

Summer 2003

Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso

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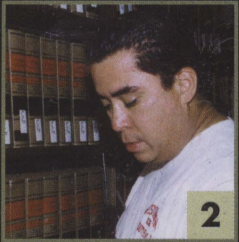
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NOVA

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



2

REBUILDING A LIFE

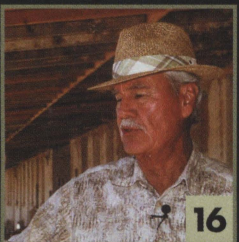
Once imprisoned UTEP student pursues law degree



5

DINO TRACKS

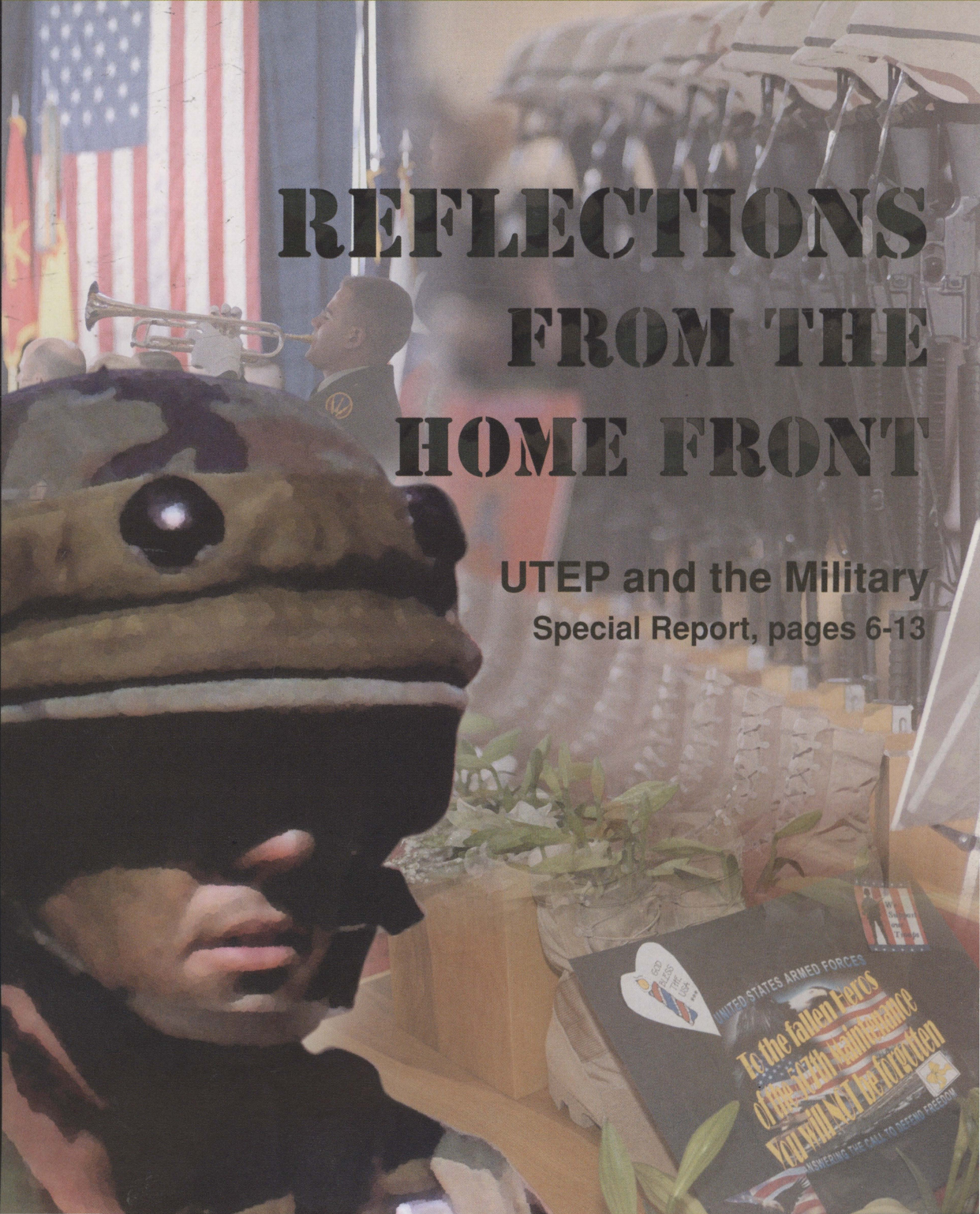
Dinosaur tracks discovered outside El Paso



16

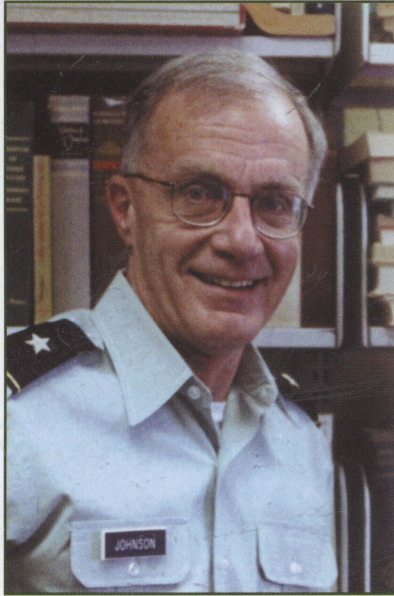
IN THEIR VOICES

Project captures bracero history



REFLECTIONS FROM THE HOME FRONT

UTEP and the Military
Special Report, pages 6-13



*This issue's From the President is an open letter by **Larry Johnson**, an associate professor of English and Western Cultural Heritage, who also serves as commanding general of the 70th Regional Support Command in Seattle, Wash.*

As I sit in an airplane on my way to visit another of my mobilized Army Reserve units awaiting deployment in the next phase of Iraqi Freedom, I think about UTEP and its contributions to our national security.

First of all, I must, on behalf of all reservists, express my gratitude for the initiatives taken by the University—now and during Desert Storm—to accommodate students and faculty who were called to active duty and who answered that call. The University was a leader in developing such initiatives, and that means a lot to those who interrupted their lives in the nation's interest.

Further, the University has provided unequivocal and uninterrupted support of the ROTC program for decades. That has served our nation well: while the University celebrates its alumni who have achieved flag rank in its ROTC Hall of Fame, it has equal reason to celebrate the younger alumni I repeatedly encounter throughout the Army. Many are officers whose UTEP education has given them opportunities for professional achievements that uniformly bring credit to the University.

Similarly, the University's aggressive engagement in extramural research, beginning with the Schellinger Labs but now extending across the University, has materially contributed to the technological advantage that gives our military its edge on the battlefield.

But what is most important to me, as both a faculty member and an officer, is what our faculty and curricula have provided for our students and alumni – an education that empowers them to participate effectively in the public dialogue shaping our national strategies. This takes place across the campus, from freshman composition courses to the current events seminars offered within the Center for Lifelong Learning. The University, in my view, has given a voice to the citizens who are its students and alumni, and that may be the most important contribution of all.

I'm grateful for the support I've received from the University over the last thirty years as I simultaneously served as a faculty member and a Reserve officer, but I believe that it deserves even greater gratitude from a nation whose citizens it has served so well.

Sincerely,

Larry Johnson
Associate Professor,
English and Western Cultural Heritage

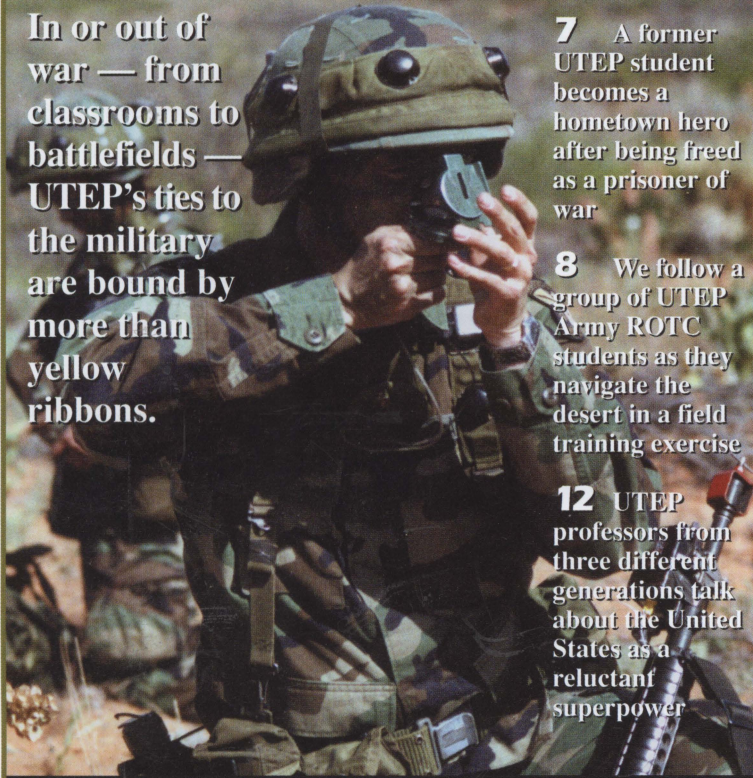
NOVA

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

SUMMER 2003 - VOLUME 41, NO. 4; NO. 154

COVER STORY

In or out of war — from classrooms to battlefields — UTEP's ties to the military are bound by more than yellow ribbons.



7 A former UTEP student becomes a hometown hero after being freed as a prisoner of war

8 We follow a group of UTEP Army ROTC students as they navigate the desert in a field training exercise

12 UTEP professors from three different generations talk about the United States as a reluctant superpower

CONTENTS

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Contents © 2003 by

The University of Texas at El Paso
NOVA Quarterly (ISSN # 1041-6900)
is published quarterly by:

The University of Texas at El Paso
University Communications
500 West University Avenue
El Paso, TX 79968-0522

Periodicals Postage Paid at El Paso, Texas
Volume 41, No. 4; No. 154

POSTMASTER:

Send changes of address to:
NOVA Quarterly

The University of Texas at El Paso
1100 N. Stanton Street, Suite 201
El Paso, TX 79902

NOVA Quarterly is sent without obligation to alumni and friends of the university.

FEATURES

3 IVY LEAGUE LAW

An unassuming 25-year-old is the first graduate of UTEP's Law School Preparation Institute to be admitted to the nation's number one law school.



4 PRESCRIPTION FOR SUCCESS

Amanda Loya's first white lab coat takes a special meaning after graduating from the Cooperative Pharmacy Program.

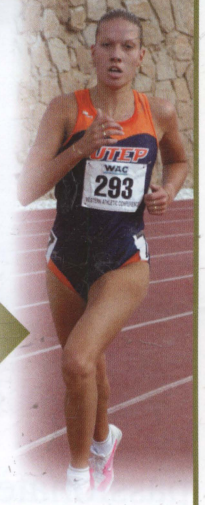
DEPARTMENTS

14 PROFILES IN GIVING

Arthur C. Hall has no plans to stop learning — or inspiring future generations of scholars. The 93-year-old believes education makes life sweeter.

17 ATHLETICS

More than 400 awards wallpaper the office of UTEP Track and Field Coach Bob Kitchen, a display of the team's achievements over time.



18 FACULTY PROFILE

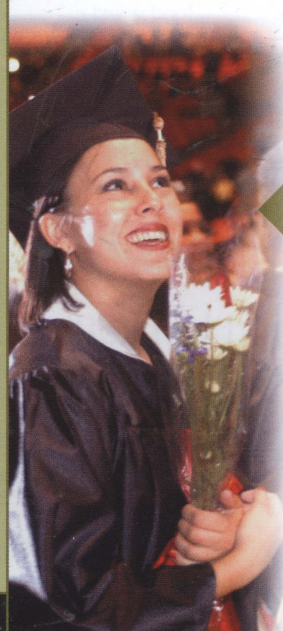
When conducting, Lowell Graham is moved by the rhythm of the music, every note radiating from his face. He's taken charge of the UTEP music department with the same passion.

20 HIGHLIGHTS

Showcasing its best faculty, staff, students and alumni, UTEP celebrates Honors Convocation, spring commencement and a roast honoring alumnus Sam Donaldson.

22 ALUMNEWS

UTEP graduates are going places — lots of places. See where on a special map and start your own alumni chapter. Plus, get a glimpse of upcoming events, including Homecoming.



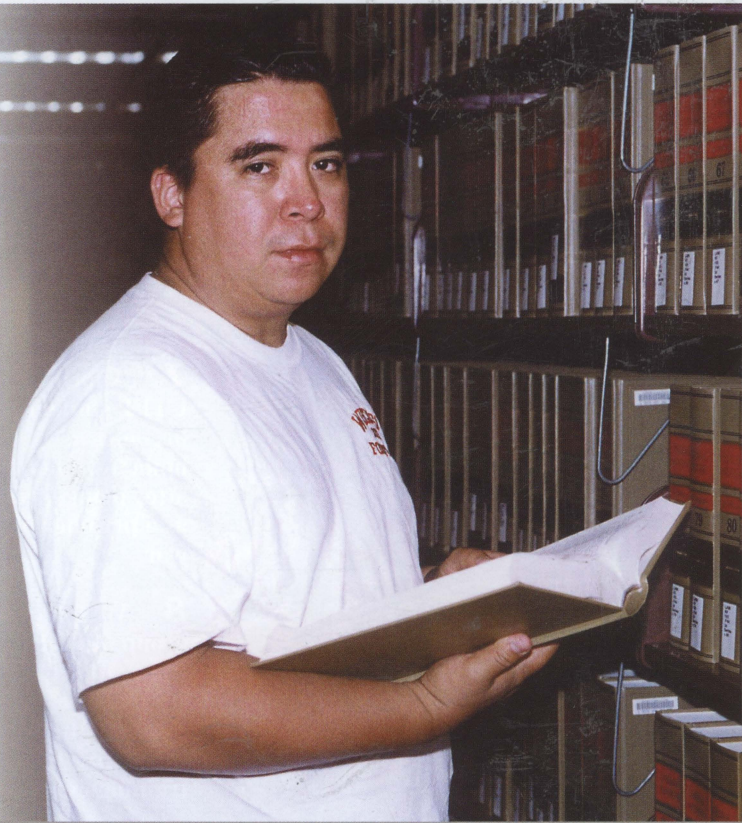
OUR TIME  IS NOW

See *NOVA Quarterly* on the World Wide Web at <http://www.utep.edu/nova>



On The Other Side OF THE LAW

By Erica Martinez



Christopher Ochoa is on a passionate pursuit to rebuild his life – and refocus his future.

He'll soon be part of a program that liberated him from a life sentence in prison and renewed his faith in the legal system — and himself.

“My heart was always in Wisconsin,” Ochoa says of his recent acceptance to the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School, which freed him through its Wisconsin Innocence Project.

The UTEP student spent 12 years in prison for a murder he didn't commit. DNA evidence proved him innocent and he was released in January 2001.

“I owe them my freedom.” Ochoa says of the law school students who took his case after he wrote them an eight-page letter.

“The last thing I wrote in the letter was ‘Can you help me? I have just given up on the system. I've lost faith in everything and everybody – but I haven't lost faith in myself,’” he wrote from his cell in a Texas prison.

The Wisconsin Innocence Project is a college course that provides legal assistance to inmates who have provable claims that they were wrongly convicted. Ochoa's exoneration was the first for the project.

Ochoa, 36, will earn his bachelor's degree in political

“I know what it's like to be inside.”

science and graduate from UTEP's Law School Preparation Institute this summer. Ochoa earned associate degrees in science and business administration and began work on a bachelor's degree in prison.

Ochoa, the second of three sons, graduated from Riverside High School in 1984 and is the first in his family to earn a college degree.

Generosity of spirit

"I have the practical experience, but I want to learn theoretical thinking. I want to participate in the (Wisconsin) Innocence Project and represent UTEP and the Law School Preparation Institute well," he says. "My dream is to get a big chunk of money...and help UTEP establish an innocence project."

Administrators who have worked with Ochoa can't help but get emotional when they talk about their star student.

"I don't know that most of us would go through what he's gone through and come out of it with the same grace and generosity of spirit that he shows," says institute professor Robert Webking.

The epitome of life

"I know what it's like to be inside," Ochoa says, closing his eyes as he recalls his days — his years — behind a jail cell. "In prison, we were told by a political science professor, 'This

isn't the perfect system — but it's the best we've got. If you don't like it — do something about it to change it.' We all looked at him like he was crazy, but he showed us it can be done."

Ochoa now looks to the future with a resounding spirit.

"I want a successful career. I want a wife and kids," Ochoa says. "I see that as the epitome of life — leaving children behind and dying with somebody at your side."



UTEP student Christopher Ochoa, left, with Illinois Gov. George Ryan

Ivy League Law By Walli Haley



Since it began as a pilot program in 1998, UTEP's Law School

Preparation Institute has had many of its graduates accepted to the nation's top law schools.

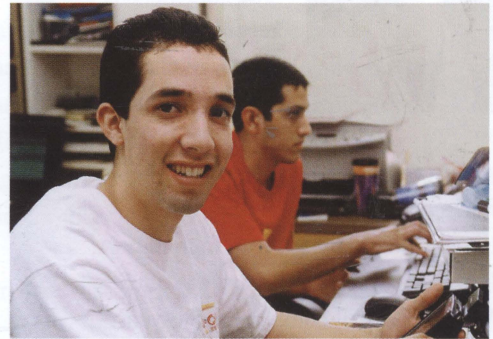
But until now, none had been admitted to the nation's number one law school — Yale. That changed recently when 25-year-old Felix Valenzuela was admitted to the Ivy League law school.

Valenzuela, who graduated from UTEP with a bachelor's degree in political science, credits the institute for giving him the skills needed to succeed in law school.

"The institute really increased my critical thinking skills," says Valenzuela, who was on the dean's list for the past two years. "The faculty helped me to focus, to think more clearly and to be more precise with words."

In the 10 years before the institute was created, only seven UTEP students a year were admitted to the nation's top 50 law schools. That number has since shot up to 20.

The institute began as a response to the Hopwood decision — a federal court



Valenzuela

ruling that prevents universities in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi from making admissions decisions based on race or ethnicity.

For Valenzuela, being the first institute grad accepted to Yale is another honor in a long list of credits, including being named "Honorary Citizen" by the City of El Paso in 1998 for his participation in various volunteer service projects.

"Felix is just an outstanding student who worked tremendously hard in the Institute and outside of it, to develop himself as a student and a person," says Robert Webking, a professor who co-founded the institute with fellow political science professor William Weaver. "The result will greatly enrich the student body at Yale."



From left, Keith Findley, co-director, Wisconsin Innocence Project; Jeanette Popp, mother of Nancy DePriest, the victim in the murder for which Ochoa was exonerated; John Pray co-director of the Wisconsin Innocence Project; Ochoa; Illinois Gov. George Ryan; and Professor Larry Marshall, director of Northwestern University's Center on Wrongful Convictions.

Prescription for Success

By Megan E. Baeza



Amanda Loya cherishes the white lab coat she received in 1999 when she began her pharmacy training.

"I've had this lab coat for four years," she says. "If I have to use another one, I'm going to keep this one forever for good luck."

It is especially meaningful because she is one of nine students who make up the



Loya

first graduating class of the Cooperative Pharmacy program. The students received their doctor of pharmacy degree from the

University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy during commencement at UTEP May 10.

Loya, who graduated with high honors, will pursue post-doctoral training with Scott & White. She will complete a one-year ambulatory care pharmacy practice residency in Temple, Texas.

"My goal is to ease the sort of medical illiteracy many patients may have—perhaps out of fear or because they might not know how to ask their doctors the right questions," she says.

The program, which began in 1995, consists of six years of pre-pharmacy and pharmacy training. Students split their time studying in both El Paso and Austin.

The program addresses a dangerous shortage of qualified pharmacists—between



Alexana Ramirez, a graduate of the program, worked at a local Walgreen's Drug Store as part of her pharmacy training.

"I think our students are among the best prepared in the nation, especially well prepared to deal with border issues,"

300 and 400 pharmacists are needed in El Paso, particularly those who are bilingual.

"I think our students are among the best prepared in the nation, especially well

prepared to deal with border issues," program director José O. Rivera

says. "Employers in the area are noticing the quality of graduates that we are training and realizing our program works and will only benefit El Paso and its community."

Institute Launches New Doctors

By Walli Haley



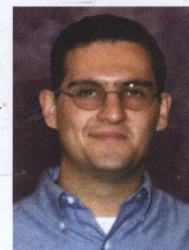
UTEP alumnus Rene Muro recently added the initials "M.D." after his name.

He's one of eight students who graduated from medical schools this spring under UTEP's flagship medical program — the Hispanic Center of Excellence.

Under the Medical Professions Institute, the center is designed to boost the number of students who are accepted to medical, dental and veterinary schools. Funded by the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, the center began at UTEP in 1994.

"I really like the program," says Muro, who graduated from the Galveston school and will begin his residency in anesthesiology there. "It's my type of environment because it's the perfect mix between hands-on and thinking skills."

Muro follows in the footsteps of fellow UTEP alumnus and UTMB graduate Antonio Gamboa. He's now



Muro

in the third year of his residency in pediatrics and internal medicine at Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix, Ariz.

"I thought UTEP was a great school," says Gamboa. "I got a better education than some from more renowned schools."



Gamboa

The center's success galvanized

UTMB to award UTEP a new grant to recruit and train high school seniors for medical school — the Early Medical School Acceptance Program.

"UTEP students are attending outstanding medical schools around the nation," said Larry Jones, associate dean of the College of Science, who heads the medical institute. "It's very gratifying to see our students succeed."

WHEN DINOSAURS ROAMED OUR BACKYARDS

BY WALLI HALEY

Standing in a quarry in southern New Mexico early last summer, Eric Kappus noticed tracks amid the shadows.

"I'm always looking for tracks," said Kappus, a 28-year-old UTEP geology graduate student.

But these were not the footprints of the everyday animal or human. These tracks, embedded in the hard rock near Mount Cristo Rey, were dinosaur footprints.

The discovery of the tracks in the El Paso region is as big news as the dinosaurs themselves.



Cornell

"We've never before found hard evidence of dinosaurs around El Paso," said UTEP geology professor William Cornell, who was on a field mapping exercise on private property with Kappus and assistant geology professor Chris Andronicos when the footprints were discovered.



Andronicos

These are the first tracks discovered in Southern New Mexico, but others have been found in Big Bend, Clayton Lake and the San Juan basin near Farmington.

The dinosaur tracks were made about 100 million years ago, Kappus said.

The majority of the tracks - and there are more than a thousand - were made by plant-eating dinosaurs called ornithopods whose close relatives include the duckbilled dinosaur. The first five tracks he found belonged to a group of meat-eating dinosaurs called theropods.

The largest track is more than a meter long, but most measure about a half meter.

"The discovery of these dinosaur tracks in this region rewrites history in a big way," said Kappus, a New Jersey native and self-described "footprint geek."

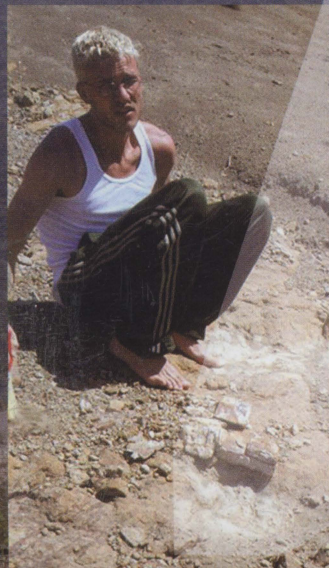
The region was probably shoreline area along an interior seaway, said Kappus. Perhaps a branch of the Gulf of Mexico extended up in this area, going into coastal lowland or marsh. Dinosaurs were traveling along the beach.

Kappus, who has an undergraduate degree in adventure therapy from Houghton College in New York, is planning his thesis around his discovery. In the meantime, he'll continue studying the track sites, taking measurements, creating maps and comparing the area's geology with previous studies.

"It's like God dropped this down from heaven," he said. **N**

To learn more, see related Web sites:

<http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaverall/Galaxy/8152/martinlockley.html> or <http://mac.usgs.gov/visitors/html/exhibits/dino.html>



Photos courtesy of Eric Kappus

UTEP student Eric Kappus at the site of recently-discovered dinosaur tracks.



REFLECT

FROM THE HOME FRONT



Throughout its history, UTEP has embraced its relationship with the military, especially Fort Bliss.

When the nation went to war with Iraq in March, that bond was strengthened as the university and the post were cast into the public eye by international media coverage of the war.

The stories and images have since surrounded our lives.

We have seen soldiers compassionately carry injured children to safety, bravely rescue prisoners of war or tearfully celebrate long-awaited homecomings

We have seen protestors passionately gather in pairs or by the hundreds, publicly burn American flags and resist arrest as they stand their ground.

But the stories do not start or end there. In the following pages, we tell more stories.

These stories depict how the university is impacted by and plays a role in the military, including in the war with Iraq. They explore the mood of the university and showcase the opinions and expertise of university faculty on issues related to war – and peace.

They tell how the university's Army ROTC program has long been at the frontlines of leadership and they profile a former student who was a prisoner of war.

They are reflections from UTEP, our home front.

HOMETOWN HERO 'Shana' symbol of war and freedom



El Paso Times

Shoshana Johnson and other freed prisoners of war are welcomed home at Biggs Army Airfield in April.

By Cindy Ramirez

Erika Johnson knows her older sister will never be the same.

"She doesn't want to be put on a pedestal, but we see her as our hero. A lot of people look up to her as a hero," she says about her oldest sister Shoshana Johnson, one of seven prisoners of war who were freed April 13.

"Holidays – Independence Day, Veteran's Day – are going to have so much more significance now," says Erika, a graduate student at UTEP.

Shoshana, a 30-year-old specialist known as "Shana," enlisted in the Army in 1998 to train as a cook. Five years later, the former UTEP business

major found herself doing more than cooking meals for her military comrades. Johnson became a symbol of war – and freedom.

For 21 days, she and four other members of the 507th Maintenance Company from Fort Bliss and two helicopter pilots were held as prisoners in the war in Iraq.

Her capture and her release launched the El Pasoan into the media limelight and into the hearts of millions across the world.

"Please allow me to express my sincere appreciation for all the support you have given to my family and me during the entire period of my ordeal," Shoshana wrote in a letter released to the public

on April 29.

Shoshana is "weirded out" about all the international media and public attention that has been showered her way, Erika says. Boxes full of letters, gifts and offers – from scholarships to culinary schools to appearances on Oprah Winfrey – are still being sorted through.

For Erika, the attention is part of her sister's new status as a hero.

"It must have taken so much courage for her to be a prisoner of war," says a teary-eyed Erika, who received a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and English from UTEP in 2000. "I can't imagine what I would have done."

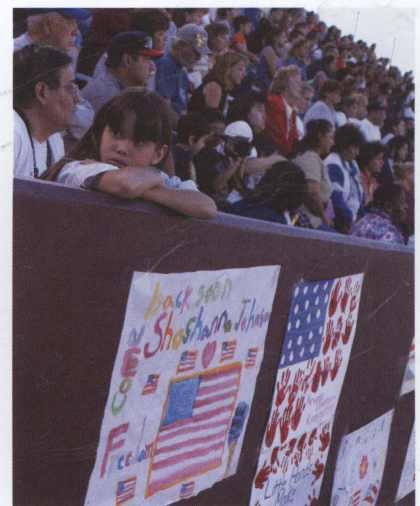
The military is nothing new for Erika or Shoshana.

Their father, Claude Johnson, is a retired 20-year military veteran who served in the Persian Gulf War. He came to the United States from Panama in 1979 when Shoshana was 6 years old. The middle Johnson sister, 28-year-old Nikki, is a captain in the Army and is stationed at Fort Bliss. She attended the New Mexico Military Institute.

Erika says she had often thought of following in her family's footsteps.

Not anymore. Her sister's ordeal struck her and her family like lightning.

"At first we were in shock. Things like this don't happen to Shana... Sometimes I thought we'd wake up from a bad dream," Erika says, shaking her head in disbelief. "Slowly that turned into anger. You imagine everything that could happen. Your imagination will kill you."



Several thousand people attended a rally in support of Shoshana Johnson at Andress High School in April.

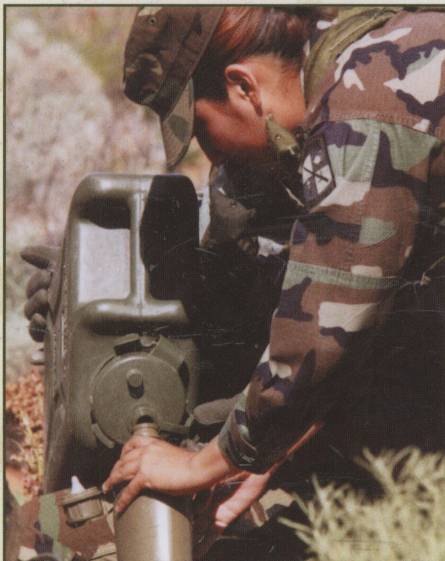
NAVIGATING THE DESERT

Exercise builds leadership in future officers

By Megan E. Baeza Photos by Laura Trejo

On a hot day in April, Nova writer Megan E. Baeza and photographer Laura Trejo were embedded with a group of UTEP Army ROTC cadets who were to spend three days navigating the desert.

Baeza, a former Marine reservist, was glad to be on the sidelines of the exercises — rather than the middle of them. Trejo, mother of a 5-month-old girl, was happy to get a good night's sleep despite having to spend the night in old Army barracks.



Second Lt. Johanna Franco fills a canteen for a cadet during tactical exercises.

The sun is blasting overhead and for miles around there's little but hot sand.

It's a Friday morning in April and a group of more than 30 UTEP Army ROTC students stand in the middle of McGregor Range at Biggs Army Airfield.

The cadets are paired, given a map, protractor, compass and a list of coordinates. They have three hours to complete a land navigation mission.

Later, they'll tackle the desert in Oro Grande, N.M., where they'll be tested on several field tasks using M-16s, blank ammunition, and high-tech laser gear.

The three-day exercise is more than a game of laser tag for a ROTC grade. The tactical training is a test of their determination, knowledge, and leadership skills.

"I am proudest when a cadet enters our

program with little or no confidence and evolves into a person with character and determination," says Capt. Jesus Silerio, a UTEP ROTC instructor.

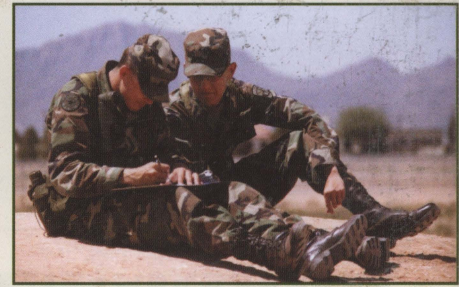
The training also prepares the juniors in the group for Advanced Leadership Camp in Fort Lewis, Wash.— one of the final steps on the road to being commissioned as Army officers. Their performance at Advanced Camp also weighs on their job placement in the military — the better they perform, the better their chance of being assigned to the branch of their choice.

"Everything we are taught, we are taught for a reason," says junior Michael Rivera, who was to travel to Advanced Camp in early June. Once finished, he will head to Fort Bragg, N.C., to participate in a three-week airborne camp. "During exercises like these, we learn that we can always improve our skills."

Basic survival skills

The cadets pull out of the UTEP Military Sciences building at 10 a.m. on April 10 and travel to Biggs Field for the land navigation exercise. They use their instruments to find specific landmarks throughout the course — steel posts with colors and numbers painted on them.

At McGregor Range, the cadets



assemble into a formation and receive instruction about the land navigation course from Silerio and about safety and hydration in the heat from an Army medic.

Throughout the weekend, the temperature climbs into the 90s with little or no cloud cover.

Capt. James Pleasant shields his eyes from the glare and watches cadets leave. He's been the juniors' primary instructor this year.

"I hope they're thinking about the importance of skills like land navigation," he says. "When units stray off course and become prisoners of war, it's basic skills like these that are very important."

Several cadets admit the war in Iraq weighs heavily on their minds as they train and prepare for a career in the military.

Pleasant knows many of his cadets won't see battle, but stresses the importance of readiness just the same.





Freshman Cynthia Lujan, also shown at bottom left, stands ready during a move to combat drill at McGregor Range.

He remains at the starting point, standing over cadets who are taking extra care to plan their navigation. They begin to show signs of anxiety as time ticks by.

“You’re burning daylight,” he shouts to remind them of their time limit. The medic follows behind him, yelling his own instructions.

“Keep drinking water...look out for each other!”

As the afternoon wears on, groups return to the starting point to have their performances graded. Some groups find all seven points, some find four or five and some find only one.

Move to combat

After a break and MREs (meals ready to eat), the cadets climb into vans for an hour drive to their next destination — Oro Grande.

Once there, the cadets receive leadership positions and instructions from the seniors. Both cadre members — Army personnel assigned to the UTEP ROTC program as instructors — and the senior cadets will evaluate the juniors’ leadership abilities at the end of the training.

They eat dinner in the dining hall, then they’re issued M-16s, blank ammunition, and MILES gear — multi-integration laser engagement systems — that function similar to the popular laser tag games.

The platoons shower and relax in the sparse barracks before lights out at 10 p.m.

When the lights come on at 5 o’clock Saturday morning, many of the cadets are waiting for formation — faces painted with camouflage and ready to go. They wear their battle dress uniforms, Kevlar helmets, the MILES gear, and their weapons. After breakfast, they divide into squads for the day’s training — simulated combat.

Pleasant works the “move to combat” assignment where squad leaders must move

themselves and their eight cadets through the desert undetected until they come across the “enemy”-senior cadets with MILES gear. The squad is then directed to engage in fire with them until they have secured the area.



Junior Thomas Van Demerk studies a terrain model before an exercise.

Sunburned and confident

After the blanks are fired and the MILES gear alarms goes off, the seniors lie on their backs. The cadets search the area in a final security sweep. Pleasant instructs them to circle around him for his analysis.

“First of all,” Pleasant says, “you all did a good job. You accomplished your objective with no casualties, but when you were moving, you bunched together. If I were waiting for you, all I’d have to do is look down the big green mass moving toward me to guess your location.”

The cadets laugh good-naturedly at themselves and scribble in small notebooks they carry in their cargo pockets. They move to the next mission.

Back at the camp, their leadership

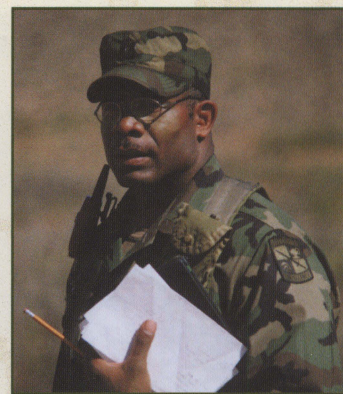
grades are distributed, spend a few hours cleaning their weapons and gear and have dinner.

Sunday morning, they return to El Paso — some tired, some slightly sunburned, but all are more sure of themselves.

“I learned a lot this weekend,” says junior Fergus Harris, a mechanical engineering major who hopes to be assigned to the Army Corps of Engineers when he is commissioned. “The point of this training was to better prepare us for this summer. I’m pretty confident about how I’ll do at Advanced Camp.”

Back at his desk at UTEP, Pleasant reflects on the cadets’ performances.

“At the beginning of their junior year, none of these cadets were diamonds — diamonds in the rough, maybe, but nobody was polished,” he says. “What is exciting is now that their junior year is winding down and it’s obvious to see the incredible strides they’ve made and the obstacles they are forcing themselves to overcome.” ■



U.S. Army Cpt. James Pleasant observes cadets.



Second Lt. Mayra Diaz, commissioned in June, cleans her weapon at the end of the weekend.

ON THE FRONTLINES OF LEADERSHIP

By Megan Baeza

UTEP has trained and commissioned officers, including four generals and a congressman, through its Army ROTC program since 1948.

Army ROTC is the college elective that trains the Army's future commissioned officers. ROTC combines classroom work with practical instruction – including military sciences, leadership labs and field training exercises.

Four former UTEP cadets have achieved the pinnacle of success in an Army career by earning the rank of general and one is now a leader in politics. Retired Maj. Gen. James Maloney (1954), retired Maj. Gen. Wade Hedgecock (1955), retired Maj.

Gen. Reynaldo Sanchez (1957), Maj. Gen. William F. Allen (1965) and retired Congressman Ronald D. Coleman (1963) are all UTEP ROTC alumni.

In addition, Maj. Gen. Stanley E. Green, commanding general of the United States Army Air Defense Artillery Center and commandant of the United States Army Air Defense Artillery School at Fort Bliss, graduated from UTEP with a bachelor's



Second Lt. Janelle Dagostino shakes hands with U.S. Army Sgt. Jackie Estrada at the May 9 UTEP ROTC commissioning.



Maj. Gen. Stanley E. Green



From left, David Bradley, Daniel Crumby, Casey Gutierrez and Stanley Vinet are sworn in as officers by Lt. Col Horace Ragler, Jr.

UTEP Army ROTC cadets are issued weapons and gear during a field training exercise in April.



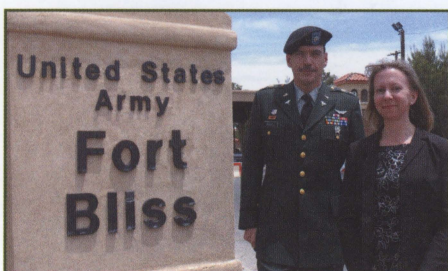
degree in political science in 1977. Green has been assigned deputy inspector general for the Army and will leave Fort Bliss in July.

One cadet ended her ROTC journey when she was commissioned May 9 and began a career in the Army that may well produce another general or congresswoman for UTEP's wall of honor. Second Lt. Janelle Dagostino graduated from UTEP this spring with a degree in biology.

"I'm such a different person than I was even two years ago," she muses. "I doubt I'd recognize myself now. It's been a rewarding path and I hope that spirit continues."

ASSESSING RISK UTEP psychologists screen soldiers before war

By Walli Haley



Lt. Col. Michael Russell, a clinical psychologist at Fort Bliss, with UTEP psychologist Karen Schmaling

Soldiers heading off to war are being screened to determine if they're at risk for stress, alcohol abuse and domestic violence once they return home.

Karen Schmaling and Art Blume, clinical psychologists at UTEP, are

conducting the screening at Fort Bliss as part of the "Soldier Readiness Program."

The screenings are partially in response to the news last year that four Fort Bragg soldiers allegedly killed their wives after returning from Afghanistan – a story that stunned the nation and the military.

Studies have found that domestic violence is significantly more likely among soldiers who had been deployed in the past year than those who had not. Alcohol consumption also has been found to increase immediately before and after deployment.

"We're trying to identify soldiers that are at risk," Schmaling says.

More than 2,000 soldiers awaiting deployment have been questioned by

Schmaling, who also is associate vice president for academic affairs, and Blume, who is an assistant professor of psychology, and by students working with them.

The interviews are part of a larger screening process that includes briefings on what the soldiers can expect once they arrive in Iraq or other deployment sites.

The screenings began March 14 and are scheduled to continue until at least November. The results of their work are meant to help soldiers at risk to get the help they need.

"Any kind of violence is unacceptable," explains Maj. Eric Cipriano, chief of social work and family advocacy at William Beaumont Army Medical Center at Fort Bliss.

SUPPORT IN SMALL GESTURES

By Erica Martinez

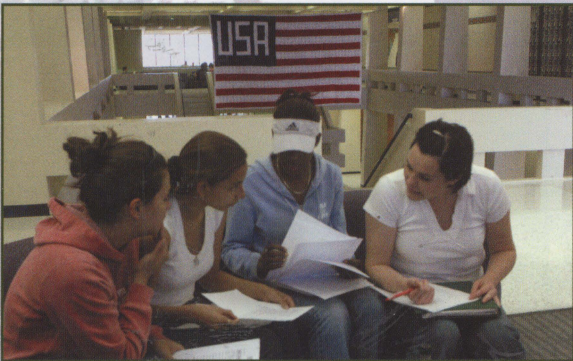
The days were calm at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Thousands of miles away, the atmosphere was different. Heat, sand, wind – and war – prevailed in Iraq.

And although the notion of war brought various reactions, one was clear on campus, according to Richard Padilla, vice president for student affairs.

“The students absolutely supported the troops whether they agreed with the decision to go to war or not,” Padilla says.

Some made yellow ribbons, others donated to toiletry drives. A giant American flag was hung in the student union. The pros and cons of war were discussed in and out of classrooms, sometimes as part of a grade; other times as an exercise in free speech.



“I brought in the television a lot and said, ‘This is how you do this and this is how you don’t do that,’” associate professor of communication Barthy Byrd says.

“(War coverage) was a great learning tool for me,” Byrd says. “You’re going to get as many opinions as there are people and that’s the way it ought to be.”

Hugo Macias, a graduate student from Juárez, says he feels the impact daily.

“We had a discussion every day about the war in my classes,” Macias says.

UTEP’s Dean of Students William Schafer says that the university campus had minimal war protests and some support rallies – an absolute contrast to what “some of us may remember from the last 30 years.”

Students, faculty and staff at UTEP, many with family members in Operation Iraqi Freedom, responded with outpourings of support in the form of yellow ribbons, as well as baby wipes, beef jerky, deodorant and other toiletries.

More than 4,000 yellow ribbons were distributed on campus in March after the capture of seven prisoners of



Students, faculty and staff made more than 4,000 yellow ribbons in March.

war, including former UTEP student Shoshana Johnson.

“I have at least 20 friends serving in this war,” student Leah Montoya says. “The UTEP community needed to do something to show our support, especially because one of the former POWs attended UTEP.”

Jenny Fraire, a coordinator at the Undergraduate Learning Center and 2002 UTEP graduate, organized the toiletry drive and says the university quickly responded.

“It was something that we could do to give back, for all that they’re doing for us,” says Fraire, who has various family members in the military including a sister in the U.S. Navy Reserves. “It’s a very small gesture for what they’ve given us.”

FORT BLISS BOOSTS REGIONAL ECONOMY

By Walli Haley

All over El Paso, yellow ribbons flutter in the desert wind as a tribute to the Fort Bliss soldiers who serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The war serves as reminder about the importance of Fort Bliss, not only to the nation’s security, but also to the post’s role as vital to the region’s lifeblood.

“Fort Bliss is El Paso’s largest employer,” says Dennis Soden, director of UTEP’s Institute for Policy and Economic Development. “Without Fort Bliss, El Paso’s economy would not recover for two decades or even longer.”

Fort Bliss has been at the heart of El Paso’s economic life since 1848 – when it was established on the banks north of the Rio Grande in an area near today’s Union Depot.

Today, the post – the second largest in the Army – is the home of the Air Defense Artillery Center of Excellence and is responsible for air defense artillery training of United States soldiers and various allied nation soldiers.

About 11 percent – or \$1 of every \$9 – of personal income in the El Paso region is linked to Fort Bliss, according to a 2002 IPED study of the post’s economic impact. Fort Bliss employs more than 20,000.

Fort Bliss soldiers and their families deposit about \$600 million in local banks and credit unions. The IPED report also states the post contributes more than \$15 billion in income, a 100 percent growth since 1989.

Fort Bliss’ sales volume grew from more than \$822 million in 1989 to more

than \$1.6 billion in 2002.

This growth comes even though the post has lost more than 7,000 active duty military since 1989, along with the departure of about 2,000 civilians who were employed by the post.

The study notes the loss of Fort Bliss would mean an immediate impact on more than 10 percent of the economy and would push unemployment into the double-digit range.

“Fort Bliss is a critical component of our economy,” says Soden.



Soden

THE RELUCTANT SUPER POWER

Three UTEP professors with distinct perspectives talk about a world where the United States is the only super power - whether we want to be or not.

One is young, one is middle-aged and one wears his years with pride.

They came together at NOVA's request to reflect on recent events.

UTEP political science professor Z. Anthony Kruszewski fought with the Polish resistance during World War II. He knows the importance of allies.

Visiting assistant history professor Michael Berdine studies the Middle East and Islam. He remembers the Berlin Wall, Vietnam and international coalitions.

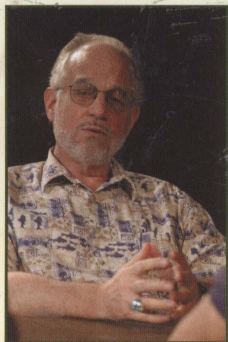
David Levin, assistant political science professor, just turned 30. He's never known a world not dominated by the United States.

Here are excerpts from their discussion about the U.S. strike into Iraq, citizen diplomats and why it's tough being the only super power on the planet.



Three generations of UTEP professors speak about international relations of the past few months. From right, Michael Berdine, Z. Anthony Kruszewski and David Levin.

NOVA: *When you think about the past few months, what stands out?*



Berdine

BERDINE: A few years down the line, we'll see that the Iraqi invasion was the easiest part of the whole thing, because the occupation is going to be hell. A lot of it has to do with our lack of

understanding about the Middle East. The Iraqi people for the most part were glad to get rid of Saddam Hussein, but they're not glad to have another occupier. They want their own freedom; they want to make their way in the world.

KRUSZEWSKI: There's no doubt in my mind that we would win the conflict and will get into tremendous difficulty winning the peace. We took action with a very unlikely coalition – the United States and the United Kingdom, Australia and Poland. Again we learn political geography and history by waging war.

LEVIN: There is no unified government in the United States. Different parts of the federal government want different people

to run Iraq for different reasons. This isn't to say that the current system is a totally flawed one: it isn't. It certainly lacks a unity, and that's the problem with assuming that we know better. We don't know better. Our system is designed to work as best as it can without 'knowing better.'

NOVA: *How do we do better?*

LEVIN: We can't improve our decision-making without removing its democratic element. We have citizen diplomats. We'd have to dump the idea of citizen diplomats and make them professionals. Under the British system, career diplomats and permanent staffers run embassies.

BERDINE: Do you think that would work here?

LEVIN: I don't think it would. We would freak out, say this is usurping the democratic system.

BERDINE: A democracy is fine for running an internally oriented government. Nothing better exists. But when you look at foreign policy, then you look at an autocratic system.

KRUSZEWSKI: France and England were internally interested in their empires, whereas we really don't give a damn. We

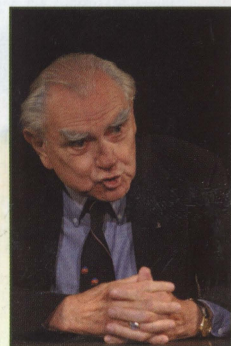
want to be loved, we want our place in political geography, but we don't understand what's out there.

NOVA: *Are we prepared to be a super power?*

BERDINE: In terms of physical materials, we have the capability. In terms of military hardware and software, we have the capability. As to whether we have a real interest in being one, clearly not. This is our first experience as the only super power.

LEVIN: I have to disagree. I grew up with the United States being the only super power. The Berlin Wall fell when I was in high school. I can't remember a world when the U.S. wasn't forced to take names and kick ass. I read books in college about the rise and fall of the great powers, but to me it didn't wash.

KRUSZEWSKI: My experience is totally different. I was 11 when World War II started and my hometown in Poland was invaded. At 15, I joined the anti-



Kruszewski

Nazi resistance. At 16, I commanded 100 kids my age and took part in the Warsaw uprising. I saw such horrors, millions were killed, Christians and Jews. From this perspective, people welcome supremacy of powers like the United States and England.

NOVA: *How did media coverage change the war?*

KRUSZEWSKI: The media coverage totally transformed the war. In World War II, we didn't have media present. That's why we could achieve major goals in spite of terrible losses. Only recently did I discover that 17,000 to 18,000 people died on the first day of the D-Day invasion. But it is well hidden because there were no reporters. Now they are embedded. But I still find there is too much similarity of coverage.

BERDINE: I saw a similarity in coverage that tracked what the State Department said. That's why I watch BBC, read the papers and the Internet, to get other points of view, more of a balance.

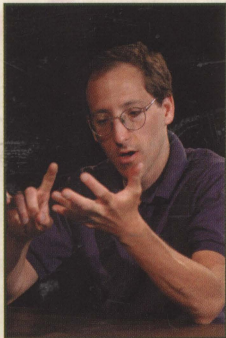
NOVA: *Did embedded reporters do a good job?*

LEVIN: The media's purpose is to sell advertising. As such, embedded reporters were a great success. They sold well. As to whether they informed us about the war, individual reporters did a good job. Whether they provided independent viewpoints, they didn't. They couldn't; they were embedded. They were shown what they were allowed to see.

NOVA: *Final thoughts?*

KRUSZEWSKI: I hope that universities rethink what we should be teaching if we are to play the role of super power. We have to educate the next generation.

BERDINE: It is critical to educate people to understand the ramifications of our actions overseas. In my view this is the greatest country in the world. I don't believe in my country, right or wrong. I believe in my country, God help it be right. ■



Levin

EMBEDDED REPORTING

A new era of war coverage By Erica Martinez

War will never be the same again, says Barthy Byrd, an associate professor of communication at the University of Texas at El Paso.

"Embedded reporting has never happened before with the military. There has always been an uneasy, if not down-right hostile, relationship between the military and the media and in the coverage of war," she says.

More than 600 journalists traveled with U.S. military forces in Iraq as part of the Pentagon's embedded journalist program during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Journalists running alongside troops during combat operations were given the opportunity to report events as they occurred - whether it was the fall of a Saddam Hussein statue or being attacked by Iraqis.

"I saw no one who was too cowardly to cover what they saw," Byrd says. "In fact, I saw brave reporters who went way beyond what they were supposed to do."

Frank Perez, UTEP assistant professor of communication, says that media presented information in a revolutionary manner.

"The media was able to go in there with the military and see what the everyday soldier sees...and the realities of war," Perez says.

That reality includes what was happening in the homeland. El Paso and UTEP attracted international media after former UTEP student Shoshana Johnson, a 30-year-old specialist with the 507th Maintenance Company at Fort Bliss, became a prisoner of war on March 23. She and six others were safely released in April.

"(The media) was the first to give us information that even the military had not," says UTEP graduate student Erika Johnson, Shoshana's sister. "They were there on the frontlines showing us everything, giving us an idea of what was happening."

Erika Johnson said she had mixed feelings about the media's coverage of the war, the military and her sister. Some coverage was fair, insightful and even helpful, but other was insensitive and sensationalized, she said.

"After a while (the media) were all parked in front of our house and wouldn't leave. The phone wouldn't stop ringing," she said.

War: Past and Present

There are significant differences between the media and military's relationship in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the Vietnam and Gulf wars, according to Byrd.

"When those reporters called in on video phone, it was happening right there. It was much more sophisticated this time," she says. "The other change was the military's acceptance that media will be there. That you can invite them in or they will sneak in anyway."

During the Vietnam War, more than 600 journalists also reported from the fields, but were less restricted and "said what they liked and contradicted the military all the time," Byrd says.

"The military became very frightened and mistrustful of the media and in fact, many people blamed the media for the loss of the Vietnam War," she adds.

In 1991, reporters covering the Gulf War succumbed mostly to only daily press briefings.

"The American military took a big chance in embedding reporters," Byrd says. "If things had gone badly - the reporters would have been right there to see it and I can assure you they would have been right there to cover it."

Perez says that war will never be covered the same.

"The embedded journalist is a milestone in the way the reports any type of military conflict," he says. "It will definitely be factored in to how access is controlled by the Pentagon in future conflicts." ■



A Lifetime of Learning

By Megan E. Baeza

Arthur C. Hall has no plans to stop learning.

After earning his bachelor's degree, raising a family, navigating a successful career, writing two books, and celebrating his 93rd birthday, Hall continues to believe education makes the joys of life sweeter.

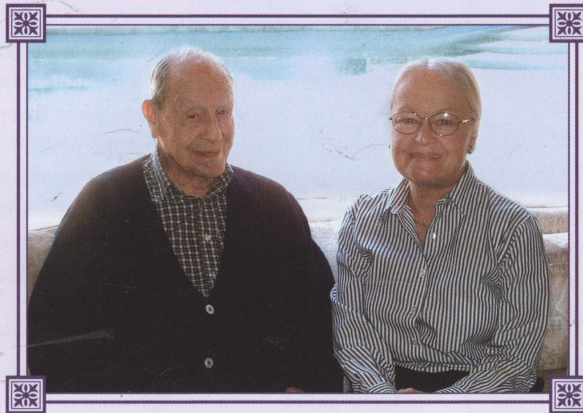
"I'm still at it," he says. "I've been told that when you've stopped learning, you've had it.

I don't feel like I'll ever be educated enough and I am still trying."

Hall graduated from El Paso High, enrolled at College of Mines in 1926 and spent two years here before transferring to Stanford where he completed his mining engineering degree.

He spent the next years pursuing a successful career in the mining business and raising his son Neel, with his wife Helen. Throughout his working years, Hall spent time in the United States, Mexico and Peru.

He's written two books chronicling his experiences. "Nothing Down: Mostly About Mining and Those Involved" was published in 1992 and is housed in the UTEP library's Special Collections.



Arthur C. Hall with UTEP President Diana Natalicio

"I felt I should write my books to give a lot of people credit who have helped me along the way," Hall says. "We love Mexico and our change to Peru was unexpected but a very rewarding experience. It was a chance in a lifetime."

After his retirement, Hall spent three years as a lecturer at the University of

"There are times I wonder if our generation did enough to make the world a better place."

Arizona where he continued his commitment to learning. He made friends with a number of the younger educators.

His memories of the people he's met along the way are fond ones.

"At my age, most of us have lost our contemporaries and we've had to make younger friends," he laughs. An avid tennis player into his 90s, Hall now spends much of his time "reading and thinking," he says.

During UTEP's Legacy Campaign, Hall established a charitable gift annuity.

Eventually, the annuity will create a permanent scholarship endowment to UTEP students in perpetuity—meaning a scholarship in Hall's name will guarantee future UTEP students an opportunity to receive a college education.

His generosity is due in part to his love of learning and his desire to contribute to others' education—inspiring a future generation of scholars.

"There are times I wonder if our generation did enough to make the world a better place," he says. "I think UTEP and her faculty, staff, and students are doing a wonderful job. There are so many opportunities for education now and so many students are taking advantage of them." ■

One Step at a Time: Former janitor inspires dedication

By Erica Martinez

Robert Aguilar wears a suit and tie to work these days – a stark contrast to the uniform blues he wore 10 years ago.

Aguilar, a 1998 UTEP graduate, is assistant principal at Glen Cove Elementary in the Ysleta Independent School District.

In 1992, the then 27-year-old Aguilar worked at the school as a substitute custodian in the evenings and attended El Paso Community College during the day.

“It’s a magical feeling to walk down the halls that I once cleaned – now as an assistant principal,” he says.

In 1994, he turned in his custodian uniform and took a job as a teacher’s aide.

“Taking the first step is the biggest step you’ll take,” Aguilar recently said to more than 100 local paraprofessionals gathered at UTEP.

UTEP, in cooperation with the Ysleta district, brought together 125 paraprofessionals – substitute aides, library aides and teacher aides – to help them apply to the university’s College of Education to become certified teachers.

Aguilar says he was a teacher’s aide when he understood the meaning of “paraprofessional.”

“They had me going ‘*para ya y para aca*’ (here and there). I was a ‘*para ya*’ professional,” he says, laughing. “That in itself makes you a person of higher caliber because you learn the aspects of the entire campus. You’re experiencing all aspects of teaching.”

In 1996, Aguilar enrolled at UTEP and two years later received his bachelor’s degree in special education.

The road toward his master’s degree was an even longer one.

On weekends, Aguilar traveled to Alpine, Texas, to attend classes at Sul Ross State University. Sixteen-thousand miles later, Aguilar earned his master’s degree in administration in 2002.

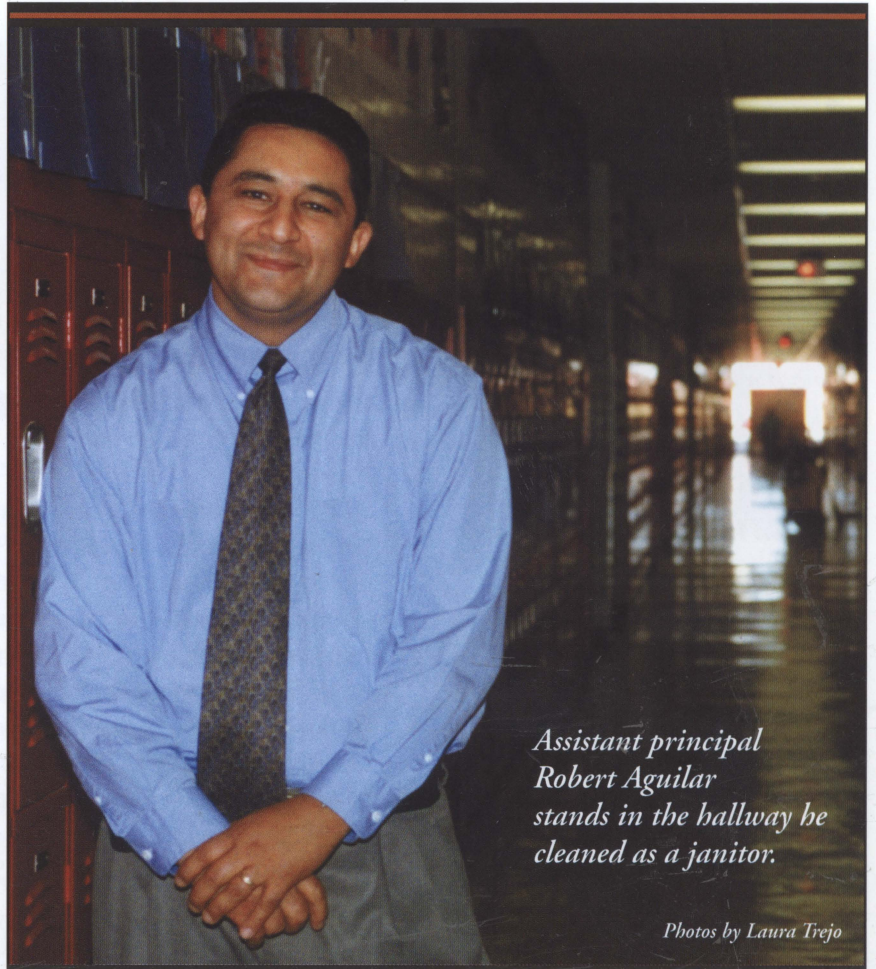
“I wouldn’t change any of it,” he says. “Anyone can do it.”

Aguilar touted UTEP’s College of Education for all the assistance he was given.

“UTEP is completely student-centered. I had an outstanding undergraduate experience. The caliber in the teaching is excellent,” Aguilar says.

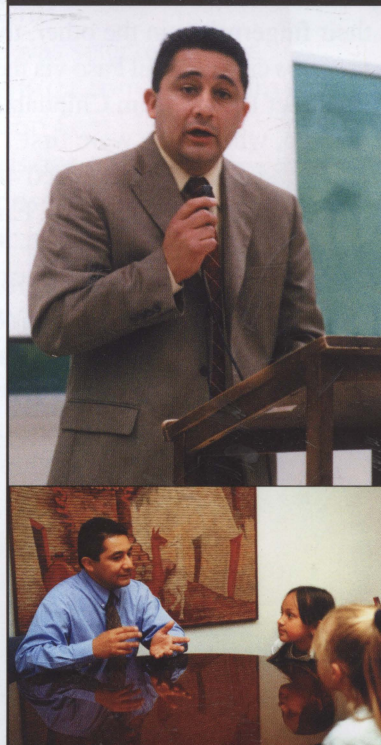
The college’s Job Embedded Model program was designed to help paraprofessionals earn their degrees by offering flexible course scheduling, internships at area schools and close mentoring by UTEP faculty.

“I have a lot of pride in the experiences I have had to get where I am today,” Aguilar says. “I have deep appreciation for those that have guided me in those steps.” ■



Assistant principal Robert Aguilar stands in the hallway he cleaned as a janitor.

Photos by Laura Trejo



PROFILE

NAME: Robert Aguilar

AGE: 37

TITLE: Assistant principal at Glen Cove Elementary School

EDUCATION: Graduated from UTEP in 1998 with a bachelor’s degree in special education. Graduated from Sul Ross State University in 2002 with a master’s degree in administration.

PERSONAL: Married to Vianey Aguilar, a teacher at Ascarate Elementary School

For more information on the College of Education - Job Embedded Model, visit <http://coeadvising.education.utep.edu>

Voices from the past

Project captures bracero history

By Erica Martinez

*By the thousands – they came.
Into their hopeful – bewildered eyes
Orders I barked – military style.
Though a U.S. Government Official
No time for courtesies – had I.
Like cattle – I herded them
To food lines – barracks – buses –
cattle trucks.*

— from “A Tribute to the Mexican Braceros”
by Carlos Corella Sr.

When Carlos Corella Sr. recounts the story of his seven years as a U.S. Department of Labor employee, he vividly remembers the thousands of *braceros*— some in their *huaraches* and straw hats and others in their boots and caps – ready to pick cotton, dig potatoes, pick strawberries and rope cattle.

“*Braceros* were hardworking, humble people. They had no complaints. All they wanted were jobs,” said Corella, a former employee at the Rio Vista processing center in Socorro and a 1962 Texas Western College (now UTEP) graduate.

The men, known as *braceros* because they worked with their *brazos*, or arms, were part of a bilateral emergency agreement between the United States and Mexico to satisfy World War II labor shortages.

Sixty years later, the *braceros* and officials who ran the program are in their 70s and 80s and dying. Their stories could die with them.

UTEP’s Institute of Oral History is collecting tape-recorded interviews with former *braceros*, farmers and ranchers who employed them, and Border Patrol

agents and government employees who worked at processing stations, to preserve their stories.

“The project is capturing stories that have never been told or recorded before,” said institute director Kristine Navarro.

The tape-recorded interviews will become part of the oral history collection at the University Library.

From 1942 to 1964, more than two million Mexican men between the ages of 18-65 came to the United States to work and keep the agricultural economy afloat. From 1951 to 1964 thousands of *braceros* crossed from Juárez to the Rio Vista Farm in Socorro – one of five processing centers along the U.S.-Mexico border.

With their *chivas*, or personal items, in one hand and *Forma 13*, a form with their fingerprints in the other, the *braceros* came into El Paso via the Santa Fe Street Bridge from Chihuahua, Mexico, where they were first processed. They were loaded 40 to a bus and taken to the Rio Vista Farm and hired by farming contractors.

Corella recounts that *braceros* went through various inspection stations at the farm, including the U.S. Department of Public Health.



Photo by Laura Trejo
Carlos Corella Sr. at the Rio Vista Farm in Socorro.

“*Braceros* were deloused with white powder. They came out completely white and laughing. They would say, ‘We’re *gringos* now,’” Corella says.

The *bracero* project is also conducting interviews in Orange County, Calif.; Albuquerque and Las Cruces, N.M.; San Antonio and Austin; the Lower Rio Grande Valley; Chicago; and the Mexican cities of Chihuahua, Durango and Mexico.

The Oral History Institute was established at the university in the early 1970s. The *Bracero* Project is funded by the Ford Foundation through the Paso Al Norte Immigration Museum.

Navarro says that these stories are very important for future generations.

“When you’re little and you listen to their (*braceros*) stories, you don’t pay close attention,” she says. “But now, as adults you can see the pictures and hear the stories and appreciate them much more.” **N**



Photo courtesy of Carlos Corella Sr.
Rio Vista Farm in Socorro, Texas.



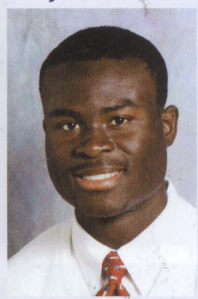
Photo courtesy of Carlos Corella Sr.
Braceros being fed sack lunches after having crossed to the United States.

Top Athletes Honored

By Walli Haley

Two UTEP kinesiology student-athletes took top honors as UTEP's Male and Female Athletes of the Year in April at the university's annual Dinner with the Miners.

The two are runner Aaron Egbele, a 24-year-old senior from Irving, Texas, and Kelly Parker, a 22-year-old senior from Canada.



Egbele

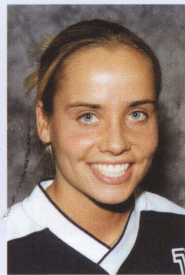
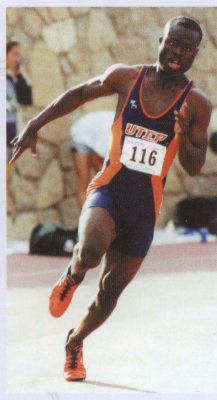
Egbele is a four-time NCAA All-American and a five-time WAC Champion. He took fourth in the 200-meter dash

and sixth in the 100-meter dash at the 2002 NCAA Outdoor Championships to gain All-America honors.

During the 2002 indoor season, he placed fifth in the 200-meter dash.

Egbele won the WAC titles in the 100- and 200-meter dash, as well as part of the 400-meter relay at the 2002 WAC Outdoor Championships.

He holds the third-fastest time in the 100-meter dash (10.18) and the seventh-fastest time in the 200-meter dash (20.54) in school history and helped the 400-meter relay team break a 29-year-old school record in 2001, running 38.98. The relay team later went on to finish third at the 2001 NCAA Outdoor Championships.



Parker

As a soccer player, Parker helped UTEP to its best season in school history as the Miners finished 16-3.

She was named First-team All-WAC, All-WAC Tournament team and Academic All-WAC in 2002. She broke the school's single-season record for assists and ranked third for goals and points.

Ranked Second-team All-Central Region by SoccerBuzz.com in 2002, Parker led the NCAA with 1.00 assists per game and was tied for 13th with 2.16 points per game in 2002.

As a senior, Parker scored 11 goals and tallied 19 assists for 41 points.

She was selected to the SoccerBuzz.com Elite Team of the Week on Sept. 17, 2002.

She is one of the most prolific players in school history. She closed her career ranking first in assists (30) and points (84), and ranked second in goals (27).

She also was second team All-WAC as a sophomore and was Academic All-WAC in 2001. **N**



Track and Field Running Strong

By Walli Haley

More than 400 awards wallpaper the office of UTEP Track and Field Coach Bob Kitchens.

The NCAA certificates dating back to 1973 celebrate the accomplishments of the university's track and field standouts. Among them is Obadele Thompson, who set a NCAA and world record in the 55-meter indoor event in a blazingly fast 5.99 seconds in 1997.



Thompson

This season, the UTEP track and field teams took nine titles and produced 13 NCAA regional qualifying marks at the 24th Annual ShoeSpring/Audiovox/UTEP Invitational.

Kitchens, who has led the track and field program for 15 years, speaks with pride about the caliber of his athletes.



Kitchens

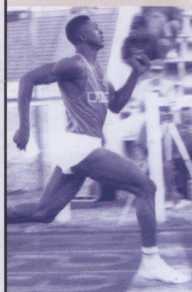
"We're not magic, but we have a strong work ethic. Our students know they have to represent us well both on and off the track."

The UTEP coach has tutored five world record-holding sprinters and six NCAA champion sprinters. His sprinters also won 63 All-American titles — a rate of five a year.

Track star Aaron Egbele, UTEP athlete of the year, says Kitchens encourages him to "keep going."

"He motivates me by pushing me to work a little harder, even when I don't feel like it," Egbele says. "He's a great coach."

Proud of the program that he painstakingly rebuilt from the ground up, Kitchens has his sights set on winning a NCAA championship. The 1969 cross-country team won the first NCAA championship for UTEP.



Adeniken

Known for recruiting international talent that would come to define the Miner program, Kitchens brought in athletes such as Olapade Adeniken of Nigeria, who remained listed in the world 100 rankings long after his graduation.

"It's about being a team," Kitchens says of his student athletes, who come from all parts of the world. "When we put on that suit, everyone is the same. We all represent UTEP." **N**

UTEP'S OWN MUSIC MAN

By Donna L. Dennis

When conducting, Lowell Graham is moved by the rhythm of the music, every note radiating from his face.

He creates a medley of sounds with the wave of his baton and the motions of his hands — speeding up the bass section or quieting the violins.

“Music connects people on an emotional level, a level which surpasses language, surpasses everything,” Graham says, the excitement building in his voice. “That’s where the power is, that tingle factor, that ‘wow.’”

Graham has faken on his role as UTEP’s Department of Music chairman with the same passion that he has for music. He was appointed in November 2002.

Aside from leading orchestras, Graham is charged with overseeing the administration of the department.

He has worked to support music faculty, improve recruitment, increase visibility of the department and provide the highest quality of music education. He’s established a partnership with AOL Time Warner, now in its preliminary steps, to help improve music education.

Graham has quickly earned the respect of his colleagues and students, who describe him as animated, motivated, expressive and perhaps most of all, energetic.

“Energy is in everything he does,” says Ronald Hufstader, professor and director of bands. “The way he walks, talks, carries out his business, his approach to life is energetic.”

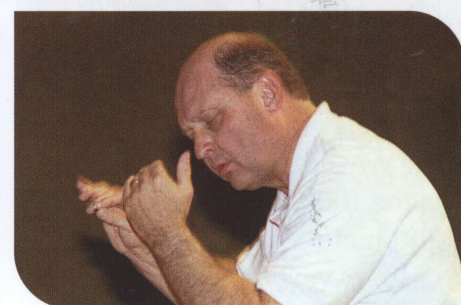
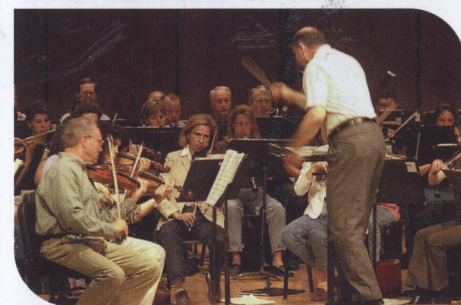
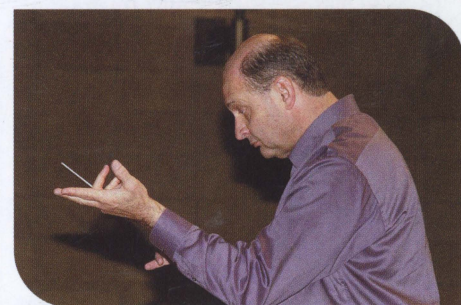
Others say he does it all with a smile and a skill that is evident in his work.

“He has the highest of music skills, his military training gives him the highest organization and management skills,” says Curtis Tredway, associate professor of music. “Those two together make a very powerful weapon.”

Graham is a retired U.S. Air Force colonel and the former commander and conductor of the United States Air Force Band, aka “America’s Band,” in Washington, D.C. Last year, he directed the Ceremonial Brass on its fifth consecutive Independence Day appearance on NBC’s Today Show.

Graham maintains an active guest-conducting schedule, but feels most loyal to the music inside him.

“My music making is very personal,” says Graham, whose love of music was inspired by watching his mother play the piano when he was young. “I feel that if the music doesn’t communicate with me, I can’t communicate with the musicians, who can’t communicate it to the audience. Maybe I have a little bit of a gift to communicate that emotion.” ■



Photos by Laura Trejo

GRAHAM AT A GLANCE

- **Name:** Lowell Graham
- **Title:** Chairman, UTEP Department of Music
- **Age:** 54
- **Education:** Bachelor’s degree in music education from the University of North Colorado; doctoral degree in musical arts for orchestral conducting from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.
- **Career:** Director of instrumental activities for the Colby Community College Department of Music in Colby, Kan., in 1971.
- **Military and Music:** Joined the Air Force in 1974 and served as deputy commander and associate conductor of the Air Force Band of the West; associate conductor and director of string activities for the United States Air Force Band; and commander and conductor of the Air Combat Command Heritage of America Band.
- **Accomplishments:** Released recordings on four labels – Klavier, Telarc, Mark, and Wilson; and served as conductor/music director for the Telarc International Recording of “Music For an Awful Lot of Winds and Percussion” by PDQ Bach, which won a Grammy in 1993.

10 TOP SENIORS

Among the Best and Brightest

The Top Ten Seniors awards are presented each spring to students who have achieved academic success and a proven commitment to the community.

They represent the best and brightest graduates of the university and are measured not by class ranking, but by what they've accomplished and what awaits them in their professional careers and personal lives.

CONLEY

Emily Susanne Conley considers UTEP's multicultural student population a valuable asset that has given her an "enriching and insightful" university experience.



But the 22-year-old boasts a resume full of personal assets, including making the Dean's List from fall 2000 to 2002 and winning the Wolslager Foundation Scholarship.

She's a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society and graduated with a 3.94 GPA with a bachelor's degree in microbiology. She'll enter the dental school at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio this summer.

CRUMBY

Daniel Crumby has worked diligently to make his experience at UTEP diverse and rewarding after serving in the military. Among his many activities and honors, Crumby was



Homecoming King for 2002, cadet executive officer for the UTEP ROTC program and participated in the prestigious UTEP Law School Preparation Institute.

With a 3.61 GPA, Crumby, 26, graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science. He will attend the University of Texas at Austin School of Law and fulfill an Army commissioning in the Army's Judge Advocate General's Corp as a lawyer.

DOMINGUEZ

Throughout her time at UTEP, Adriana Dominguez combined her love of theater with community service. Dominguez, 22, has participated in over 20 UTEP theatrical productions as an actress, costume designer and director.



In 2003, she was part of a team that produced "The Vagina Monologues," which raised more than \$2,000 for area charities.

She was the recipient of an impressive number of scholarships, including the Presidential Excellence Scholarship and Kiwanis Club and Optimist Club scholarships. Dominguez has a 3.97 GPA and graduated with a bachelor's degree in theater arts.

LEYVA

Myriam Leyva believes that UTEP gave her the greatest gift possible — a quality education.



These days, she's giving back to the community by teaching children about diabetes

prevention as a health educator with the El Paso Diabetes Association. She volunteered in a

number of health-related events in the community.

Leyva, 23, earned her bachelor's degree in health science with a notable 4.0 GPA. She made the Dean's List every semester and was recognized as a Lucille Stevens Scholar and member of the Golden Key National Honor Society.

MAMMEI



Russell Mammei ended his undergraduate career in a big way: He was one of two students nationwide to win the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship in Nuclear Physics. His wife, Juliette Mammei, was the other.

The prestigious fellowship comes with three years of support for advanced study. The Mammei's will pursue doctoral degrees in graduate studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute — one of the top research institutions in the United States.

Russell Mammei, 22, graduated with honors and a 3.97 GPA with a degree in both mathematics and physics. He was a Houston Endowment Scholar and received a UTEP Presidential Scholarship.

He served as president of the Society of Physics Students chapter at UTEP and worked on nuclear physics research for almost four years.

MCSHANE



Katherine Ann McShane believes every UTEP graduate is a reflection of past and future students. With her as an example, it's easy to see why the university's graduates paint a bright picture of achievement.

A star athlete on the Women's Soccer Team, the 22-year-old made the All-WAC Team three years in a row. McShane, who has a 3.6 GPA, also hit several goals in academics, making the Dean's List every semester since fall 2000 and earning a spot on the Golden Key National Honor Society.

She's a senior in graduate school working toward a master's degree in accounting under the combined BAMA program, where students earn a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in accounting.

PETERSON



Brandy Lanae Peterson's face may be familiar to many as one of the students featured in UTEP's "Our Time is Now" television ad campaign.

What's not reflected in the campaign is her many achievements, including receiving a bachelor's degree in health sciences with a 3.5 GPA.

Peterson served as internal vice president for the campus Medical Professions Organization and a term as president of the Black Student Coalition.

She also volunteered with the Child Crisis Center of El Paso and the Visiting Nurses Association.

TAPIA



Alma Stephanie Tapia is setting a high standard as the first in her family to graduate from college. She boasts a 3.95 GPA and a resume filled with achievements, including being a member and officer of various campus and community groups.

Tapia, 21, served on the Engineering Student Leadership Council, Alpha Sigma Mu Metallurgical Society, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and the Golden Key National Honor Society.

She's on the Dean's list and is a Bible teacher at her church. She is employed part time as a recruitment coordinator at UTEP and an undergraduate research assistant in the metallurgy and materials engineering department.

THOMAS



Brenda Thomas was the first UTEP student selected to intern for Congressman Silvestre Reyes in Washington, D.C., and the first chosen nationally to work for the Department of State Cooperative Employment Program.

Thomas, 22, successfully completed the Law School Preparation Institute and earned a bachelor's degree in political science. Her 3.8 GPA merited her various recognitions, including membership in the Golden Key National Honor Society, UTEP Scholar Award, and Coca-Cola Company and American Association of University Women scholarships.

She currently works at the U.S. Consulate in Juárez, Mexico, and hopes to pursue a law degree.

TRAN



Known to her friends as Annie, Thuyanh Minh Tran, 23, has a 3.74 GPA and received a bachelor's degree in microbiology.

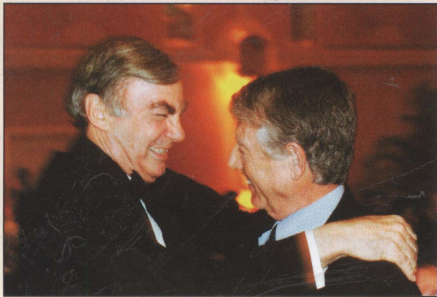
A UTEP Presidential Scholar and a recipient of a Houston Endowment Scholarship, Tran has been on the Dean's List since 1998. She participated in several research internships — one of which enabled her to study the molecular function of cancer cells.

She volunteered for several organizations including Hospice and Big Brothers and Big Sisters of El Paso. She was vice president of the American Society of Microbiology and secretary of the Medical Professions Organization. Tran plans to pursue doctor of osteopathy degree.

Donaldson relentless, courageous journalist

By Erica Martinez

Sam Donaldson was described as a “brash” and “loud-mouthed” reporter by some of those closest to him. Others joked about his thick eyebrows and distinctive hair. But all lauded him for his work in journalism.



Donaldson with Koppel

“There are many in my profession that know you’re not a mass murderer. You just demolish us one at a time,” joked Billy Tauzin, a 12-term U.S. representative from Louisiana. “The amazing thing is that you make us respect you and admire you in the process. That’s an amazing talent.”

About 300 friends and colleagues honored Donaldson, a 1955 Texas Western College (now UTEP) graduate, in Washington D.C., May 14.

The roast and toast, sponsored by UTEP President Diana Natalicio and ABC News Correspondent Cokie Roberts, will benefit UTEP’s Sam Donaldson Center for

Communication Studies. The center has various initiatives, including a student internship program, workshops for working media, a visiting lecturer series and the Spanish-language Media Initiative.

“It was an enjoyable and entertaining evening. But, clearly one where Sam was honored with much appreciation,” center director Patricia Witherspoon said.

Donaldson, who grew up in New Mexico and attended schools in El Paso, joined ABC News in 1967 and has become one of the nation’s leading newsmen.

“He handled his popularity well – when you realize he’s just a farm boy at heart,” former White House correspondent Helen Thomas said.

Other roasters included N.M. Gov. Bill Richardson, ABC Newsman Ted Koppel, and former press secretaries Marlin Fitzwater and Jody Powell.

Donaldson asked attendees not to believe the “lies and distortion” that were told about him and thanked them for supporting his alma mater.

“This program – forget my name – is a



Richardson



Koppel



Thomas



Natalicio



Powell



Fitzwater



ABC News Correspondent Cokie Roberts teases newsman Sam Donaldson with a paper mask in the shape of his popular eyebrows during a roast in his honor.

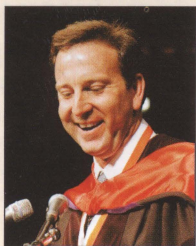
Photos by Michael Carpenter Photography

program which helps Hispanic American youngsters not only learn journalism, but have a chance to get a job,” Donaldson said.

‘Connect with others’

Ambassador urges UTEP graduates to pack their bags

Touch the world and let the world touch you, U. S. Ambassador to Mexico Antonio O. Garza Jr. told the nearly 1,200 graduates at UTEP’s 2003 spring commencement May 10.



Garza

“Take time to connect with yourself and those that matter to you – be passionate about it,” Garza said during the ceremonies. “It’s that belief in yourself and caring for others that will make you want to get up in the morning, that reminds you what kind of person you want to be and how and for whom you will live your life.”

A second-generation American whose grandparents were from Mexico, Garza grew up in the border town of Brownsville. The ambassador took wing from his roots and made his mark in politics, becoming part of Texas history along the way. President Bush appointed Garza to serve as ambassador to Mexico in July 2002.

Candidates who applied for graduation this spring totaled, 1,194, including 18 doctoral, 250 masters’ and 926 bachelors’ degrees.

KHRO 94.7 FM radio and Channel 9-KTSM broadcast live during and after the ceremonies, capturing the pride and excitement of graduates, their families and friends.

“Your futures will reflect this institution’s



Photos by Javier Vicencio

level of academic rigor and attainment. Please be aware of our hopes for you, and be assured of the joy we will feel when you succeed,” UTEP President Diana Natalicio told the graduates.

Honors Convocation Awards Top Achievers

About two dozen faculty and staff members and hundreds of students were honored during UTEP's 2003 Honors Convocation April 27. More than 1,300 people attended the 21st annual event at Magoffin Auditorium.

the highest honors presented to faculty and staff members by UTEP. Faculty awards in teaching and research excellence are supported by a gift from the El Paso Corporate Foundation.

Honored were:



UTEP President Diana Natalicio with faculty and staff honored at the 2003 Convocation

Among the highest honors was a prestigious award given to only 15 college professors statewide for superior teaching by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. Honored this year as "Piper Professors" were **Nancy Crook Marcus**, associate professor, mathematics; and **Kathleen Ann Staudt**, professor, political science.

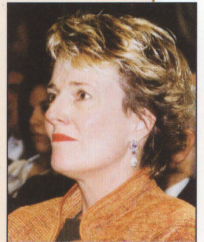
The Distinguished Achievement Awards are

Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence; **Vladik Kreinovich**, professor, computer science, El Paso Energy Corporation Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Research; **Gregory Taylor**, director, Dinner Theatre, Distinguished Service to the University and **Jo M. Willems**, administrative assistant, College of Business Administration, Distinguished Service to Students

Trisha D. Ainsa, professor, teacher education, Distinguished Service to Students; **George Raymond Bell**, lecturer, computer science, Distinguished Teaching Award for Non-Tenure Track Faculty; **Ann Quiroz Gates**, associate professor, computer science, Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award; **Laura Hall**, associate professor, information and decision services, El Paso Energy Corporation Foundation Faculty

Gran Paseña

Adair Margo received the Gran Paseña award, the highest honor UTEP bestows on friends of the university, during the 2003 Honors Convocation April 27.



"Margo is one of UTEP's most visible advocates, working at the state and national levels to promote the belief that higher education should offer students both access and excellence,"

UTEP President Diana Natalicio said.

As a member of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the chair of the Board's Committee for Institutional Effectiveness and Excellence, Margo is often the university's voice in Austin.

Margo serves on the UTEP Business Advisory Council and is a member of UTEP's Board of Fellows. She is also a member of the campus-based advisory committee for the Immigration History Museum.

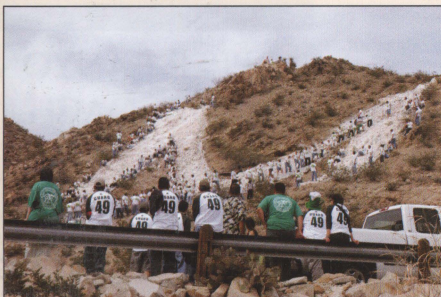
She continues to play an important role in introducing the rest of America to the rich culture of the borderlands.

As owner of the Adair Margo Gallery, she is the sole representative of the work of famed writer and painter Tom Lea.

President George W. Bush appointed Margo to the President's Commission on the Arts and Humanities in 2001. She now chairs the committee.

Repainting History

Student engineers celebrate St. Patrick's with traditional trek



By Erica Martinez

Patience she waited for her yearly whitewash by the inductees of the university's Association of College Engineers.

The symbolic "M" on the mountainside along Sun Bowl Drive received its annual touch-up in March in honor of the patron saint of engineering, St. Patrick.

About 200 engineering, geology and science students and 500 gallons of whitewash carried out the university's longest-lived traditions.

"This tradition is important because this

university was built out of its deep history as a college of mines and engineering," said Natalie Martinez, a senior metallurgy and material engineering major. Martinez was also this year's "St. Pat" and led the 180 inductees through their initiation process.

The whitewashing of the "M" was part of a celebration of a half-century-long story cradling

UTEP's College of Engineering to remember the roots of the university – mining and metallurgy.



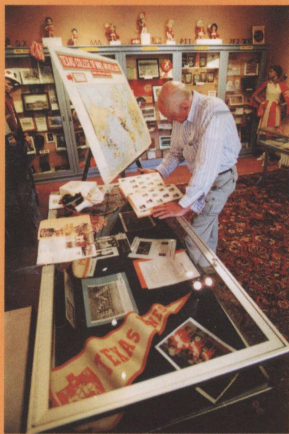
Photos by Javier Vicencio

HERITAGE COMMISSION

The UTEP Heritage Commission would like to add to the collection of memorabilia in the Heritage House, and they need your help.

Do you have any old Flowsheets, group photos, uniforms or any other Texas College of Mines, Texas Western College or UTEP keepsakes you would like to donate?

If so, please call Jeannie Johnston at the Alumni Relations Office, (915) 747-8600.



RECEIVE news about UTEP

It's easy to stay up to date with UTEP or the Alumni Association.

- **CALL** 915/747-8600 or 1-866-GO-MINERS
- **VISIT** us on the Web at www.utep.edu/alumni
- **E-MAIL** us at alumni@utep.edu Free permanent e-mail addresses.



HOMECOMING 2003

Make plans now to attend Homecoming 2003 Oct. 6-11. Highlights of this year's celebration will include:

- **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT**, Oct. 3, Emerald Springs Golf Course
- **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI RECEPTION**, 6:30 p.m. Oct. 10, Don Haskins Center
- **HOMECOMING PARADE**, noon, Oct. 10, University Avenue
- **GOLDEN GRADS LUNCHEON, NOON**, Oct. 11, Tomás Rivera Conference Center
- **REUNION RECEPTION: Honoring the Classes of '78, '93, '98**, 3 p.m., Oct. 11, de Wetter Center
- **PRE-GAME PARTY**, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 11, de Wetter Center
- **FOOTBALL GAME: UTEP vs Louisiana Tech**, 7:05 p.m. Oct. 11, Sun Bowl Stadium
- **MORE DETAILED INFORMATION** will be available this summer at <http://homecoming.utep.edu>

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRE-GAME PARTIES

Home Games at the de Wetter Center (Alumni Lodge)

- Sept. 6 – Cal Poly SLO, 5 p.m.
- Sept. 13 – San Diego State, 5 p.m.
- Sept. 27 – Sam Houston State, 5 p.m.
- Oct. 11 – Louisiana Tech (Homecoming), 5 p.m.
- Nov. 1 – Tulsa, 1 p.m.
- Nov. 8 – San Jose State, 1 p.m.
- Nov. 29 – Fresno State, 1 p.m.

FOLLOW THE MINERS

The Miners will travel to Tucson to take on the University of Arizona Wildcats on Aug. 30. Join the Alumni Association for a pre-game rally on Aug. 29 at University Park Marriott, time to be announced.

The El Paso South-Central Fan Club has arranged a Weekend with the Miners for Aug. 29-31 at the University Park Marriott in Tucson.

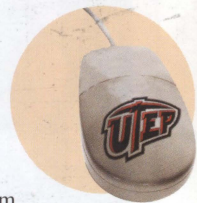
For more information contact Larry Rodriguez at 915-821-7802.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ONLINE

Visit the Alumni Association at www.utep.edu/alumni and take advantage of our online services:

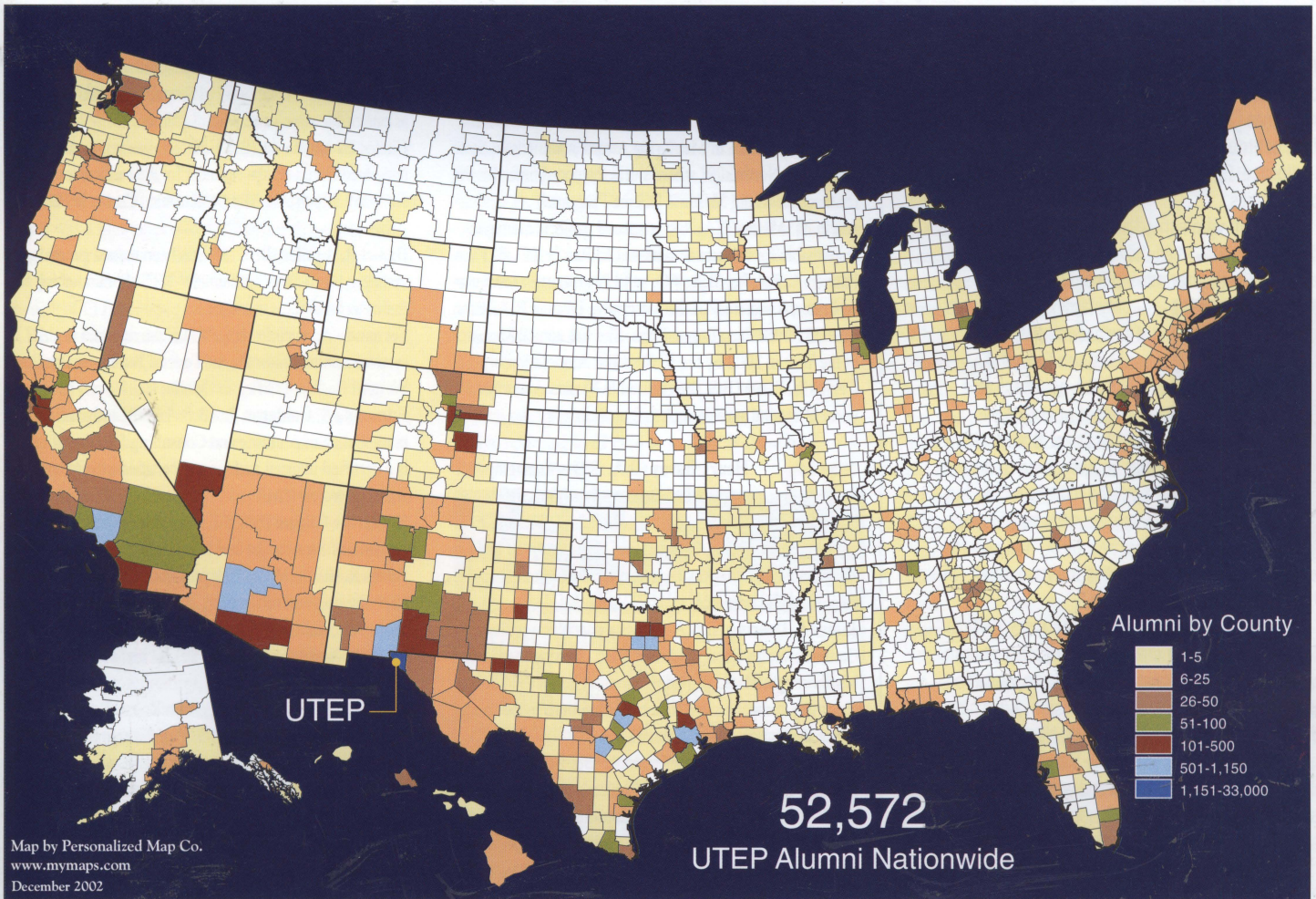
- Join the Alumni Association or renew your membership with the new online membership form.
- Make a scholarship donation using the online membership form.
- Sign-up for your permanent e-mail forwarding address.
- Update your address, phone number or e-mail.
- Check the Calendar Events for information on upcoming alumni events.



COPPER CANYON MOTORCOACH

Travel with the Movin' Miners on UTEP's fourth motorcoach and rail journey to Mexico's legendary Copper Canyon Nov. 12-16. In addition to two days at the lodge on the rim of the canyon, you will also visit museums and historical sites in Ciudad Chihuahua.

Costs are \$695 per person double occupancy or \$795 single occupancy. Deadline for registration is Sept. 10. For more information, contact Lee Nelson at (915) 747-8600, 1-866-GO-MINERS or LNELSON@utep.edu.



Mapping the Future

By Cindy Ramirez

UTEP graduates are going places — lots of places.

“We’re all over the country. We’re found everywhere,” said Yolanda Ingle, assistant vice president for institutional advancement, alumni relations.

The Alumni Relations Office recently commissioned a study through Personalized Map Co. that maps where more than 52,500 UTEP alumni live.

“We wanted to get a sense of where our alumni are working and living,” Ingle said. “We’ve found pockets of people in concentrated areas and now we hope to target them and help them interact and network with each other.”

The map shows a vast majority of alumni living in the Southwest, but perhaps more importantly depicts pockets of grads living all across the nation. However, it does not reflect those who live in Mexico or other countries, which would likely show significant numbers of UTEP alumni living abroad.

The map was produced using university databases that contain addresses as provided by alumni, but the study does not offer any demographic breakdowns.

Ingle said she hopes the map serves as a springboard for several projects. First, she hopes alumni will be encouraged to provide their most current addresses for accurate record keeping. After that, she hopes to continue

Form a Chapter

Alumni chapters are being formed across Texas and the Southwest, including El Paso/Las Cruces, North Texas, San Antonio, Houston, Southern California, Northern California, Arizona and Colorado.

If you are interested in forming a chapter, contact Margie Brickey at 1-866-GO-MINERS or mbrickey@utep.edu.

forming alumni chapters.

“We want to build vibrant chapters across the nation. They could be groups of people that get together to reminisce or more formal groups that raise money for scholarships and are active in university events,” Ingle said.

The map should also help in development and fundraising. Some are already looking at it as a first step in pinpointing pockets of alumni who may be interested in giving back to the university.

“It’s very basic. The bottom line, it shows us where our alumni are,” said Roberto Osegueda, interim dean of the College of Engineering.

“There were no major surprises. A big concentration is in the Southwest in cities you’d expect: Tucson, Phoenix, Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, San Francisco,” said Osegueda, whose interest in tracking engineering students was sparked by the map. “It’s mostly about proximity, but also a function of industries that recruit at UTEP.”

For example, Osegueda said, Seattle has a high-concentration of UTEP alumni because it’s the home of the Boeing Company where many engineering graduates work.

“It’s terrific to look at the big picture on this map,” Osegueda said. “It’s very intriguing.”

UTEP alumnus inducted to Military Hall of Fame

By Timi Haggerty

Col. David A. McKnight, a 1966 alumnus of Texas Western College (now UTEP), was to be posthumously inducted into the U.S. Army's Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame in June in recognition of his contributions to the Army's Military Intelligence, Special Forces and Special Operations communities.

McKnight, who earned a bachelor's degree in education at TWC, died July 20, 1997, at age 52 — just three years after retiring from the Army.



David McKnight in 1966.

"My family is very proud of his accomplishments," said his son Garrett A. McKnight, assistant vice president of U.S. Bank, Private Client Group. "It's not an easy thing to be a part of a military family, but knowing what he did and that he's being honored for it makes the hardships worth it."

The year following his graduation from TWC, McKnight served in Vietnam as an infantry platoon leader and as a long-range reconnaissance platoon leader with the 101st Airborne Division. After his tour there, he was part of the Paris Negotiating Team that sought the end to the Vietnam War. He later attended graduate school and was subsequently assigned to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point as a physical education instructor.

He next commanded a Special Forces Group airborne company, and then joined the newly formed Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force. During his tour with the task force, he coordinated and authored the intelligence plans and documents for what was to become the United States Central Command, known as USCENTCOM.

In 1983, McKnight assumed command of the 165th Military Intelligence Battalion (Tactical Exploitation) in Germany. He later became director of operations for a special mission unit, leaving that position for a fellowship with the CIA's Office of Military Affairs. Upon completion of the fellowship, he became deputy chief of staff and, for a brief time, chief of staff for Intelligence and Operations.

When Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, McKnight returned to the CIA as the U.S. Special Operations Command and Joint Special Operations Command senior liaison officer. The success of numerous incursions deep behind enemy lines during operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm to attack Iraqi capabilities was due to McKnight's outstanding skills as an intelligence officer and special operator. In March 1991, he assumed duties as the intelligence officer at JSOC, and held that position until his retirement.

McKnight was highly decorated during his military career, receiving, among others, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with V Device, and the Bronze Star Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

• ALUMNOTES •

60s

Leo E. Chavez (B.A. '69) is executive vice president of the Community Foundation Silicon Valley, a nonprofit organization that raises funds for public benefit agencies.

Karen Jones Green (B.A. '67) received the 2002 Don Dorsey Excellence in Mentoring Award at California State University, Northridge, where she is the coordinator for the Distance Learning Master's Degree Program.

Alicia M. Meier (B.A. '69) is special projects manager, responsible for auction activities at El Paso's KCOS-TV.

Patricia L. Palafox (B.A. '66), an El Paso attorney-mediator-arbitrator, is secretary of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Council for the State Bar of Texas. She was named Mediator of the Year in 2002 by the El Paso Bar Association.

Carlos L. Perez (B.S. '66) retired in Vienna, Va., after 36 years of federal service.

70s

Henry Baray (B.A. '73) is managing principal of the consulting firm, BGV Strategies, LLC, which has offices in El Paso, Albuquerque, N.M., and San Diego.

Tanny S. Berg (B.B.A. '70) is chair of the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

James A. Doering (B.B.A. '72) is a consultant with Commonwealth Energy Advisors, Inc., headquartered in Marlborough, Mass., providing advisory services to energy and utility companies and financial institutions in the energy sector throughout North America.

Dora de la Rosa (B.S.Ed. '79; M.A. '88; Ed.D. '02), principal of the Tejas School of Choice, was presented with the El Paso FBI Director's 2003 Community Leadership Award for her work as director of Project Volver, a dropout recovery program.

Blanca E. Enriquez (B.S.Ed. '75; M.Ed. '85), associate executive director for the Head Start Program at Region 19 Education Service Center in El Paso, was nominated by President Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate as an advisory board member for the National Institute for Literacy.

Robert LeRoy Giron (B.A. '73) translated a collection of the late prize-winning novelist Jesús Gardea's poetry titled, *Canciones para una sola cuerda (Songs for a Single String)*. Giron lives in Arlington, Va.

Carl H. Green (B.A. '73), a shareholder in the El Paso law firm of Mounce, Green, Myers, Safi & Galatzan P.C., was elected to the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel, an international organization that furthers legal knowledge, justice and fellowship.

Dr. Jerald D. Malone (B.S. '71), is the owner of and medical director for Family Medical Group, which operates three primary care centers in Las Vegas, Nev.

The Rev. Michael E. McKenzie (B.A. '75) became only the second graduate of the American Boychoir School in Princeton, N.J., to be profiled in the school's magazine, *Notes*. McKenzie resides in Las Vegas, Nev.

Charles E. "Charlie" Steed (B.A. '78) was named El Paso's Channel 9-KTSM outstanding marketing executive for January.

80s

Robert W. Abdou (B.S.Ed. '85; M.Ed. '94), assistant principal at Americas High School in El Paso, was recognized by the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals as one of the state's top administrators.

Carlos C. Acosta Jr. (B.S.E.E. '85) is a senior principal integrated circuit design engineer for the medical technology company, Medtronic Microelectronics Center in Phoenix, Ariz.

Daniel R. Aguilar (B.A. '85) has been named general sales manager for El Paso's Channel 9-KTSM, maintaining his duties as local sales manager.

Fernando A. Arriola (B.S. '81) is the regional health systems administrator for the Federal Bureau of Prisons Western Regional Office in Dublin, Calif.

Edmundo S. Calderon Jr. (B.B.A. '80), assistant director in the Office of Auditing and Consulting Services at UTEP, is a certified internal auditor and certified government auditing professional.

Katherine Gibson (B.S.C.E. '88) is an attorney with the law firm of Strasburger and Price in Dallas.

James R. Kelch (M.Ed. '83), principal of El Paso's Americas High School, was recognized as a top administrator by the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Marcela Navarrete (B.B.A. '89) is chief financial officer for El Paso Water Utilities.

Douglas V. Meed (M.A. '87) from Round Rock, Texas, is the author of a new book, *Soldier of Fortune: Adventuring in Latin America and Mexico with Emil Louis Holmdahl*, which chronicles the exploits of a mercenary in the early twentieth century.

Guillermo Silva Jr. (B.B.A. '88) is vice president of information services for El Paso Electric Co.

Endi Gil Vargas (B.S.Ed. '80) led Eastwood High School's girls basketball team to the 2002-03 District 1-5A title and a No. 4 state ranking, earning her the *El Paso Times* Girls' Basketball Coach of the Year award for the second time.

90s

Steven P. Busser (B.B.A. '94) is corporate treasurer for El Paso Electric Co.

Elizabeth O'Hara (B.A. '94) is the primetime anchor at KFOX-TV in El Paso.

Edward Hernandez (B.A. '90) is a partner with the El Paso law firm of Linebarger, Goggan, Blair and Sampson, LLP.

OBITS

Rev. Estill F. Allen Jr. (M.A. '55) Oct. 22, 2002. Allen was a resident of Bedford, Texas.

Sally Fjerstad Laya (B.S.Ed. '56) Nov. 25, 2002. Laya was a resident of Corpus Christi, Texas.

Isabel Abdou Hatchett-Jones (B.A. '33) Jan. 10, 2003. She was a resident of San Antonio, Texas. In El Paso, she served as secretary to the dean of engineering at Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy (now UTEP). She was a member of the Manhattan Garden Club, the American Association of University Women and former president of the Women's Department of the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce.

Frank Rodger "Rod" Slaughter (B.A. '69) Jan. 11, 2003. Slaughter was the senior public health advisor with the

Arizona Department of Health Services in Phoenix, Ariz.

James Vincent King (B.S.M.I. '40) Jan. 17, 2003. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II, attaining the rank of major. Afterward, he worked for Western Gas Service in El Paso and Silver City, N.M. He later moved to Farmington, N.M., and worked as vice president of Southern Union Gas Co. He retired in 1980.

Alfredo "Bubba" Torres Jr. (B.S.C.S. '85) Jan. 18, 2003. Torres was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a senior programmer analyst for Cardinal Health Care Inc.

Sue Jackson Polk (B.A. '40) Jan. 19, 2003. Polk, a lifelong resident of El Paso, was a member of the Woman's Club of El Paso, the American Association of University Women, the Sunset Heights Garden Club, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the National Society of Magna Charta Dames. She also served as deaconess board chair of First Christian Church and was active in the Christian Women's Fellowship.

Roger Alan Meeks (B.A. '85) Jan. 21, 2003. Meeks began his federal civil service career in 1953 with the FBI in Washington, D.C., and retired in 1984 as a procurement analyst for the inspector general, U.S. Army Material Command, in St. Louis, Mo. His career included positions as contracting officer at White Sands Missile Range and procurement analyst for the U.S. Army Depot System Command. After retirement, he worked for the City of El Paso as a personnel analyst and director of purchasing.

Alyce R. Burnett (B.A. '50) Jan. 30, 2003. Burnett, a Phoenix, Ariz., resident, taught in military schools and was an educational counselor with the Region 18 Education Service Center in Midland, Texas.

Ralph B. Ibarra (B.A. '48) Feb. 14, 2003. Ibarra, of El Paso, was a World War II U.S. Army veteran who headed the medical laboratory at William Beaumont Army Medical Center during the war and, later, the laboratory at R.E. Thomason General Hospital. He also taught with the El Paso Independent School District and the David Carrasco Job Corp Center. Ibarra was a member of the Mount Franklin Kiwanis Club and was a Boy Scout master for 50 years.

Margaret McDonnell Davis (B.A. '39) Feb. 15, 2003. Davis, a lifelong resident of El Paso, retired from the Ysleta Independent School District. She served as a deacon and ruling elder of the First Presbyterian Church.

Dolores "Maxine" Lambert (M.A. '50) Feb. 16, 2003. Lambert taught at Bowie High School in El Paso for more than 40 years, retiring in 1982 as a girls' physical education teacher and coach. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, the Gideon Auxiliary, the UTEP Alumni Association and the National Education Association. She also served as president of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the International Baptist Bible Institute Auxiliary.

William H. "Bill" Stuart (B.A. '54) Feb. 19, 2003. A U.S. Air Force veteran, Stuart's career included positions as a fireman with the El Paso Fire Department, and as an accountant for both the Federal Reserve Bank in El Paso and the El Paso Natural Gas Co. He retired from the food brokerage business.

Nieves "Frosty" Frausto (B.B.A. '73) Feb. 21, 2003. Frausto was a Life Underwriter Training Council fellow in the insurance and investment business. He also was retired

from the U.S. Army Reserve, where he attained the rank of major. A lifetime member of the El Paso Transmountain Optimist Club, he had served as board director and youth appreciation chairman.

Marilyn Williss McConn (B.A. '48) Feb. 22, 2003. McConn was involved in Chapter AO of the PEO Sisterhood in El Paso before moving to Houston in 1998.

George R. Tetreault (B.S.Ed. '73) Feb. 23, 2003. A veteran of World War II and the Korean War, Tetreault retired from the U.S. Army and then worked for the civil service for more than 30 years. He also played professional hockey for the U.S. Army. Tetreault was a member of the American Legion #58, the Veterans of Foreign Wars #8919 and the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree.

Philip Provencio (B.B.A. '92) Feb. 24, 2003. He held several sales positions in San Antonio and Austin, Texas, before returning to El Paso to work with Thompson Educational Systems.

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Ralph Siqueiros Jr. (B.A. '51) Feb. 24, 2003. A lifelong resident of El Paso, Siqueiros was a World War II U.S. Navy veteran. A science teacher at Jefferson High School, and a principal at Cooley and Roosevelt elementary schools, he retired from the El Paso Independent School District after 35 years.

Dora M. Montez (B.S.Ed. '76) Feb. 28, 2003. She was a lifetime resident of El Paso.

Kathleen "Katy" Kinsinger (B.A. '75) March 5, 2003. She was a resident of Tucson, Ariz.

George L. "Jack" Richards (B.S. '48) March 7, 2003. Richards, of San Antonio, Texas, was a geologist who held positions with Standard Oil Co. of Texas; Coastal States Oil Producing Co., where he was senior vice president; and Bright and Co. The U.S. Navy veteran was a member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, the Texas Society of Sons of the American Revolution, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, and the Houston and South Texas Geological Societies.

Xavier S. Guzman (B.I.S. '93) March 10, 2003. Guzman was a teacher at Camino Real Middle School in El Paso.

John Herbert Shanblum (B.A. '62) March 12, 2003. He was a business and finance professor at El Paso Community College for 19 years and also taught at UTEP and Fort Bliss. Shanblum participated in community projects and on boards for the El Paso Shelter for Battered Women, the El Paso Museum of Art and the El Paso Republican Party. Shanblum also sang with the UTEP chorus for many years and acted at the El Paso Playhouse and the UTEP Dinner Theatre.

Alex Crawford Jr. (B.S. '82) March 14, 2003. He was a longtime resident of El Paso.

Estela Gil Diaz Barber (M.Ed. '70) March 15, 2003. Barber, a resident of Santa Teresa, N.M., retired after 24 years as a teacher with the Ysleta Independent School District.

Lee Ross Capshaw (M.A. '56) March 15, 2003. Capshaw was the director of fine arts for the El Paso Independent School District for 27 years and served as president of the American Federation of Musicians, Local 466. He also was a World War II U.S. Navy veteran.

Matilda Amstater Shanblum (B.A. '34) April 7, 2003. Shanblum was a longtime teacher in El Paso schools, and education director of the religious school at Temple Mount Sinai. She was named the 1961 Teacher of the Year at Zach White Elementary and was awarded the Texas Classroom Teachers Association Certificate of Appreciation, a special citation by *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine. Shanblum was past president of the El Paso Teachers Association and a life member of both the Texas Retired Teachers Association and the El Paso Retired Teachers Association, which she served as president from 1977-79. The Zeta Pi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma honored her as Career Woman of the Year in 1968.

Mary L. Cabral (B.A. '65) March 16, 2003. A lifelong resident of El Paso, she was an educator for 32 years, spending 26 of those years in the Gadsden Independent School District at Anthony and Loma Linda elementary schools. Cabral also volunteered for the American Cancer Society.

William Coldwell Collins (B.A. '43) March 19, 2003. Collins was a U.S. Army veteran, attaining the rank of captain. In El Paso, he practiced law as assistant county attorney then as a partner in the firm of Collins, Langford and Pine; and later as a solo practitioner. He served as a director and president of the El Paso Bar Association, director of the State Bar of Texas, and director and chairman of the State Bar of Texas Insurance Trust. He also was a director and chairman of the El Paso Division of the Red Cross; president of the Del Norte Club.

Maj. John Frank "Bub" Tisdale Jr. (B.S.Ed. '66) March 19, 2003. A longtime resident of El Paso, Tisdale was a World War II veteran who retired from the U.S. Army in 1963. Following his retirement, he taught at UTEP on a fellowship before becoming a teacher in the El Paso Independent School District for 13 years.

Lucy Ricciardelli (M.Ed. '77) March 20, 2003. She was a lifelong resident of El Paso and a teacher for 42 years with the El Paso Independent School District. She belonged to the Texas State Teachers Association, the National Education Association, the Texas Education Association, and was a Silver Star member of Alpha Delta Kappa.

Josephus Heavens (B.S.Ed. '72) March 21, 2003. Heavens, of El Paso, was a World War II veteran, retiring from the U.S. Army as a lieutenant colonel in 1969. He then became a math teacher at Canutillo and Socorro high schools, retiring in 1987 but continuing to tutor at Eastwood Middle School. Heavens volunteered at William Beaumont Army Medical Hospital and served on the deacon board of Shiloh Baptist Church.

Compiled by Howard Rigg and Ana-Maria Valero



Catch All The UTEP Athletics Events This Fall

Football

Your Miners are only a few months away from their first home game of the 2003 season and you won't want to miss the action! Don't forget Miner Gameday is more than just the excitement of Division 1-A football on the field. Take the outstanding fall weather in El Paso; the Sun Bowl's great setting; terrific tailgate parties; the free Fun Zone for kids; Baltimore Field festivities; put it all together and that adds up to a great time for you, your friends and your family!

2003 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 30	at Arizona	8:00 PM
Sept. 6	Cal Poly SLO	7:05 PM
Sept. 13	San Diego State	7:05 PM
Sept. 20	at Louisville	1:00 PM
Sept. 27	Sam Houston State	7:05 PM
Oct. 4	at SMU*	6:00 PM
Oct. 11	Louisiana Tech*(Homecoming)	7:05 PM
Oct. 25	at Hawaii*	10:05 PM
Nov. 1	Tulsa*	3:05 PM
Nov. 8	San Jose State*	3:05 PM
Nov. 15	at Boise State*	1:05 PM
Nov. 22	at Rice*	1:00 PM
Nov. 29	Fresno State*	3:05 PM

Home games in bold

* Indicates Western Athletic Conference games

All times Mountain

All dates and times subject to change



From the Captains' Club to the New Family Field Goal Pack, there is a season ticket package to fit everyone's budget.

You will be entered in a raffle to win a trip to Hawaii with the Miners on October 25 when you purchase a reserved seat season ticket!

Soccer

The 2002 season was one for the record books! The Miners finished with the best record in program history at 16-3. The Miners finished an outstanding 9-0 at home and look to continue that home winning streak this year!

Get your 2003 Soccer season tickets for only \$25.00! That's a savings of \$20.00 off the adult per match price!

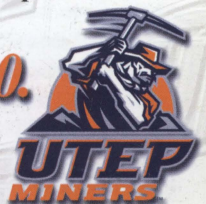
Volleyball

The Miners went a terrific 8-3 at home in the 2002 season under the direction of head coach Scott Swanson. The upcoming season should be an exciting one for UTEP Volleyball, as the Miners return seven letterwinners from last season, including three seniors who will give UTEP its most veteran lineup in years.

Get your 2003 Volleyball season tickets for only \$25.00! That's a savings of \$25.00 off the adult per match price!

For Season Ticket information, call (915) 747-6150.

Visit the official site for UTEP Athletics at www.utepathletics.com



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