully to some of the top law schools in the nation.

“The institute is designed to help our students reach the highest point possible and is shaping the way the country’s most prestigious law schools view UTEP students,” says Robert Webking, a political science professor who is the director of the center and co-director of the institute.



Center for Law and Border Studies

LAW SCHOOL PREPARATION INSTITUTE IS OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

by Walli Haley



Jerry McLain, a senior political science student, reviews court cases at the university's legal research computer lab.

While the institute is open to all students, its high percentage of Hispanic participants is helping to address the underrepresentation of minorities in the legal profession, a gap that was widened by the landmark *Hopwood v. Texas* decision in 1996. In reviewing the reverse discrimination case, the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit, upheld a lower court's ruling that admissions decisions based on race or ethnicity are unconstitutional, thus changing admissions policies at universities in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Judge Carolyn King, chief justice of the Fifth Circuit court, addressed university students and administrators, elected officials and attorneys from both sides of the border at the inauguration of the Center for Law and Border Studies in April.

"In creating this center, UTEP has been remarkably responsive to the unique needs of this community," she said. "I particularly applaud the decision of the Texas Legislature to fund this center. In doing so, they have made a significant contribution to the future of El Paso and to the future of the region by making a critically important investment in its people. Spending money to provide enhanced educational opportunities for the citizens of this area is government at its best."

State Rep. Norma Chavez, who sponsored the appropriations rider in the Texas Legislature that provided \$1 million in funding for the center, also spoke at the inaugural, urging the attorneys present to continue to support the center by establishing a permanent endowment.

"I'm hoping that the region's law firms

Some of the nation's top law schools are knocking on UTEP students' doors, thanks to the efforts of the university's Law School Preparation Institute, an innovative program that is giving UTEP students a competitive edge when applying to law school.

In the 10 years before the program was created, only seven UTEP students a year, on average, were admitted to the nation's top 50 law schools. But in this, the second year of the institute, that number has shot up to 20.

"So far this year, 11 of our students have been admitted to the law school at the University of Texas at Austin alone," says Robert Webking, who co-directs the institute with fellow political science professor William Weaver. "Having this many of our students admitted to the nation's 15th-ranked law school is a record for UTEP."

Begun as a pilot program in 1998 in response to the *Hopwood v. Texas* decision — a federal court ruling that prevents universities in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi from making admissions decisions based on race or ethnicity — and incorporated into the new Center for Law and Border Studies this year, the Law School Preparation Institute was successful from the start. All of the program's first 10 graduating seniors were accepted to law schools last year, and of the 27 graduating students who completed the program this year, 24 already have been admitted to one or more schools around the country, including UT Austin, Harvard, the University of Chicago, Cornell and Northwestern.

The UT Austin School of Law played a significant role in establishing the institute, and its law professors continue to act as guest lecturers for the institute's summer classes.

"Those of us at the law school who assisted in its birth are convinced that the institute is the most creative innovation we know of nationally to overcome the impact of the *Hopwood* decision and continue to diversify the legal profession," says Michael Sharlott, dean of the UT Austin School of Law. He describes the creation of the institute — a team effort led by UTEP President Diana Natalicio, Assistant to the President Richard Adauro, Webking and Weaver — as "a wonderful achievement."

The institute's daylong classes are a major commitment for students, but they say the time they spend further developing their analytical thinking skills and preparing for the LSAT — and their first year of law school — is well worth it.

"It's been a great experience, and it's all paid off in the end," says Lara Hajar, a 2000 Top 10 Senior who is on her way to the UT Austin School of Law this fall. "Without the institute, I wouldn't know what to expect in law school. It really broke down those barriers."

One of the first 10 graduates of the institute, Danny Ramirez, is now a UT Austin law student serving a summer clerkship with U.S. District Judge David Briones. He says the rigorous training provided by the institute helped him learn to maintain the pace typical of a top-drawer law school.

"We read Socrates and Shakespeare — carefully, thoroughly and analytically, but quickly," he recalls. "Those continuous exercises kept us on our toes and prepared us for the study of tort law and the argument of cases. The training primed us for the demands of law school. My fellow students at UT Austin say they wish they had the same advantage I gained at UTEP."

understand that we have an excellent opportunity to build legal education for our current 'legal eagles' here in El Paso," Chavez said.

UTEP's newest center is providing a vital service to the region's law professionals by sponsoring Continuing Legal Education programs and conferences to update them on new laws and topics of special relevance.

Webking says the center's first Continuing Legal Education program in late May earned high praise from the attorneys who attended. The daylong program was designed to help criminal and family law attorneys understand the intricacies of immigration law and consider how their legal strategy in representing their clients may affect those clients' immigration status.

Future programs will focus on the unique legal questions posed by the U.S.-Mexico border, including a planned course on doing business in Mexico. The center also is organizing regional and national conferences, including two that will focus on cross-border government relations and NAFTA's impact on the border.

"In sponsoring these conferences and Continuing Legal Education programs, UTEP empowers the people of this area to avail themselves of the opportunities of the region in general and of NAFTA in particular," Judge King says.

"For residents of the Southwest border area, maximizing the opportunities presented by NAFTA has to begin with a good working understanding of United States and Mexican law," she says. "The Center for Law and Border Studies is uniquely positioned to help the lawyers and business men and women in El Paso and the surrounding area acquire that understanding."

The Center for Law and Border Studies is continuing to build strong ties to the local legal community, a partnership that led to the university's one-of-a-kind "Courts In Action" course. The center hosted a pilot court case for the class on the UTEP campus in April as part of the center's inauguration. The course is set to begin this fall on a permanent basis.

The center also is developing a journal that will take advantage of UTEP's geographical location, emphasizing the border and international and immigration law. The *Journal of Law and Border Studies*, which will be published early next year, is an expansion of the typical law journal, including not only legal scholarship but also the research findings of political scientists and sociologists.

"UTEP will be the only undergraduate university to have this kind of publication, but it'll be a more multidisciplinary journal than you would find at a law school," says Frank Lopez, the center's program coordinator and manager.

The center is meeting another of the urgent needs of the region's attorneys and judges — the need for interns and law clerks. By providing an opportunity for pre-law students at UTEP to serve as research interns during the school year, it is giving its students a valuable learning experience while serving the needs of the legal community. During the summer, the center also hosts law school students — seven this year — who work as clerks for area judges, law firms and community organizations.

The UTEP student interns receive their training in the center's legal research computer laboratory, which features LEXIS-NEXIS and Matthew Bender Authority-on-Demand software. The lab is open to UTEP students and faculty working on approved projects and, on a trial basis, to local attorneys working on public interest and *pro bono* projects.

Webking says the center smoothly integrates its separate missions through these hard-working student interns.

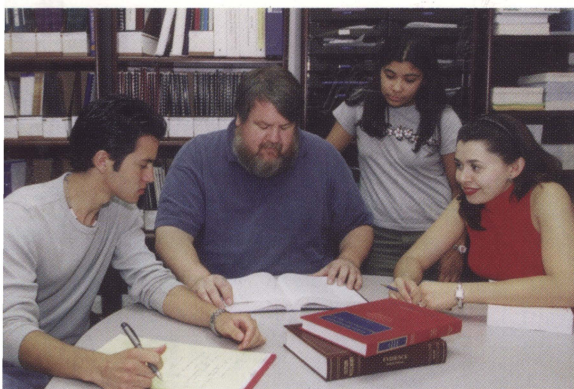
"What pulls it all together is to have students enter the Law School Preparation Institute in the summer before their junior year and develop the skills to work effectively in the center's legal research computer lab and with the resources in the library," he says. "We could then assign the students to an



Robert Webking



Judge Carolyn King



Law School Preparation Institute Co-Director William Veaver (second from left) leads pre-law students Chris Marquez, Bernadette Segura and Karla Hernandez through series of tort cases.

internship with a public interest attorney or judge who would work closely with them to develop those skills more fully.

"Then, in the summer before the students' senior year, the institute helps further develop their skills and apply them to the LSAT — and to the reality of what you do when you open the door in law school.

"The result provides the law schools with students who have the ability and specific skills that will make them someone they really want, because the students will succeed. That unites the center's educational mission, its outreach mission and its research mission in one, benefiting the students, the university and the legal community." ■



Frank Lopez

SPECIAL COURSE HAS TRIAL RUN

by Sonny Lopez

The exchange between the attorney and his client is repetitive but compelling.

"Please raise your hands and show the jury the difference between your two hands," the attorney says. His client raises her hands and points to several areas.

"My hand trembles. I have a trigger finger, and my pinky shrank and I can't move it," she says quietly in the hushed courtroom.

"And these injuries are directly due to your fall, is that correct?"

"Yes, they are," she says, lowering her arms.

The attorney looks at the jury and reminds them that the injuries are the result of an on-the-job accident.

The questioning continues, but in the midst of all this legal maneuvering, a group of UTEP students stir in their seats, furiously taking notes.

The civil trial was held not at the courthouse building but in UTEP's Geological Sciences Reading Room, which was transformed into an on-campus courtroom complete with bailiff. The first of its kind on a university campus, the April trial hosted by UTEP's Center for Law and Border Studies was as real as one held in a courthouse — and it provided valuable insights for the group of pre-law students who were watching and listening.

"The trial was an excellent learning experience," says pre-law student Danny Razo. "For example, I didn't know that what the lawyer says isn't necessarily fact. The trial is more about the witnesses and what they say. It was an eye-opening experience."

The trial was a pilot program for a "Courts In Action" course, set to start this fall, that will give university students a chance to study actual trials as they unfold.

"We expect to hold at least three on-campus trials each semester," says Frank Lopez, the center's program coordinator and manager. "The trials, mostly civil and a few misdemeanor cases, will add to the legal preparation of our students, who will be able to analyze the case, study strategies and talk to those involved as the trials are taking place. Based on our research, there is no undergraduate university in the country that offers this kind of program."

The April "trial run," timed to coincide with the inauguration of the newly established Center for Law and Border Studies, had all the trappings of a formal courtroom. State District Court Judge William Moody, dressed in a black robe, sat at a large table with the jury members seated to his right. The attorneys at the front of the room were separated from audience by a thick velvet rope. As the questioning of witnesses continued, the bailiff made sure everyone in the audience observed courtroom decorum.

"I remember when I was at law school. I had never seen a trial before I got there," says County Court-at-Law Judge Javier Alvarez, who worked with UTEP officials to help set up the event. "With this trial at UTEP, students are getting first-hand knowledge of legal strategies and what the judge and attorneys do."

Messages

FROM THE HEART

Hundreds of individuals pay tribute to their friends and family members each year through heartfelt contributions to UTEP in the names of their loved ones. The donors of these testimonial gifts contribute greatly to the university and its students, creating a lasting legacy for the special individuals being honored.

Each year, NOVA Quarterly publishes the names of these cherished family members and friends. The university is enormously grateful to the donors of these gifts, and for the opportunity to carry their messages from the heart.

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Ralph Ponce de Leon: Returning the Favor

by Walli Haley

For Ralph Ponce de Leon, giving to UTEP is his way of thanking the university that helped launch him on a long and successful path.

Ponce de Leon, who graduated from Texas Western College (now UTEP) with a bachelor's degree in chemistry, recently ended a 34-year career with Motorola.

Recalling his early days as a chemist at the electronics giant, Ponce de Leon says, "I quickly had to match wits with engineers and scientists who graduated from the most prestigious schools in the country. But the others never intimidated me for a minute. The education and preparation that UTEP gave me was as good as theirs — and in many instances better."

The longtime El Pasoan — he was born in Zacatecas, Mexico, but arrived in El Paso when he was 1 month old — started at the \$35 billion-dollar corporation as an analytical chemist. He climbed the corporate ladder to retire at the peak of his career as Corporate Vice President and Motorola Director of Supply and Environmental Management, coordinating about \$15 billion a year in procurement activities for the company and overseeing its environmental activities.

Graduating early from Cathedral High School in January 1952, Ponce de Leon started taking courses at Texas Western College. His college career was interrupted when he joined the Air Force later that year, but he returned to TWC and completed his degree in chemistry in 1960.

"I wanted to be a chemical engineer, but I recall Dr. (William) Lake saying that if one really wants to understand chemistry, one should study chemistry," he says.

Ponce de Leon says he was "not the best student, but what I learned, I learned well." He attributes much of that to the small classes and individual attention of his professors,



Kathie and Ralph Ponce de Leon

"I quickly had to match wits with engineers and scientists who graduated from the most prestigious schools in the country. But the others never intimidated me for a minute. The education and preparation that UTEP gave me was as good as theirs — and in many instances better."

— Ralph Ponce de Leon

much of his time between homes in Scottsdale and Pinetop, Ariz., and Telluride, Colo., maintains his ties to UTEP as a member of the Science Advisory Board.

principles that are still part of the UTEP tradition.

In addition to Lake, he studied under some of the university's other pioneering faculty members, including Harold Alexander and Floyd O'Neal.

"The preparation that we received (from them) was simply astonishing."

He says Motorola's competitive corporate culture also offered him an opportunity to grow and succeed. His last 10 years as a vice president with the company were spent in Chicago, but he also traveled around the world for the corporation.

Today, the avid golfer, skier and fisherman, who divides

much of his time between homes in Scottsdale and Pinetop, Ariz., and Telluride, Colo., maintains his ties to UTEP as a member of the Science Advisory Board.

He says his success has inspired him and his wife, Kathie, to support the university through a number of gifts.

"I am forever grateful to UTEP. It enabled my success. But when you first leave, you don't remember to thank your *alma mater*," Ponce de Leon

says. "It's not until later, when you start really analyzing things, that you realize that education is the license that gets you in. It makes you competitive."

"Supporting education is the responsibility of anyone who has a minor success as a graduate. No gift is too small," he says. "I can't tell you how grateful I am for the education that the university gave me, and I intend to do more to help students at UTEP continue to receive the same preparation I did." ■

Greg Lush

Inspiring Instructor

Greg Lush says the guiding principle in his work as a teacher and as a mentor to other faculty members can be summed up



In 1997, the associate professor in electrical and computer engineering became the founding director of UTEP's Center for Effective Teaching and Learning, a faculty development program created to serve as a catalyst for teaching excellence.

"CETaL is geared toward helping faculty be more innovative by helping them find the best way to present the material they're teaching," Lush says.

As the program's director, he helped create the center's basic philosophy, which emphasizes the value of updating teaching and learning approaches, fostering a community of faculty members who are committed to lifelong learning, and creating a supportive atmosphere that helps professors feel comfortable asking for help.

"Ideally, CETaL offers whatever someone needs," Lush says. "Each faculty member is unique."

The center offers a broad variety of services, including seminars, advice for faculty members developing or updating course curricula, and classroom observation and video feedback. The program also provides research and publication support, a library on instructional methods, and confidential consultations when a faculty

member needs one-on-one advice on anything from improving classroom tests to promoting student involvement and active learning.

"CETaL also brings in folks from outside to share their knowledge, expertise and experience with the UTEP community," Lush says.

He takes CETaL's emphasis on instructional innovations back to his own classroom, where he supplements his lectures with group work, real-world examples and multimedia activities, including computer animation and a World Wide Web site he developed.

"I teach the physics of electronic devices — how electrons move around in semiconductors. These electrons are impossible to see, so I ended up drawing them on chalkboards, and even I was not impressed with the mess that resulted as more and more motions and positions were expressed as arrows and other chalk dust."

He says his computer animations make the renderings more meaningful to his students, and he developed the Web site as a result of trial and error — with students doing most of the hands-on development under his guidance.

A self-described "tough teacher" who gives few As, Lush consistently receives high marks from his students, who emphasize his respectful, cordial and approachable manner.

"They realize the class is hard and I'm demanding, but many of the students like it because it challenges them to do better," he says. "Everything I do is to help students. They appreciate it when you put a little extra effort into teaching your class."

Students also appreciate his commitment outside the classroom. In addition to serving as the faculty adviser for the UTEP student chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Lush welcomes student investigators into the Electronic Devices Laboratory, where his work — supported by NASA, the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Defense — provides them with the opportunity to "get their hands



FACULTY PROFILE

by Walli Haley

by an old Chinese proverb: "Tell me and I'll forget. Show me and I'll remember. Let me do it, and I'll understand."

Motivating Mentor

dirty" with real-world research projects.

"I never saw an undergraduate student in the labs when I was a graduate student, but here at UTEP, undergrads are *running* the labs."

The combination of demanding coursework and hands-on experience makes Lush's students attractive to recruiters from major corporations, whose representatives "come here like sharks in a feeding frenzy to recruit our College of Engineering students for jobs," he says.

For Lush, UTEP brings together his great passions — teaching, research, and helping his fellow faculty members.

"I like doing research, and I like watching people, both students and instructors, as they

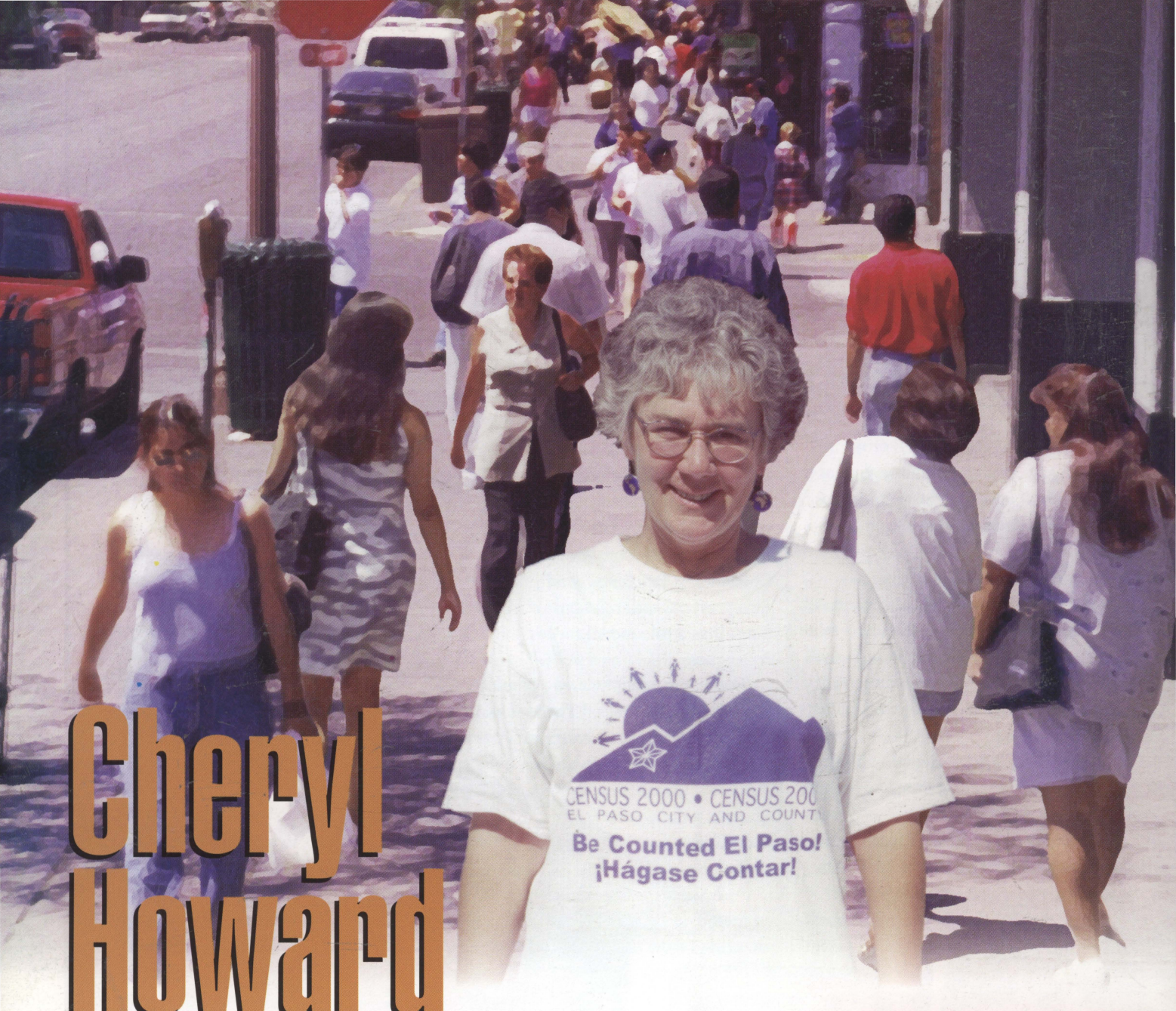
learn and develop confidence they did not have before."

Lush, who was recognized this year with The University of Texas System's Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award, shrugs off characterizations of himself as a role model for his colleagues.

"I think most faculty are role models for other faculty," he says. "The bottom line to me is caring. If you care, you will find a way to be a good instructor, and the students will notice." ■



Greg Lush mentors both students and faculty. From left: Two students get tips on searching the World Wide Web; Tanya Bell, a sophomore electrical engineering student, and Franz Kuhlmann, a junior electrical and computer engineering student, get hands-on experience in the Electronic Devices Laboratory; along with Lush, Michael Austin, electrical and computer engineering professor, and Sally Blake, associate professor of teacher education, were integral to the development of the Center for Effective Teaching and Learning (CETaL).



Cheryl Howard

FACULTY FOCUS

Cheryl Howard believes that everyone in El Paso counts — and that everyone should be counted.

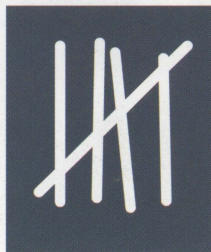
An associate professor of sociology and member of the joint city/county El Paso Complete Count Committee, Howard helped organize Census Week public awareness activities at UTEP and deployed her students to make census presentations at churches and schools, post signs throughout the city, and promote the population count in their own neighborhoods.

The 1990 census missed roughly 25,000 people in El Paso. Howard wants to ensure that it doesn't happen again — representation at the state and federal level, the allocation of social services, and statistics on everything from cancer to crime are based on census figures. In a city growing as rapidly as El Paso, where the population is increasing by about two percent a year, she says that such an

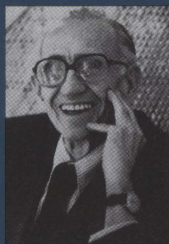
undercount can mean the loss of millions of dollars in federal funding alone during the course of a decade.

As the census enters its final phase, Howard and other members of the Complete Count Committee are targeting neighborhoods with low census form mail-back rates in a media blitz that includes newspaper editorials and television and radio appearances — encouraging El Pasoans to cooperate with the army of enumerators now going door to door to complete the count.

Howard says it is too soon to tell what the final outcome will be. But from the results so far — El Paso had the highest mail-back response rate of any major metropolitan area in the state and the highest by far along the border — the hard work of Howard, her students, the Complete Count Committee and the rest of the community has already paid off.



MOVING PICTURES



Manuel Carrillo

The arresting black-and-white photographs move slowly across the computer screen, revealing the face of young boy with somber dark eyes; a weathered fisherman, cigarette dangling from his lips, holding an empty net; a proud *vaquero* armed with a rope and saddle.

Web site June 9, Refugio Rochin, director of the center, said he expects the Carrillo site to attract worldwide attention.

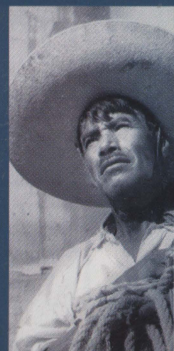
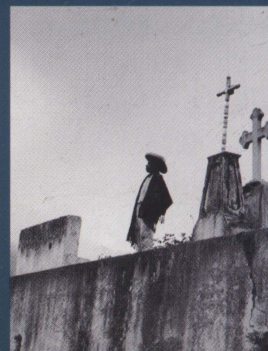
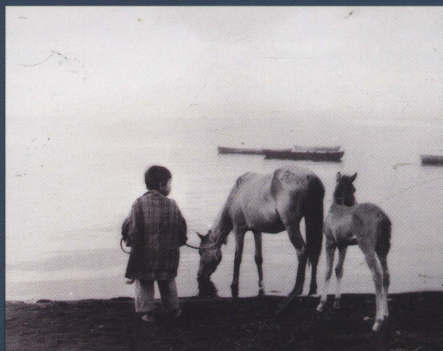
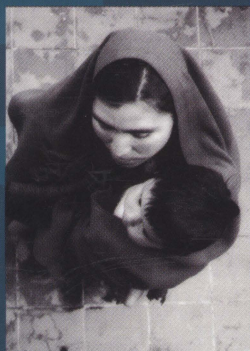
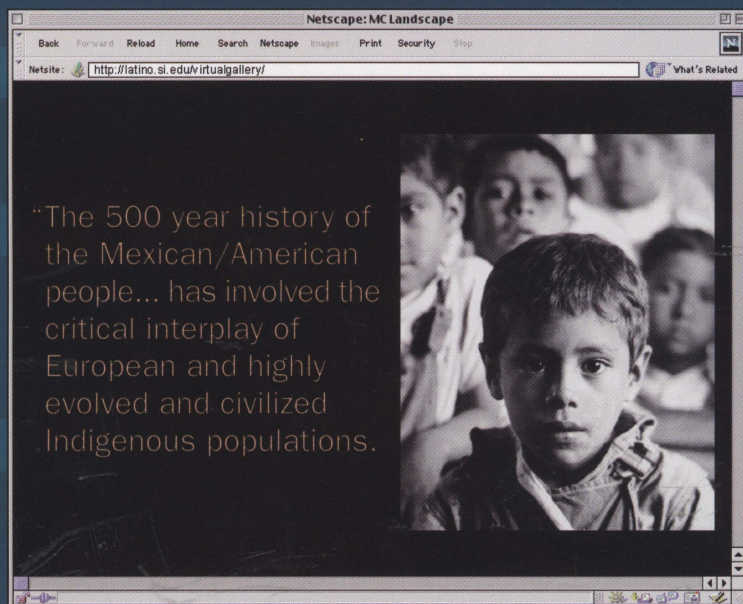
The virtual gallery, a first for both the Smithsonian and UTEP, is the brainchild of UTEP alumna Melissa Carrillo (no relation to the photographer), who is the new virtual exhibition designer at the Washington, D.C.-based center.

"I remember seeing Carrillo's

photographs in 1992, when my mother sent me a copy of *NOVA* magazine," Melissa says. "I looked at the photographs and knew I was going to work on the collection somehow."

Nearly a decade later, Melissa proposed a Web site for the Carrillo photos and spent last summer creating a detailed inventory of the thousands of images housed in the University Library. Most of the photographs selected for the virtual exhibition have never before been shown or published.

Born in Mexico City in



The 28 images, accompanied by haunting music, are part of an online exhibit, "Revealing Personal Identity: The Indigenous Vision of Manuel Carrillo." The Web site (<http://latino.si.edu/virtualgallery/>), a tribute to the poetic vision of the acclaimed Mexican photographer, is a collaboration between UTEP's C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department and the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Latino Initiatives.

At the UTEP ceremony launching the

1906, Carrillo did not begin his career as a master photographer until after his retirement at age 49. Before his death in 1989 at age 83, he had established an international reputation and seen his photography featured in hundreds of exhibits around the world.

"A lot of people have said Carrillo's work romanticizes his subjects, but he represents his subjects honestly," Melissa says. "He was committed to the people and culture he so passionately identified with as his own."

HONORS CONVOCATION

UTEP Applauds Faculty and Staff



At the annual Honors Convocation in late April, UTEP President Diana Natalicio presented the Distinguished Achievement Awards, the highest honor bestowed upon UTEP faculty and staff members, for excellence in teaching, research, and service to students and the university.

Cheryl Martin, professor of history, received the El Paso Energy Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Research. Martin is widely recognized for her research, which focuses on Chihuahua during the colonial period. Her book, *Governance and Society*, is used as a teaching tool for scholars studying Latin America, and her research was instrumental in the development of the university's new doctoral program in U.S.-Mexico borderlands history, the first of its kind in the nation.

G. Douglas Meyers, professor of English, received one of two El Paso Energy Foundation Faculty Achievement Awards for Teaching Excellence.

During Meyers' distinguished career at UTEP, he has served as chair of the English Department, director of the Freshman Composition Program and director of the West Texas Writing Project. He has written two books about writing: *Springboard for College Writers* and *A Guide to Freshman Composition*, a key component of UTEP's core curriculum used to standardize and improve the freshman writing sequence.

Sandra McGee Deutsch, professor of history, also received an El Paso Energy Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence. McGee Deutsch consistently receives high

history and culture with students in El Paso through UTEP's non-credit short courses. She has been a full-time faculty member in the Department of Languages and Linguistics since 1988, and many

which includes orientation and group learning programs that emphasize retention and early intervention. He also is the director of the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, which increases the number of underrepresented students pursuing and successfully completing degrees in science, engineering and mathematics.

Robert Rapanut, the university's equipment manager, received the Distinguished Achievement Award for Service to Students by a Classified Staff Member. Rapanut, better known as "Rap," has been the university's sole equipment manager since 1981, providing service to 15 teams and more than 250 student-athletes. From preparing for a 6 a.m. practice to adapting equipment to make it safer for athletes, Rapanut has given his time and service to all sports throughout the year.

Brian Carter, associate director of recreational sports, received the Distinguished Achievement Award for Service to the University by a Professional Staff Member. For more than 19 years, Carter has worked to maintain a healthy campus environment and is best known for his work with the UTEP Swimming and Fitness Center, where he is the aquatics director. He develops water-conditioning programs for several UTEP intercollegiate athletics teams and works with a number of outreach programs,



Honors Convocation award recipients, from left, Cheryl Martin, Pablo Arenaz, G. Douglas Meyers, Brian Carter, Sandra McGee Deutsch, Robert Rapanut, Guadalupe "Marilu" Gamez and Patricia "Trisha" Ainsa.

marks from her students for her class lectures, through which she creates an open atmosphere where students engage in lively discussions with their peers. Her research focuses on fascist leaders in Latin America, and she prompts students to critically evaluate historical sources and probe beyond assumptions to the motivations behind the actions of those who have had a profound impact on Latin America.

Guadalupe "Marilu" Gamez, lecturer in modern languages and linguistics, received the Teaching Excellence Award for Non-Tenure Track Faculty. Since 1985, Gamez has shared her knowledge of Spanish language,

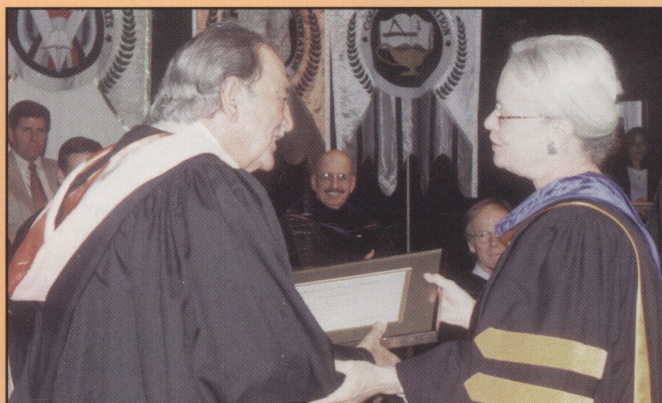
of her students say they owe a large measure of their success to her tireless and caring efforts in developing their multicultural awareness and communication skills.

The Distinguished Achievement Award for Service to Students by a Faculty Member was awarded to **Pablo Arenaz**, associate dean for engineering and science. For 16 years, Arenaz has fostered student success through a variety of innovative programs that encourage young scientists and engineers to achieve their greatest potential. He directs the colleges of Engineering and Science's Circles of Learning for Entering Students or CircLES initiative,

including the High School Equivalency Program and the National Youth Sports Program.

Greg Lush, associate professor in electrical and computer engineering, was the recipient of the Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award. (See profile on p. 10.)

A last-minute addition to the convocation program was the announcement of **Patricia "Trisha" Ainsa**, professor of teacher education, as the recipient of the 2000 Minnie Stevens Piper Award, one of only 10 in the state. In her 22 years at UTEP, Ainsa, who specializes in early childhood education, has served as the acting director of the Special Education Center and as project director of Computer Literacy in Children, a Title VII grant. She is the faculty athletics representative to the WAC and NCAA, acting as the liaison between UTEP's academic and



Abraham Chavez Jr., left, professor of music, was recognized as a new professor emeritus by UTEP President Diana Natalicio at the annual Honors Convocation shortly before his death in early May. Other emeriti faculty announced at convocation were:

- Eugene Alan Dean, professor of physics,
- Rick M. DeMarinis, professor of English,
- Robert M. Esch, associate professor of English,
- Carl E. Hall, associate professor of mathematical sciences,
- Norma G. Hernandez, professor of teacher education,
- James L. Milson, professor of teacher education,
- Janet S. Omundson, associate professor of accounting,
- Maureen A. Potts-Thompson, associate professor of English,
- David B. Rozendal, associate professor of civil engineering, and
- Robert H. Schmidt, professor of geological sciences.

athletic programs. She also is the liaison to the Student Athletic Council and is a board member of the Student Athletic Advisory Council.

A new addition to this year's Honors Convocation was the Entering Student Program's Outstanding Advocate for Entering Students Award. The award's first recipient was **Dorothy Ward**, director of academic programs. Under Ward's leadership, a team of UTEP faculty and staff designed the new first-year University Seminar course, the centerpiece of the Entering Student Program. She also located instructors, peer leaders and librarians to teach the course, provided faculty development workshops, and successfully delivered the class to more than 800 first-year students at UTEP, all in less than a year's time.

Keeping the UGLC Trouble-Free Is Kwan's Law

UTEP's 125,000-square foot Undergraduate Learning Center is a marvel of complex computer technology and multimedia wizardry. But keeping things running smoothly in the building's 10 multimedia classrooms, six large auditoriums, four computer

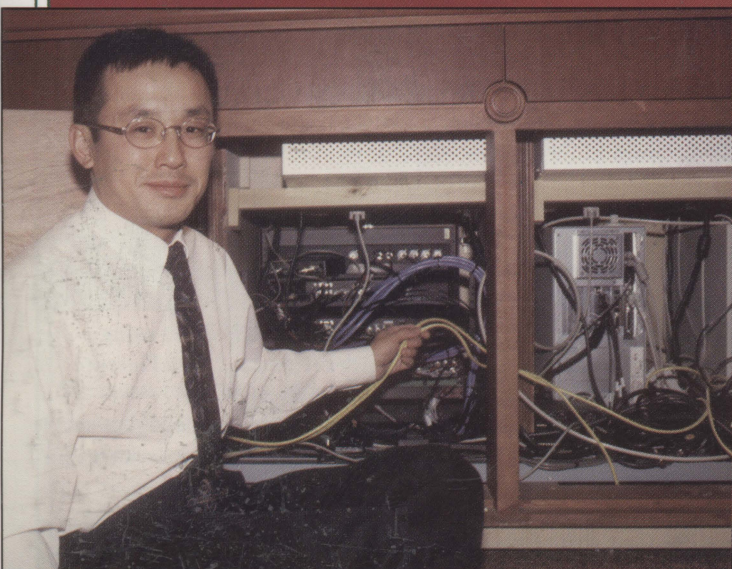
labs and two distance learning suites is the ultimate responsibility of just one man — Kwan Law.

Law is the director of the UGLC in charge of operations and technology. On a typical day, he and his support staff make sure that the latest technological marvels — including the building's 180 computers — are glitch-free.

"Things happen," Law says philosophically. "Someone will pull the alarm in the middle of an exam, or there will be a mechanical failure. A lightning strike once shut down quite a bit of equipment in the building. Even the malfunctioning of a couple of small transistors can cause major delays of classes."

That's when Law springs into action. Whether it's a video projector that won't project or a faculty member having trouble downloading a PowerPoint presentation from a Zip disk, Law and his staff offer patience and expertise.

He says that many faculty members are turning to technology to enrich lecture and laboratory learning, and he is constantly investigating new innovations to help them. "I like thinking about how the future of teaching will be enhanced with technology," he says, and for Law, that includes making sure everything works.





Martinez Tucker

HSF President to UTEP Grads: Continue the Journey

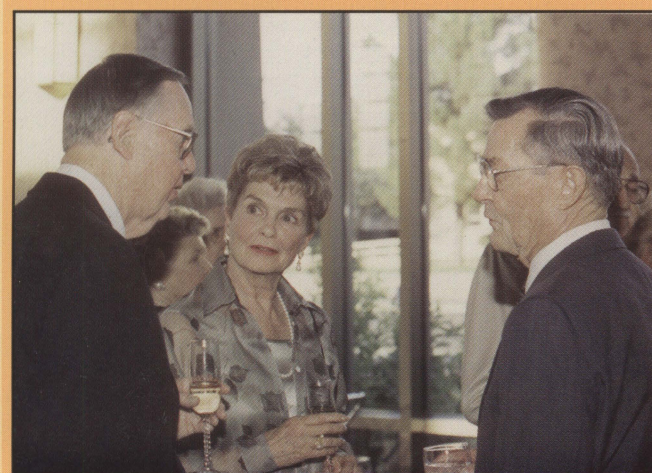
In an emotionally charged speech, Sara Martinez Tucker, president and CEO of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, encouraged more than 1,000 UTEP graduates at commencement ceremonies May 13 to find their place in the world and fulfill the educational journey they have begun.

"What really struck me about UTEP when I agreed to deliver this speech was its sincere goal to give its students the best education possible and make education a lifelong journey," she said. "Today, I encourage you to

find your uniqueness, find your voice and find out what you're willing to move heaven and earth for."

She also congratulated the many Hispanic graduates for defying the odds and receiving their college degrees. Only nine percent of Hispanics in the United States graduate from college. HSF is dedicated to doubling that rate to 18 percent by the year 2006.

Since its inception in 1975, HSF has awarded more than 40,000 scholarships worth about \$47 million to Hispanic students studying at 1,200 colleges and universities in the United States and Puerto Rico.



UTEP inaugurated the University of Texas at El Paso Trust with a special formal dinner to thank the charter members, including, from left, David Vinson and Patricia and Harry Bruce, for their generosity to the university.

New Lecture Series Begins

State Demographer: Texas Economy Tied to Minority Higher Education

Texas has a great opportunity to enhance its economic position in the new millennium, but only if it acts now to improve the participation rate of minority students in higher education.

That was the message from Steve Murdock, chief demographer of the Texas State Data Center, as he opened UTEP's new Millennium Lecture Series in late April.

"The reality is that the future of Texas is tied to our minority population, and how well they do is how well Texas will do," he said.

The state's population is expected to increase from 20 million to 34 million people by the year 2030 — and African-American, Hispanic and other minority populations will account for 87 percent of the growth.

The increasing minority population is the most important demographic trend in Texas and the nation, Murdock said, especially in light of its socioeconomic impact. Income levels for African-American and Hispanic wage-earners are between 55 and 70 percent of the income levels of Anglo workers, and if current trends continue, the average Texas household will be \$4,000 poorer in 2030 than it is today.

He said education is the key —



Murdock

higher educational achievement is consistently linked to higher income, and the typical college

graduate will earn a million dollars more over a lifetime than a non-graduate. However, African-Americans and Hispanics attend college at a lower rate than do their Anglo counterparts.

"If we increase educational opportunities for minority populations so they are able to obtain the skills necessary to compete in the future, we will have a competitive advantage — our labor force will be younger than that in most other parts of the country, and it will be a truly diverse labor force in an economy that is based on the diversity of the world."

UTEP will continue the new Millennium Lecture Series through the next year and a half, focusing on ideas and issues shaping the new millennium and featuring speakers on a broad range of global topics.

Native Plant Sale a Growing Attraction

The Centennial Museum's annual Native Plant Sale and FloraFEST was in full bloom this year.

Thousands of El Paso-area gardeners flocked to the museum's Chihuahuan Desert Gardens in late April to harvest the more than 2,500 drought-tolerant plants and reap the benefits of presentations on water conservation, irrigation and plant care. The eighth annual plant sale rang up a record-setting cash crop of \$27,000 to benefit the gardens and its educational programs.

"El Pasoans are becoming more knowledgeable about using native plants that live in harmony with the desert," says Florence Schwein, director of the Centennial Museum.

Xeriscaping — landscaping with plants native to the region — is becoming increasingly important in light of growing concerns about future water availability and restrictions on its use.

The Native Plant Sale and FloraFEST was cosponsored by El Paso Water Utilities, the Texas Forest Service and Los Tree Amigos of the West Texas Forestry Council.



UTEP Coaches Have Home-Team Advantage

There's an old saying that you can't go home again. But that doesn't appear to be true for UTEP football, where four former players are coaching the Miners this year.

So far, bringing back former players to lead the football team has inspired both coaches and players, fostering a winning attitude built on shared experiences and a belief that "those who stay will become champions," says defensive tackles coach James Spady.

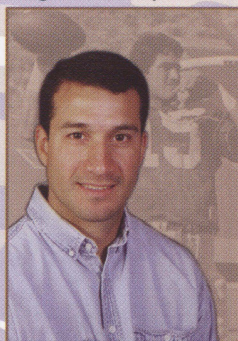
Spady, who was a member of the 1988 Miner football team that parlayed a 10-3 record into a spot in the Independence

Bowl, coaches student-athletes on a one-on-one basis in addition to providing his expertise to the whole team.

"It's kind of a dream come true to coach at your *alma mater*. I love the university, and to be able to affect the success of the football team — to have an impact on a young man's life because I know what it's like from both sides of the fence as a player and a coach — is just amazing."

Other past UTEP football players now guiding the Miners to victory are Troy

Reffett, who coaches the secondary; offensive line coach Sean Kugler; and quarterback coach Sam Garza.



Garza

Former UTEP quarterback Garza, who marshaled the Miners to a legendary win over BYU in 1986, is in his first year as a UTEP coach after a stint as a quarterback in the Canadian Football League for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and the Ottawa Rough Riders. He will take starter Rocky Perez and four other quarterbacks under his wing, adapting his experience and knowledge of the game to first-year head coach Gary Nord's style.

He says the loyalty the UTEP coaches feel for their *alma mater* will shift the scales in UTEP's favor this season.

"It's going to be a tough year, but we've got a chance against every team in the conference," Garza says. "There is a winning atmosphere. So many of the coaches are guys I played with — we're comfortable with each other, and that feeling spills over to the players. A good attitude, that's most of the fight right there."



Spady

Sports Administrator Builds Connections and Opportunities

Stephanie Rempe, associate director of Intercollegiate Athletics, has another title, one that often is misunderstood or misused.

As UTEP's Senior Woman Administrator, Rempe is the highest-ranking female in a field dominated by men: sports administration.



Rempe

She works with all sports, not just women's athletics, and one of her most important tasks is serving as the liaison between student-athletes and academic services, the athletic administration and the El Paso community.

She meets regularly with a select group of student-athletes who serve on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, which serves as the "voice" of the student-athletes and relays their academic, athletic and personal needs to the administration.

"Our student-athletes are our greatest asset, and the most important part of their experience at UTEP is to get an education," Rempe says. "As an athletic department, we strive to ensure their progress toward a degree, stressing the importance of their education for life after sports."

For the past two years, she has handled everything from conducting exit interviews with student-athletes who have completed their eligibility — "a great way to talk to student-athletes about their experiences here at UTEP, their plans for the future and what improvements they feel the athletic department can make to assist them during their career at UTEP," she says — to issues concerning the Western Athletic Conference, NCAA legislation and an area important to her personally: gender equity.

"The bottom line for me is providing more opportunities for women. Promoting women's sports needs to start in elementary school, encouraging young girls to participate in sports, and then we can build upon that," she says, explaining that university officials are developing a strategic plan to increase

opportunities for female athletes at UTEP that may include adding another sport.

"Some of the options being considered are softball, swimming, equestrian and bowling, but when it comes to adding opportunities, we need money," Rempe says.

She notes that ironically, the best way for fans to raise funds for women's sports is to attend UTEP's two top men's sports — football and basketball — to generate ticket revenues.

On the list of Rempe's ongoing projects is a set of programs to bolster the bonds between the community and UTEP — one of former head football coach Stull's priorities when he returned to UTEP. "A Day with the Miners" and "Adopt a Miner" are examples of programs designed to build personal relationships between local schools and UTEP student-athletes.

"Getting our student-athletes out in the community creates a connection," Rempe says. "It is critical for our student-athletes to serve as role models and give back to the community by volunteering their time to help El Paso's youth."

UTEP's Best and Brightest: The Top 10 Seniors

Each year, UTEP honors its Top 10 Seniors, selected by a committee of alumni, students, and faculty and staff members. These outstanding graduates are chosen for the honor based on their grade point averages and volunteer activities.

The 2000 Top 10 Seniors, listed in alphabetical order, are:



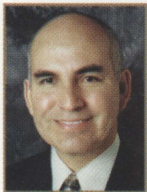
Yvonne Carranza, 3.9 GPA, a 1980 graduate of Eastwood High School. Carranza was the banner bearer for the College of Liberal Arts during the December commencement ceremony, at which she received bachelor's degrees in psychology and theatre arts. She received the C.L. Etheridge Award for Acting and the Pearson Scholarship in Theatre Arts, was named the Outstanding Graduate in Theatre Arts, and received an award for Outstanding Academic Achievement in psychology. Carranza teaches theatre arts, video production and publications at Eastwood Knolls Elementary School.



Kimberly Nichole Daniel, 3.8 GPA, a graduate of Lamar High School in Houston. A member of the UTEP women's basketball team, she received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in May. She is the recipient of a Golden Miner Award, a UTEP Presidential Excellence Scholarship, a College of Engineering academic scholarship and the Engineering Achievement Award. She was captain of the women's basketball team and named the team's most valuable player during the 1998-99 season. The three-year All Conference WAC Academic Team member also completed two summer internships with the Exxon Pipeline Company.



Osvaldo Enriquez, 3.2 GPA, a graduate of Bel Air High School. Enriquez received his degree in mechanical engineering at the December commencement, when he served as banner bearer for the College of Engineering. A Presidential Scholar, he was active in many campus and engineering organizations, including the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. He served as president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, vice president of the Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists, and treasurer of the Society of Hispanic Engineers. He received the UTEP Engineering Student Leader Award, the HACU General Motors Scholarship and the Texas Society of Professional Engineers Scholarship.



Daniel Flores, 3.9 GPA, a graduate of Bel Air High School. The El Paso native received an honors degree in English and American Literature with a minor in secondary education in December. His honors include the C.L. Sonnichsen English

Department Endowed Scholarship, the Houston Endowment Honors Award, and inclusion in *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*. He was the co-president of the Golden Key and secretary of the Mortar Board national honor societies. For his senior thesis, he wrote a children's book, titled *Rafael, An Andean Adventure*. He also helped establish the Golden Bridge Literacy Alliance, a collaborative effort between Vilas Elementary School and Golden Key to supply children's books and tutors to the elementary school. In recognition of his efforts, Flores received the Outstanding Program Award in Education from the El Paso Independent School District.



Lawrence Gatei, 3.6 GPA, born in Kenya. Gatei, who graduated in December with a bachelor's degree in computer information systems, combined a full-time academic load with 20 hours of work each week as a research assistant for the UTEP Public Policy Research Center, where he now works as a policy fellow. Gatei was included on the Dean's List during every semester of his enrollment at UTEP. He was named the Outstanding Business College Council Coordinator, and he received the Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Award. He also helped coordinate forums on domestic violence, community needs and diversity, and he wrote a grant proposal for the city of Vinton as a volunteer. A graduate of UTEP's Law School Preparation Institute, Gatei has been accepted to law school at Boston College and the University of Kentucky.



Lara Dianne Hajjar, 4.0 GPA, a graduate of Coronado High School. Hajjar, who received a bachelor's degree in political science in May, also was a research assistant and legal intern for UTEP's Center for Law and Border Studies, where she worked closely with Las Americas Refugee and Immigration Services and researched human rights violations. Hajjar was named a Woodrow Wilson Scholar, is listed in *Who's Who in America's Colleges and Universities*, and received the Golden Key National Honor Society's Undergraduate Scholarship and the American Institute for Foreign Study Abroad Scholarship. A graduate of the Law School Preparation Institute, Hajjar will be attending the UT Austin School of Law.



Virginia Lee Holmes, 3.9 GPA, a graduate of Ridley High School in Folsom, Pa. She will graduate in August with a bachelor's degree in accounting. Holmes, who worked more than 30 hours a week with Security Capital Group Inc. in an accounting position, is a member of the Mortar Board and the Golden Key national honor societies. She received the Patrick DeWitt, Margaret McKee Lund, and Security Capital Group Inc. merit scholarships and was named the Texas Society of CPA's Outstanding Student and the

UTEP Department of Accounting Outstanding Student. She is a member of the Honors Council and the vice president of the UTEP Accounting Society. She was a mentor at Beall Elementary School in the Helping One Student To Succeed program and traveled to Peru in May as part of UTEP's Study Abroad Program. She has accepted a position with Arthur Andersen in Houston beginning in the fall.



Ramon Guadalupe Lauser, 3.5 GPA, a graduate of Coronado High School. The Ciudad Juárez native, who received a bachelor's degree in political science in May, is the recipient of the Westinghouse Outstanding Hispanic Academic Student and Leader Award, the Golden Key National Honor Society Outstanding Academic Achievement Award, the Cardinal Key National Honor Society Outstanding Academic Achievements and Contributions to UTEP and the El Paso Community Award, and the UTEP Emerging Leaders Award. Lauser, a first-generation Mexican immigrant and the only member of his family to go beyond grammar school, is a graduate of UTEP's Law School Preparation Institute and has been accepted to several law schools, including Washington University in St. Louis and Texas Tech University.



Susan Lynn Minnie, 4.0 GPA, a 1968 graduate of Caprock High School in Amarillo who also graduated from El Paso Community College in 1997. Born in Fayetteville, Ark., the proud grandmother of five graduated in December with a bachelor's degree in creative writing. She was included in *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*, named to the National Dean's List and was part of the USAA All American Scholar Program. She received the Lydia Patterson Scholarship and the Kiwanis Club's Hixson Award and Distinguished Service Award.



Ricardo Patiño, 3.4 GPA, a graduate of El Chamizal in Ciudad Juárez. He received his bachelor's degree in computer information systems in May, and he is the first CIS graduate to receive an honors degree. Patiño, who was president of the Business College Council and the Pre-Law Society, also held key posts in several other organizations, including the Student Government Association, the Honors Alliance and the Student Alumni Association. He is active in the community, serving as a volunteer for the Child Grief Center, the Child Crisis Center and KCOS public television. A member of the National Dean's List, Patiño, a Juárez native, is a graduate of UTEP's Law School Preparation Institute.

**TOP
10
SENIORS**

Showing Our Appreciation

A crowd of about 600 El Paso-area teachers, counselors and librarians and their families enjoyed food and fun at the UTEP Alumni Association's third annual Teachers Appreciation Day May 5.

The event, co-sponsored by the El Paso Area Teachers Federal Credit Union, included dinner from Benny's BBQ and karaoke provided by Vocal Expressions.

Diana Natalicio, UTEP president, welcomed the group to campus and thanked them for their dedication to educating our youth. Each teacher, counselor or librarian received a T-shirt and mousepad, and the Teacher of the Year from each campus was honored with a special gift.



A record 600 people attended the Alumni Association's third annual Teachers Appreciation Day.

Those Were the Days

UTEP's graduating seniors gathered at the de Wetter Center April 25-26 to celebrate the Alumni Association's Senior Days.



UTEP seniors had karaoke fun at the Alumni Association's Senior Days.

About 400 students took advantage of one-stop shopping for class rings, caps and gowns from the University Bookstore and information from the UTEP Graduate School, Student Financial Aid Office, Career Services and AmeriCorp. Intercollegiate Athletics and the Bookstore held drawings for football tickets and a diploma frame.

The Alumni Association gave all soon-to-be-graduates at the event lunch, a T-shirt and other gifts, and a free one-year membership in the Alumni Association, which entitled the future alumni to special privileges, including discounts from UTEP's Food Services, Copy Center and Union Recreation Center, and amnesty on overdue book fees at the University Library.

MINERPALOOZA AT MINER TOWN - 2000

Join us from 6 to 11 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, for MINERPALOOZA at Miner Town.

The annual back-to-school street festival will feature the first pep rally of the new season for the Sept. 9 home football game against Southern Methodist University. There will be food, games and entertainment for the whole family. For more information on MINERPALOOZA, log on at <http://www.utep.edu/alumni> or e-mail us at alumni@utep.edu.



The UTEP Alumni Relations Office is planning a trip to Chihuahua Oct. 5-8 that will include an alumni reception and a special educational enrichment tour of Copper Canyon.

For more information on this great opportunity to have fun and meet old classmates from both sides of the border, call the Alumni Relations Office at 800/687-8004 or 915/747-8600.

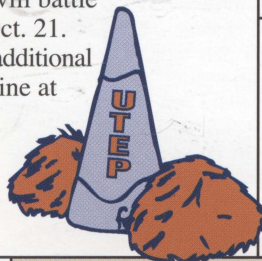
Come Home for Homecoming

Reserve dates in your calendar now for UTEP's Homecoming 2000 celebration Oct. 16-22.

The Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Reception will be Friday, Oct. 20, and the Fighting Miners will battle the Fresno State Bulldogs in the Sun Bowl Oct. 21.

Check the next issue of *NOVA Quarterly* for additional Homecoming dates, or check for updates online at <http://www.utep.edu>.

If you are interested in a reunion, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at alumni@utep.edu, 800/687-8004 or 915/747-8600.



Alumni Association Home Pre-Game Parties

- Sept. 9 UTEP vs. SMU
- Sept. 23 UTEP vs. Hawaii
- Sept. 30 UTEP vs. NMSU
- Oct. 21 UTEP vs. Fresno State (Homecoming)
- Nov. 11 UTEP vs. Rice



Watch for more information on these pre-game parties and on out-of-town rallies in the next *NOVA* or at <http://www.utep.edu/alumni>.

NEWS ABOUT YOU...

Do you ever wonder what happened to your ex-classmates and friends? We're sure many of our readers do ... so update us on what's going on in your life or send in any interesting news you may have about a former classmate. Send us an e-mail at alumni@utep.edu or fill out this form (or attach additional pages as needed) and send to:

**Alumni Relations Office
de Wetter Center
500 West University Avenue
El Paso, Texas 79968-0524**

Name _____
 Year Graduated _____ Degree _____
 Address _____
 YOUR NEWS _____

40s **Vincent P. Rascon** (B.A. '49) recently exhibited his etchings and drawings at the Museum of Fine Arts in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. He has received numerous arts awards throughout the San Francisco Bay area.

50s **Benjamin Escobar** (B.S.E.E. '51) is a shareholder in the law firm of Scott, Hulse, Marshall, Feuille, Finger and Thurmond, P.C. **Daniel W. Foster** (B.A. '51) holds the Donald W. Seldin Distinguished Chair in Internal Medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Rosa R. Guerrero (B.A. '57; M.Ed. '77) received the Moving Forward Award from the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for her dedication in educating the young people of the borderlands region.

John D. "Dan" Patton (B.A. '52) received the James F. Elliott Award from the Board of Directors of the Independent Insurance Agents of El Paso.

60s **Arthur A. Abraham** (B.B.A. '64), a former El Paso High School, Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy (now UTEP) and Texas A&M football player, was nominated posthumously to the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

David F. Briones (B.A. '67) is a professor of psychiatry at Texas Tech Medical Center. He received the Nancy C.A. Roeske Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Medical Student Education from the American Psychiatric Association and the Committee of Medical Student Education.

Leonor Garcia (B.S.Ed. '62) is the new trustee for District 4 for the El Paso Independent School District.

Sarah Gowan (B.S.Ed. '64; M.Ed. '72) is the principal of Montwood Middle School.

Hobart Hamilton (B.S. '61) was named Outstanding Professor for 1999-2000 at California State University at Stanislaus, where he is a professor of chemistry.

Louis Lee James (B.A. '68), a former Bel Air High School and Texas Western College football player who was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles, was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame.

Larry McFarlin (B.A. '69; M.Ed. '84) retired from the Ysleta Independent School District in December 1999. He played baseball at Texas Western College and for the California Angels organization, coached baseball at UTEP in 1978-80 and was inducted into the El Paso Baseball Hall of Fame in 1994.

Leona "Lee" McFarlin (B.B.A. '65) retired from the El Paso Independent School District in November 1999 after 35 years of teaching.

Manuel Moreno (B.S. '69) is the chairman of the Scientific Affairs Division of the Texas Chiropractic Association.

Rosalyn Scarborough (B.A. '66) is a charter member of the Columbia, Md., Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Phylis Sibala (B.S.Ed. '69), a third-grade teacher and assessment advocate in the Kyrene School District in Phoenix, Ariz., received her Teachers National Board certification.

Beatrice Ramirez Svampera (B.A. '64) was selected by the San Jacinto Descendants as the 1999 Educator of the Year for the State of Texas. She also received the Anti-Defamation League Award as the Educator of the Year for Region IV and a fellowship from the Jewish Labor Committee to study the Holocaust in Israel and Poland, and was selected as a mentor for the Barbara Jordan Project for the Alley Theatre.

70s **Andrew Barber** (B.A. '77; M.Ed. '79) is the author of *Fundamentals of Christianity: A Bible Study Guide*.

Margaret R. Cordova (B.S.Ed. '73) was elected as District 19 director for the Texas Classroom Teachers Association.

Sylvia Fernandez (B.A. '78) was promoted to treasury solutions officer at Chase Bank of Texas in El Paso.

Janet Y. Graham (B.S.Ed. '72; M.E.D. '76) was a finalist for the El Paso Independent School District's secondary school Teacher of the Year Award.

Daniel Grant (B.B.A. '75) is the director of marketing for ALM Aviation, a commercial airline aircraft maintenance and paint company in Tempe, Ariz.

Donald K. Jones (B.B.A. '71) of Tempe, Ariz., is the new regional marketing director for Nationwide Financial.

Chester E. Jordan (B.B.A. '75) received the Southwest region's Seven Jewels Award for his outstanding service as a member of El Paso's Theta Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha.

Bruce King (B.B.A. '73) has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the UTEP Alumni Association. King is serving his fourth term as Justice of the Peace, Precinct 7, Place 1, El Paso County.

Thomas McCabe (B.S. '71) has been named Texas' 2000 Companion Animal Practitioner of the Year.

Pat Shelton (B.B.A. '77; M.B.A. '79) was named to the Executive Committee of the United Way of El Paso County Board of Directors.

Guadalupe Silva (B.A. '75), a veteran reporter with the *El Paso Times*, received the 2000 Ohtli Recognition Award from the government of Mexico.

Brooke Stenicka (B.B.A. '78), of Rogers and Belding Insurance, is the vice president of the Independent Insurance Agents of El Paso.

80s **John D. Cordova** (B.S.I.E. '88) recently opened Atlas Environmental Inc., a full-service environmental engineering firm.

Tim Crenshaw (B.B.A. '80) is a commercial loan officer at State National Bank in El Paso.

Walli Haley (B.A. '81; M.F.A. '97), a technical writer in UTEP's University Communications Office, received the El Paso Women's History Month Coalition's Unsung Heroine Award for her work as chairwoman of the El Paso Preservation Alliance.

Laura Holguin (B.S.C.S. '86) is the private bank officer at Chase Bank of Texas in El Paso.

Ismael Legarreta (B.S.C.E. '86) is the planning co-chair of the United Way of El Paso County Board of Directors' executive committee.

Flora Nancy Chavez Tellez (B.A. '81) is the owner of the Pewter Co., which designs and markets pewter sculptures and products for local businesses and restaurants. She also is the American sales representative for Helados

Alacant, an international company that markets a variety of dessert and ice cream products.

Pat Velazquez (B.S. '89) has been promoted to director of maternal/child services at Del Sol Medical Center.

90s **Ruben Chavez** (B.S.C.E. '95) received the Young Engineer Award from the El Paso Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

Susan Eisen (NG) was nominated for the Avon Women of Enterprise Award by the Small Business Administration.

William J. Espejo (B.B.A. '94) is the new assistant director of operations for EPT Management Co.

Cynthia Farah (M.A. '92), assistant professor of film studies at UTEP, is leading a campaign to lower excessive decibel levels in movie theaters.

James J. Jancu (B.A. '95) is the manager of Asia-Pacific operations and the Asia-Pacific conference coordinator for the Golden Key National Honor Society.

Robert Juarez (NG) was promoted to vice president and branch manager of State National Bank in El Paso's Lower Valley.

Carrie Lindau (B.A. '95) is the new director of training at Desert View Homes.

William W. Lockhart (B.A. '93; M.A. '95) was one of 11 recipients of New Mexico State University's Donald C. Roush Award for Teaching Excellence.

Adair Margo (NG), owner/director of the Adair Margo Gallery and a member of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, was installed as Beta Sigma Phi's First Lady.

Mike Mason (B.B.A. '95) of the John D. Williams Insurance Co. received the firm's Individual New Business Production Leader Award. Mason is the secretary/treasurer of the Independent Insurance Agents of El Paso.

Marco A. Morales (B.A. '96) is a public affairs specialist with the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command in Huntsville, Ala.

Nydia Pages (B.S.N. '91) has been promoted to nurse manager of the Medical/Surgical Unit at Del Sol Medical Center.

Jim Phillips (NG) received the Champion of Caring Award from the United Way of El Paso.

Maria G. Rivas (B.A. '98) attended the welcoming ceremony for the king and queen of Spain at the White House in Washington, D.C.

Alice Robinson (B.S.N. '93) has been promoted to nurse manager of the Ambulatory Services Unit at Del Sol Medical Center.

Miguel Santana (M.F.A. '95) is the author of *Cuando cantan los largartos*, a love story set on the Mexican-American border, published by Alligator Press Inc.

Gloria Vasquez (B.B.A. '90), a human resources generalist at the Human Element of Business, is the 1999-2000 chair of the Career Placement Advisory Committee.

J. Julian Hemley (B.S. '48) received the prestigious R.A.F. Penrose Gold Medal from the Society of Economic Geologists in late February.

Hemley's work focuses on experimental hydrothermal geochemistry. He has spent the majority of his 40-year career with the U.S. Geological Survey, but he also was employed for five years beginning in 1968 at the Anaconda Co., where he set up the mining

industry's first in-house experimental geochemistry program.

The presentation ceremony took place at the joint SEG-Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration meeting in Salt Lake City.

SEG established the Penrose Medal in 1923 to recognize "a full career of unusually original work in the earth sciences." Hemley received SEG's silver medal in 1987.

OBITS

Michael G. Hardin (B.A. '49; M.A. '54) Dec. 20, 1998. He was a resident of New York City and had been employed by the Museum of Modern Art for 30 years. Hardin is survived by his wife, Alice M.S. Hardin, and daughter, Patricia.

Sam Rayner Blackham (B.A. '53) Dec. 20, 1999. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Blackham practiced law in El Paso for 36 years and served as assistant city and county attorney, corporation court judge and county commissioner. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; daughter, Susan Buddington; and brother, Jack.

Jeanell Lynn Chellis (B.A. '82) Dec. 26, 1999. Chellis was a television producer who lived in El Paso for 25 years. She is survived by her husband, Thomas; son, Thomas III; and three sisters.

Ignacio Garcia (B.B.A. '85) Dec. 28, 1999. Garcia was a certified public accountant in El Paso with his own firm. He is survived by his wife, Gladys; daughter, Gladys; son, Alan; parents, Ignacio and Edna; and sisters, Eglia and Celina.

Charles H. Leavell (NG) Jan. 7, 2000. Leavell was co-chairman of UTEP's Board of Fellows and established a chair and the Endowment Programs Development Fund in the College of Health Sciences. A homebuilder, Leavell started the C.H. Leavell Co. in 1938. He served as director of the Member Advisory Board at UTEP and the Lee and Beulah Moor Children's Home, and his civic activities included the El Paso Museum of Art, YWCA, YMCA, United Way of El Paso, El Paso Cancer Treatment and Research Center and the El Paso Symphony Orchestra. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; daughter, Mary Lee Pinkerton; and son, Charles.

Kevin Wayne Holmes (B.A. '92) Jan. 9, 2000. Nicknamed "Happy," Holmes, a lifelong resident of El Paso, was a member of the El Paso Association of Builders and the El Paso Association of Realtors. He is survived by his wife, Charlie Yvette; son, Connor Paul; daughter, Kelsey Elizabeth; parents, Gary and Edith Holmes and Sidney and Eddie Mounsey; brother, Christopher Todd; and sister, Brett Elizabeth McArdle.

John Edward Fraser (B.M. '56) Jan. 11, 2000. Fraser was a resident of Kingsland, Texas, and a former El Pasoan. He is survived by his wife, Kay; sons, Paul and Bill; daughter, Jeanene Beall; brothers, Thomas and Joe; and three grandchildren.

Ernest Fay Craig (M.Ed. '65) Jan. 13, 2000. A resident of El Paso for more than 50 years, Craig was a retired educator with the El Paso Independent School District and a former city council member. He is survived by his wife, L. Kathleen; son, William; daughter, Candace Kraus; and sisters, Lee, Estelle Parmer, Elizabeth Easter, Ruth Peel and Dee Thompson.

William G. Figueroa (B.A. '42) Jan. 14, 2000. Figueroa was a resident of Los Angeles, Calif., where he had been a professor of medicine at the UCLA School of Medicine since 1955. In his honor, UCLA established the annual William G. Figueroa M.D. Award for graduating medical students. He is survived by his wife, Josephina Gabusi; daughters, Loretta, Patricia and Julianne; son, William; brother, Jose; and sisters, Socorro and Elena.

Ronald E. Bostic (B.B.A. '80) Jan. 16, 2000. Bostic, a rancher and lifelong resident of El Paso, was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, past president of Hydra Power Systems Inc., owner of Mont Blanc Enterprises Ltd., and a licensed contractor, investor and real estate agent. He is survived by his daughters, Krystal and Erica; parents, Bill and Dollie; and sisters, Bonnie and Connie.

Rachel Escarcega (B.S. '80) Jan. 16, 2000. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Escarcega was the time and billing supervisor at the Scott, Hulse, Marshall, Feuille, Finger

and Thurmond law firm for 20 years. She is survived by her parents, Rafael and Beatriz; brothers, Rafael Jr. and Richard; and sisters, Romie, Becky, Ruth and Patricia.

Cecilia Hornedo (B.S.Ed. '66) Jan. 17, 2000. Hornedo, a resident of San Francisco and a former El Pasoan, was an avid photographer who also played violin and collected antiques. She is survived by her mother, Maria Luisa; sisters, Mercedes and Teresa; and brother, Manuel.

Anita Walters Peticolas (B.A. '35) Jan. 17, 2000. An El Paso native, she enjoyed gardening, painting and playing bridge. She is survived by her daughters, Susan and Anne, and sons, Craig, Ed and Bob.

Benny Hart Hahn (NG) Jan. 25, 2000. Hahn was a member of the Texas Western College 1965 Miner football team. He was the pastor for Spirit Life Christian Center in El Paso. He is survived by his wife, Stephanie; daughters, Ashley, Heather, Paige and Rachel; and son, Scott.

Clair Louis Cantrell Jr. (B.S. '48) Jan. 27, 2000. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Cantrell was the owner and operator of Cantrell Auto Supply. He is survived by his wife, Lanette; daughters, Claressa Hope and Stacy Kaye; and sister, Margaret Brown.

Vera Zlabovsky (B.A. '42; M.A. '51) Jan. 27, 2000. An El Paso native, Zlabovsky started her career with the El Paso Public School System as a teacher at Alamo Elementary School and became a consultant for the primary grades. She was active in the Women's Auxiliary of UTEP. She is survived by her sisters, Esther Boxer and Julia Weissman, and brother, Frank E. Stuart.

Hubert Koker (B.A. '78) Jan. 28, 2000. Chief Warrant Officer 3 (Ret.) Koker was a justice of the peace in El Paso, director of the El Paso Historical Commission, and a member of Masons #130, Lodge #1137, and El Paso Scottish Rites and Sojourners. He is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Joseph and Kenneth; and daughters, Theresa M. Farley and Stepheny A. Buttman.

Richard "Dickie" Zubiate Jr. (B.B.A. '76) Feb. 8, 2000. Zubiate, the founder of Southwestern Pest Control and owner of Computer Resources Unlimited, also served in the U.S. Navy as an electronics technician and officer recruiter. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Edwards; children, Richard III, Daniel and Rosette; parents, Richard and Evangelina; and sisters, Corinne Fredericks, Virginia Burciaga and Elizabeth Kreager.

Alfred Rene Barriga (B.S.N. '89) Feb. 10, 2000. He was a nurse and lifelong El Paso resident. He is survived by his wife, Isela; parents, Efrén and Nora; brothers, Albert and Joel; and sister, Nora Gene Molina.

Richard Contreras (B.B.A. '96) Feb. 16, 2000. He was a resident of St. Louis, Mo., and a computer analyst for Enterprise Car Rentals. He is survived by his parents, Hector and Teresa; brothers, Hector, Alexander and Leonel; and sister, Angelica C. Hernandez.

Andrew Howell Russell (M.Ed. '66) Feb. 16, 2000. Russell was a former assistant principal at Fannin Elementary School. He is survived by his wife, Billie, and daughters, Rena Joyner and Tara Ryan.

Rowena Helga Leitch (B.S.Ed. '80) Feb. 17, 2000. She was a teacher at Guillen and MacArthur middle schools and an Air Force veteran. She is survived by her husband, William; sons, Kenneth, Keith and Mark; and father, Roy V. Daniels.

John V. Robinson (B.B.A. '47) Feb. 21, 2000. He was a longtime resident of El Paso with 30 years of service at El Paso Natural Gas Co. He was preceded in death by his wife, Phyllis Ann. He is survived by his son, Steven Lee; daughter, Sheryl Ann Gardner; stepsister, Joan Haggard; and stepbrothers, Bill and Jim Haggard.

Joseph C. Oberndorfer (B.S.Ed. '77) Feb. 22, 2000. He was a retired missile technician for the Army and lived in El Paso for 33 years. He is survived by his wife, Connie;

sons, Michael and Tony Gribben and John Oberndorfer; and daughters, Jan Manley and Marjorie Wojciehowski.

Thomas R. Hancock (B.A. '61) Feb. 25, 2000. Hancock was a resident of New Orleans, La. He worked for Chevron Oil Co. in the Southwest and Indonesia, and also for Louisiana Land and Exploration Co. in Peru and Louisiana. Hancock is survived by his wife, Gigi Glasscock Hancock.

Jerry A. McDowell (B.A. '73) Feb. 27, 2000. McDowell was a lecturer in UTEP's Department of Educational Psychology and Special Services and an assistant coordinator for the university's Alternative Certification Program. He is survived by his mother, Peggy E. Taylor, and his sister, Robin Moore.

Arthur E. Howard (NG) Feb. 28, 2000. Howard was a member of the Texas College of Mines football team from 1940 to 1943. He served in the Army under Gen. George S. Patton in France and worked in the petroleum industry in El Paso until his retirement in 1987. Howard is survived by his wife, Mary Lee; sons, Art Jr. and Charles; and daughters, Barbara Barren and Carol Danforth.

Mary Etta Banks (B.A. '38; M.A. '51) March 7, 2000. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Banks taught fourth grade at Roosevelt Elementary School for 38 years and was an elder at Manhattan Presbyterian Church. She was preceded in death by her twin sister, Mary Ella. She is survived by her nieces, Ethel Simpson and Betty Billingsley.

Bates McFarland Belk Sr. (NG) March 9, 2000. Belk was one of the founders of the Edwards, Belk, Hunter and Kerr law firm, a co-founder of Chelmont State Bank and Sun Towers Hospital, and one of the original developers of Coronado Hills. He was preceded in death by his wife, Catherine Crowell. He is survived by his sons, Bates Jr. and Robert; and his daughters, Elizabeth B. Doggett and Mary B. Gaddy.

Catherine Mae Inmon (B.A. '75; M.Ed. '91) March 10, 2000. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Inmon taught at Thomas Manor Elementary School and Guillen Middle School. She is survived by her mother, Marjorie; brother, Al; and sister, Betty Ann Smith.

William Thomas Jones (B.B.A. '53) March 11, 2000. He was a resident of Alto, N.M., and he spent the past 10 years establishing a non-profit organization called People Care Inc. in Roswell, N.M. He is survived by his wife, Frances Marie; daughters, Karen Pauley and Jonel Jones; sons, Kyle and Tobin; and brother, Hudnel.

Mina Neho Loyd (M.A. '96) March 14, 2000. She was a teacher with the Ysleta Independent School District and El Paso Community College. She is survived by her son, Jeff; mother, Fumi Neho; and her brothers, Masahesa and Takashi.

Abraham Chavez Jr. (B.M. '59) May 2, 2000. Maestro Chavez, a longtime UTEP professor, conducted the El Paso Symphony Orchestra from 1975 to 1992. He joined the symphony as a violinist at age 13, became concertmaster at age 18, and was the featured soloist of nine EPSO subscription concerts between 1951 and 1975. In his honor, the El Paso Civic Center Theatre was renamed the Abraham Chavez Jr. Performing Arts Center in 1992. He was named Texas Orchestra Director of the Year in 1984, received the Centennial Leadership Award in 1992, the Ohtli Recognition Award from the government of Mexico in 1996, and the Hispanic Heritage Award for Education in 1998. At UTEP, he was the 1984 Distinguished Alumnus and the 1993 College of Liberal Arts Gold Nugget recipient. He received the Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence in 1984, and he was designated a professor emeritus April 27, 2000. Chavez is survived by his wife, Lucy Villegas Chavez; sons, Abraham III, Eduardo Antonio and Arturo Alfredo; daughter, Lisa A. Chavez-Vasquez; and his brother, Rafael.

UTEP 2000 FOOTBALL

Brian Natkin
Tight End
2000 Pre-Season
All-American Candidate

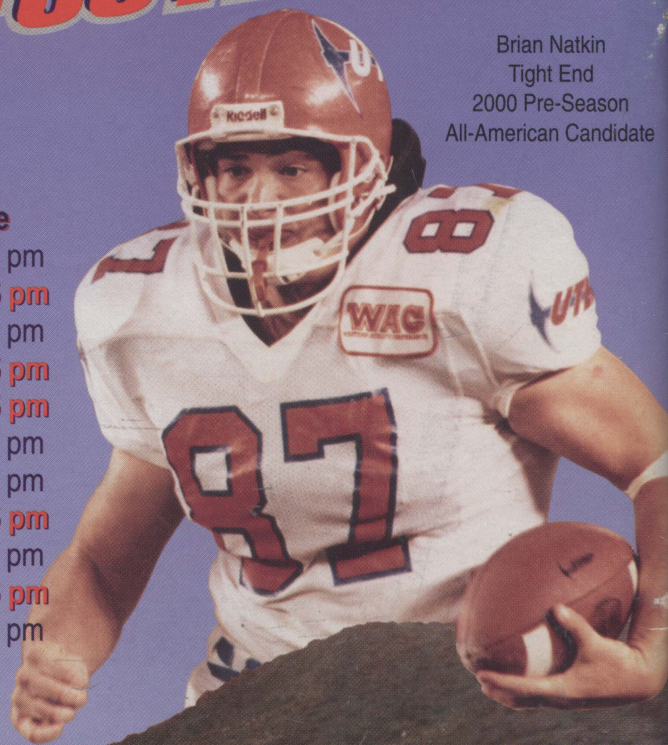
2000 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Sept. 2	at Oklahoma	5:30 pm
Sept. 9	SMU	7:05 pm
Sept. 16	at Texas A&M	6:00 pm
Sept. 23	Hawaii	7:05 pm
Sept. 30	NMSU	7:05 pm
Oct. 7	at Tulsa	5:00 pm
Oct. 14	at San Jose State	7:00 pm
Oct. 21	Fresno State*	7:05 pm
Nov. 4	at Nevada	1:00 pm
Nov. 11	Rice	7:05 pm
Nov. 18	at TCU	1:05 pm

*Homecoming

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