

Fall 2004

Nova Quarterly: The University of Texas at El Paso

The University of Texas at El Paso University Communications

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NOVA

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

UTEP 2004 Homecoming *Celebrating 90 Years of Tradition*

Special section, pgs. 4-9



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GRAD SCHOOL BOOM

Doctoral programs
advance learning



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MINING THE FUTURE

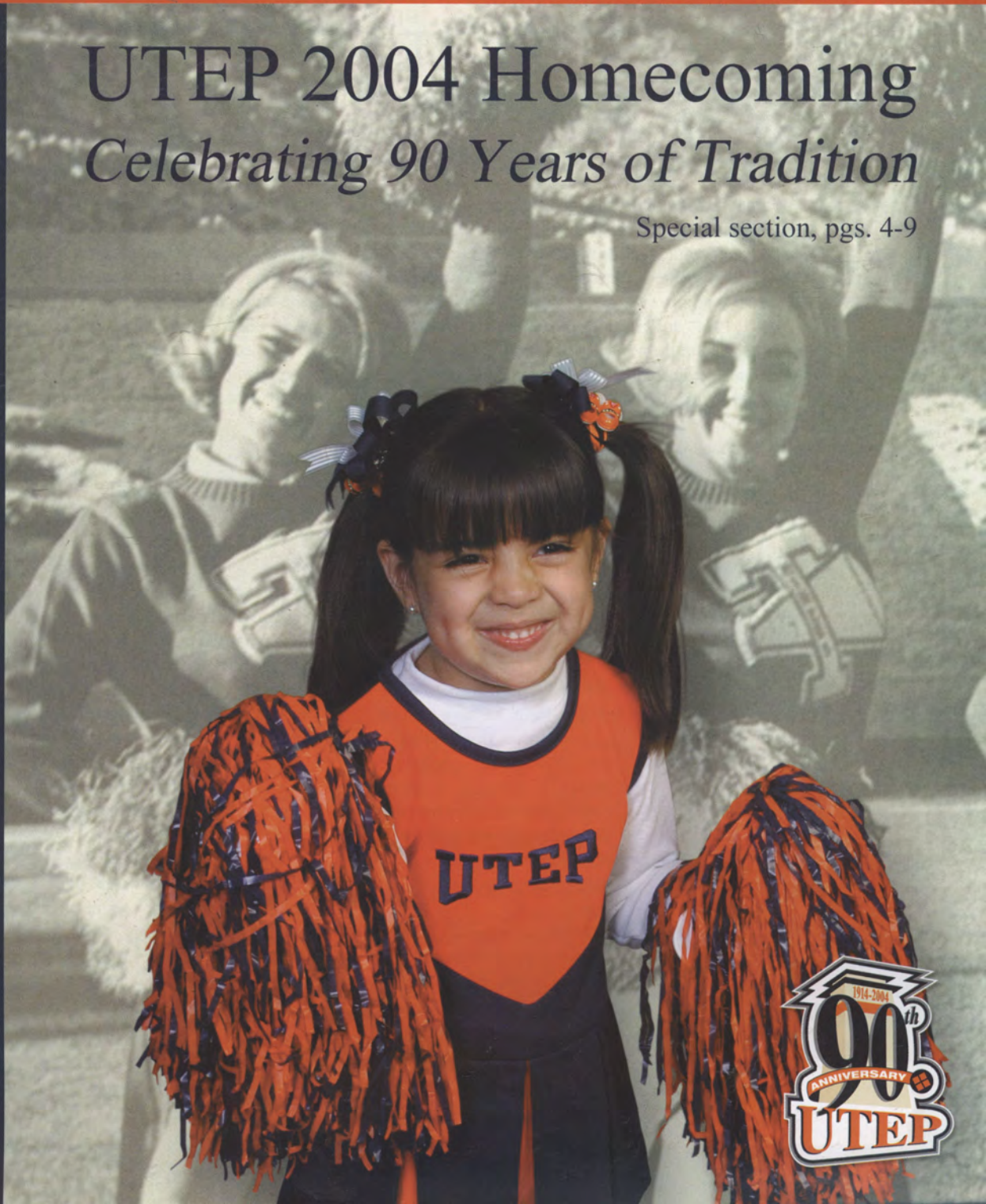
Meet the families of
UTEP's first students



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OPEN FOR ART

Rubin Center
welcomes alumni art



“*Today*, as we continue to *celebrate* UTEP’s 90th anniversary, *our future* is brighter than ever.”

As we look forward to Homecoming and the return of thousands of alumni to the ever-expanding UTEP campus, we recall with gratitude the many gifts of time, talent and service given to this institution by friends and supporters during our 90-year history.

On May 1, 1914, an *El Paso Herald* editorial encouraged its readers to support the new mining school scheduled to open later that year near Fort Bliss. Stressing the great contribution that an institution of this kind would make to the city’s economic growth, the *Herald* noted, “this school will become very much what El Paso chooses to make it.”

The *Herald* proved to be remarkably prescient.

Since UTEP’s founding in 1914 as the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy, the community we serve has been

a constant and valued partner, providing guidance and support as we fulfill our mission of teaching, research and public service.

Through each critical phase of UTEP’s growth and development, we have invited representatives from El Paso and Ciudad Juárez—including many UTEP alumni—to share with us their vision for how the university can best meet the human and economic development needs of the region.

In 1963 — when UTEP was known as Texas Western College — members of the community joined faculty and staff in preparing a long-range plan that would guide TWC

over the following decade. The result of their study was the Mission ’73 report, which included a recommendation that TWC’s name be changed to the University of Texas at El Paso to reflect the school’s growth in both student enrollment and the number of academic programs it then offered.

In 1988, UTEP’s tradition of community involvement continued with the creation of the 2001 Commission, comprising members of the university and external communities to analyze UTEP’s potential and recommend how the university could best serve its students and this region as we moved into the 21st century. In a 2001 report, UTEP documented its progress in achieving — and in most cases exceeding — the goals that had been set by the Commission.

Today, as we continue to celebrate UTEP’s 90th anniversary, our future is brighter than ever.

Student enrollment in UTEP’s summer programs once again exceeded the previous year’s, and we anticipate that we will continue to set new enrollment records in the coming academic year as well. Responding to a growing demand in this region for post-graduate programs, UTEP added four new doctoral degrees in 2004: composition and rhetoric, international business, civil engineering, and interdisciplinary health sciences.

This year, we will again seek the advice and support of our extended UTEP family as we create a Centennial Commission which will be asked to help us move into the next phase of UTEP’s development. Details of this exciting initiative will be forthcoming in a few weeks.

We look forward to working with our many alumni, friends and supporters, as we continue to build on UTEP’s success in bringing higher education access and excellence to this region.

Diana Natalicio
UTEP President



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Contents © 2004 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 42, No. 3; No. 159.

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.

ON THE COVER
Future Miner Valeria Veloz, 5, strikes
a pose with the 1960s UTEP
cheerleaders, shown in the
background. Veloz is the daughter of
Luz Ceniceros, director of UTEP's
Child Care Center.

COVER PHOTO
Laura Trejo

COVER DESIGN
John Downey

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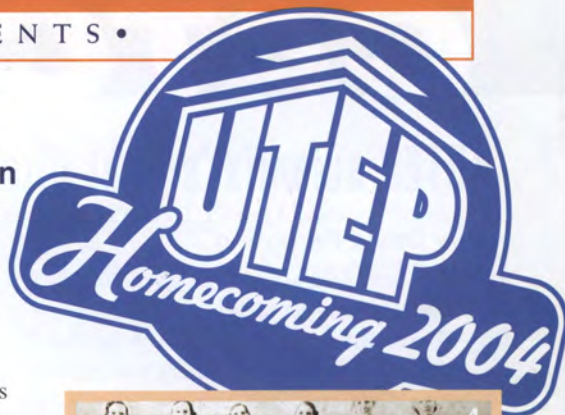
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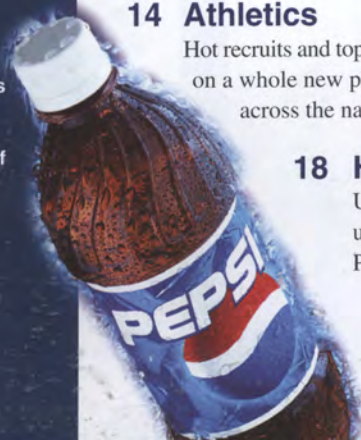
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Hot recruits and top-name coaches have put Miner football on a whole new playing field, leaving fans and alumni across the nation cheering, "You Gotta Believe!"



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UTEP's top new administrators hope to elevate the university's profile in areas key to help students succeed. Plus, how UTEP met the Pepsi challenge.



CATCHING RAYS

UTEP scientist's light filter protects masterpieces

by David Peregrino

Some of the world's most beautiful art rarely sees the light of day.

The drawings and watercolors by the Old Masters — great European artists who painted between 1500 and 1800 — remain locked in dark vaults. Their paper and pigments are simply too fragile to withstand light's deteriorating effects.



Dirk

But a UTEP scientist believes he's found a means to free the Old Masters and other precious works from their gloomy museum cells. Chemistry Professor Carl Dirk has invented a light filter that improves upon standard ultraviolet and infrared blockers.

The patent-pending glass also removes visible light — but does it in a way that won't leave museum patrons standing in the dark.

"We can actually slice out parts of the visible light spectrum that you don't need to see the object," says Dirk.

Dirk's invention addresses museums' catch-22 problem of photochemical damage: exhibiting art often destroys art.

To date, art conservationists have employed a number of solutions, with mixed results.

Dimming lights as much as possible is one approach, but curators say some patrons complain they can't see the art very well.

Interrupted illumination (flipping a light switch for each view) is another idea.

But it's of no use if a long line of visitors continually presses the light button.



Yang

Other approaches, such as displaying art in extreme cold or encased in inert atmospheres, haven't been practical, Dirk says.

Dirk's approach to the problem is to remove unnecessary illumination from the visible light spectrum by taking advantage of the fact that light sources use more power than necessary at certain wavelengths.

Dirk turned to his former Ph.D. student Lisa Yang, engineering manager at El Paso-based Ross Optical Industries, to create a prototype filter.

Yang—who earned her Ph.D. in materials science from UTEP in 1999—followed Dirk's design, and it worked.

The filter reduces light power by about 30 percent, yet still provides optimal color rendering—keeping colors true in the filtered light.

With input from Dirk and student researchers Monica Delgado and Marco Olguin, Yang continues to refine the prototype.

The ability to custom-make filters for certain works of art leads to another tantalizing prospect—mimicking the illumination sources available when the Old Masters drew and painted.

Before the age of the incandescent bulb, artists created their works in natural light or candlelight, and chose their colors and techniques accordingly.

With the right filter design, "we can see the works as the Old Masters intended," Dirk says.

Dirk's filter has the attention of the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles. The museum contracted with UTEP and Ross Optical to deliver a number of Dirk's filters for use in the museum's Old Master Drawings display.

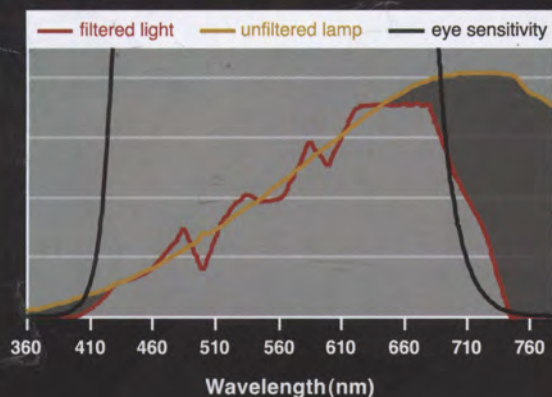
If it as successful as Dirk anticipates, the market could expand to hundreds of museums around the world looking to solve the exhibition-versus-preservation conundrum.

"It could have very viable commercial potential," Dirk says. ■



Delgado and Dirk

How it works



Chemistry Professor Carl Dirk's filter protects Leonardo da Vinci's chalk drawing *Isabella d'Este* by blocking UV, IR and some visible light (represented by the shaded areas)—yet allows sufficient illumination for the human eye to perceive color accurately.



More advanced degrees coming to UTEP A BOOMING GRADUATE SCHOOL

In fall of 2003, a record number of graduate students—3,457—enrolled at UTEP.

by David Peregrino

When research engineer Jorge Villalobos wrapped up his most recent project — helping his employer's oil terminal in El Paso operate at top efficiency — he faced a tough decision.

After six “exciting and enjoyable years” working with the Shell oil company to solve complex business and operational problems, the 1998 UTEP mechanical engineering grad had to decide whether to uproot his family and move to Shell's Houston headquarters for his next assignment.

Fortunately, UTEP's Graduate School offered him another option.

Villalobos, 29, chose to pursue a Ph.D. in civil engineering, one of three new doctoral programs approved at UTEP last year.

“I've always wanted to earn a Ph.D.,” says Villalobos. “But most important, I really felt that I needed more skills to compete.”

Villalobos says that once he earns his Ph.D., he'll be eager to return to the business world to help solve complicated infrastructure problems in business or government.

More and more students like Villalobos are finding opportunities for advanced education in El Paso as UTEP aggressively expands its master's and doctoral programs.

For some perspective of this growth, it helps to know some history: UTEP's very first doctoral degree (fittingly, in geological sciences) was approved in 1974, 60 years after the first students entered what was then the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy.

And 15 more years passed before the university approved its second doctorate, in electrical engineering.

Then came the '90s Graduate School boom.

That decade saw doctorates approved in computer engineering, materials science and engineering, biological sciences, and history.

Two cooperative doctoral programs in pharmacy and nursing were established. And new master's programs included nurse midwifery and kinesiology.

Graduate School Dean Charles Ambler says this “first wave” of new graduate programs was



Photo by Laura Trejo

Civil engineering Ph.D. candidate Jorge Villalobos is part of a team developing a computer model to help government officials assess the impact of “extreme events” — terror threats and natural disasters, for example — on traffic flow, border crossing habits and the region's economy.

generated by the community's need for higher education and by UTEP's development of a “strong research infrastructure” to back up the advanced curriculum.

“Now we are in the midst of a second wave,” Ambler says. Last year saw approvals for Ph.D. programs in civil engineering, international business and rhetoric and composition. In July, UTEP announced its latest Ph.D. program, in interdisciplinary health sciences.

In fall of 2003, a record number of graduate students—3,457—enrolled at UTEP, a 21 percent increase over the previous fall semester.

Looking to the future, there are more doctoral programs being proposed, Ambler says. They include degrees in computational science, computer science, chemistry and education.

The ambitious development of graduate programs corresponds to UTEP President Diana Natalicio's vision of turning the university into the next flagship research university in Texas.

A recent report by the Washington Advisory Group indicates UTEP could reach this milestone—typically measured by annual

research spending, number of faculty and quality of facilities — within 15 years.

Natalicio believes top-tier status can be realized as soon as 10 years — if the state is willing to make that kind of investment in the borderland.

“We cannot grow at a level that will get us there without more faculty, much improved facilities and more technology,” Natalicio says.

Ambler says UTEP's Graduate School will serve another important role by producing talented minority graduates to reduce the racial disparities among advanced degree holders.

For example, a recent study by the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering found that minorities account for 26 percent of high school grads in the United States, but minorities make up only 9 percent of holders of advanced degrees in science and engineering.

To close these kinds of gaps, “it's going to be extremely important to have role models from a minority background,” Ambler says. “We can't afford to let that resource go untapped.” ■

www.utep.edu/graduate



October 11-16

Celebrating 90 Years of Tradition

Amid the bad news of 1929 – the stock market crash, bank failures and the start of the Great Depression – there were reasons to celebrate at El Paso's College of Mines and Metallurgy: The school marked its first-ever homecoming, beating New Mexico State 8-0.

Since then, homecoming and Miner football have been inseparable, even if some contests were less than memorable.

This year, with Coach Mike Price in the game, interest in Miner football and homecoming is high once again. The Sun Bowl will rock when the Miners line up against Hawaii's Warriors on Oct. 16.

But as we celebrate the university's 90th anniversary, we can't forget that homecoming honors other traditions, too – traditions in academics, research and student success.

Since the university's founding in 1914, more than 76,000 students have earned degrees here, watching as the small mining school grew into a major urban research university.

During Homecoming Week – Oct. 11-16 – reunions, pep rallies, parades and pageants will bring together today's students and many UTEP alumni.

Together with the community that supports us, we'll all come home again to celebrate 90 years of tradition. ■



Monday 1946

"M" on the Mountain— Students in Engineering and Metallurgy first whitewashed an "M" on the Franklin Mountains in the early 1920s. In the early 1960s, the tradition moved closer to campus.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



**Alumni Association
Scholarship
Golf Tournament**
Friday, Oct. 8

**Homecoming
Pageant**
Wednesday, Oct. 13

Homecoming Parade
Friday, Oct. 15

**Alumni Association
Distinguished
Alumni Event**
Friday, Oct. 15

**Golden Grads
Luncheon**
Saturday, Oct. 16

Reunion Reception
Saturday, Oct. 16

**Alumni Association
Pre-Game Party**
Saturday, Oct. 16

**Homecoming
Football Game**
UTEP vs. Hawaii
Saturday, Oct. 16





"I heard a lot of wonderful voices in my life."

by Erica Martinez

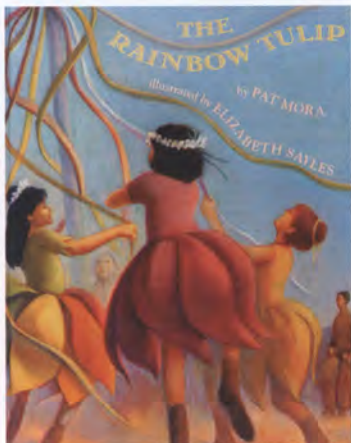
Ygnacia Delgado, a gray-haired woman in a black dress, fiercely swept and scrubbed floors. Over time, her hands grew rough and weary – a testament to her hard work.

Known as "Lobo," the woman also served as a caregiver for Pat Mora and her siblings during outings to see the alligators at the *placita* in downtown El Paso. At night, she'd whistle them to sleep.

Lobo died 15 years ago, but her story lives in Mora's book, "House of Houses."

Mora, an award-winning author and UTEP alumna, has long woven family memories and characters like Lobo into her stories and poems.

Her daughter Cecilia Burnside was the inspiration behind "A Birthday Basket for Tia," a story about a young girl's search for the perfect gift to give her 90-year-old great-aunt. In "The Rainbow Tulip," she tells the story of her mother Estela Mora's decision to



Pat Mora

The Storyteller

Mora's life reflected in her libros

wear a colorful tulip costume for a school parade.

"I heard a lot of wonderful voices in my life," Mora says of her family. "My mother was my inspiration."

Mora is widely recognized throughout the United States and Mexico as a leading author of Chicano poetry and children's literature.

"Each generation tries to pass on their stories," says Mora, 62.

This October, Mora is being honored as a 2004 Distinguished Alumna at UTEP.

"I view this award," she says with a pause, "as a tribute to my parents, Raúl and Estela Mora."

She says her education in a private school in El Paso nearly motivated her to become a nun and follow in the footsteps of Sor Juana Ines, a 17th century Mexican poet and nun whose life is depicted in Mora's "A Library for Juana."

"The sisters at Loretto (Academy) were my heroines. I admire the discipline and knowledge they taught me," she says.

Mora decided to forgo the convent and instead enrolled at Texas Western College (now UTEP) in the late 1950s. She earned her bachelor's degree in English in 1963 and her master's in 1971. Mora taught Spanish in the El Paso school district, then English at El Paso Community College and UTEP.

During the 1980s, Mora worked at her alma mater, serving as the assistant to then-president Haskell Monroe Jr.; director of the El Paso Centennial Museum; and

assistant to UTEP President Diana Natalicio, then vice president for academic affairs.

Mora began writing in her spare time.

Her first book of poetry, "Chants," embraced her Mexican heritage through poems of loving, living and dying – some in English, some in Spanish.

"It's one of the many gifts my family gave me," she says of being bilingual.



Pat Mora as an administrator at UTEP in the 1980s. Above, Mora as a child at her grandmother's house in central El Paso.

Mora has published more than 25 books and has three more at press. She founded the national literacy project *Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros* (Children's Day/Book Day) celebrated annually on April 30.

Mora makes her home in Santa Fe, N.M., with her husband Vern Scarborough. Her children William Burnside, 37, Elizabeth Martinez, 34, and Cecilia Burnside, 31, live in Austin.

Mora will return to UTEP for homecoming in October, but always keeps the city close to her.

"All I have to see is El Paso's name at an airport – or anywhere – and I tear up," she says. "The city has a very special place in my heart." ■



Juan Roberto Job

Mambo to Success

Alumnus blends Latino culture with corporate life

current position as corporate vice president of market management for the New York Life Insurance Company.

Job will be honored as one of UTEP's 2004 Distinguished Alumni during Homecoming Week festivities in October.

Never one to forget his roots, Job has helped other minorities survive and thrive in the corporate world. In 1998 he authored *Just Because I'm Latin Doesn't Mean I Mambo: A Success Guide for Hispanic Americans*.

"The book deals with the blending of the unique Latino culture and the realities of corporate life," says Job, who spends much of his time away from work speaking to university students, Fortune 500 employees and other groups.

"Latinos continue to take their places among the leadership ranks in business,

government and academia," Job says. "UTEP is uniquely positioned, demographically, geographically and attitudinally, to develop the diverse talent that will fill these leadership roles."

And he hasn't forgotten the enormous influence of his parents, who encouraged him to set the bar high for his own education and career.



He has established the Juan and Carmen Job Endowment in their honor to provide opportunities for future leaders who earn their degrees from UTEP.

"I took the education I received at UTEP and ran with it," Job says. "I am thankful for the development I received at UTEP and proud of my association with the University." ■

"Latinos continue to take their places among the leadership ranks in business, government and academia."

by David Peregrino

Growing up in his Central El Paso neighborhood around Yandell and Reynolds streets, Juan Roberto Job says he was surrounded by a *si se puede* (can do) attitude.

Among his family and neighbors, the youngster saw the American Dream at work.

"These were people like my grandparents, my father and my uncle. All visionaries. People willing to pursue dreams, regardless of the hardships," Job says.

Job, who attended St. Joseph's Elementary School and Jesuit High School in El Paso, learned the American Dream was also within his reach.

He earned a bachelor's and master's degree from UTEP in the 1970s, and worked his way to his



Juan Roberto Job presents New York Yankee catcher Jorge Posada the Latino Yankee of the Year Award during the team's Hispanic Heritage Day at the Ballpark.



Job speaks with Mexican President Vicente Fox during the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Photos courtesy of Juan Roberto Job

Juan Roberto Job

- **Education:** B.A., UTEP, 1973; M.Ed., UTEP, 1978
- **Career:** Corporate vice president for New York Life Insurance Co., New York; professional diversity-training speaker
- **Parents:** Juan and Carmen Job
- **Children:** Dominica, Adrian and Maritza
- **Siblings:** Sisters Terry Morales and Rita Schaeffer; brother Rene Job— all UTEP graduates

Miner's Gold

Alumni honored for success

Each year, UTEP recognizes exceptional graduates from each of its six colleges. These Gold Nuggets exemplify the quality of the university.

by Karla V. Iscapa

Michael A. Brochu

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Michael A. Brochu knows how to get the most out of everything he does. His days at UTEP are no exception.



"I am very blessed to have had the opportunity to attend UTEP and to take full advantage of

everything the institution had to offer," Brochu says. "It's exciting to be recognized by the university."

A 1974 UTEP grad with an accounting and finance degree, Brochu is president, chief executive officer and chairman of Primus. The company is an international market leader for knowledge-based eCRM — electronic customer relationship management — software. He is responsible for the company's day-to-day operations, including engineering, consulting, sales, marketing, human resources, financial and legal activities.

In the 30 years since he left UTEP, Brochu has also been president of Sierra On-Line Inc., worldwide publisher of interactive entertainment software; chief financial officer and chief operating officer at Burlington Environmental Inc.; vice president of financing, planning and special projects at Meridian Oil Inc.; assistant vice president and general auditor at Burlington Northern Inc.; and director of information systems at El Paso Natural Gas.

Brochu speaks fondly of his alma mater.

"I have wonderful memories of my fellow students, inspirational professors, and the overall campus environment — particularly spending time at the student union building between classes and, of course, the basketball games at Memorial Gym."

Gary R. Hedrick

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Gary R. Hedrick's career at the El Paso Electric Company



shows his determination to grow and succeed within a company.

He's been with EPE for 27 years, and has served as the company's treasurer, vice president of financial planning and rate administration, chief financial officer and treasurer, and chief financial and administrative officer. In 2001, he was named the company's president and CEO.

A graduate of Eastwood High School, Hedrick earned his bachelor's (1977) and master's of business administration (1982) at UTEP. He has completed management and development programs at Harvard University.

"At UTEP you get as good an education as you get in other places," Hedrick says. "Other colleges might be more prestigious, but as far as the quality of education, I have always felt at the same level as graduates of Ivy League schools."

Hedrick serves on UTEP's

Business Advisory Council and Development Board, El Paso Greater Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, United Blood Services Advisory Board and Children's Miracle Network of El Paso Board.

Blanca Enriquez

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Blanca Enriquez is a nationally known and respected education expert who's earned a presidential appointment to the National Institute for

Literacy (NIFL) board and was named the National Early School Educator of the Year.

But being chosen as the College of Education's 2004 Gold Nugget is one of her greatest honors, she says.

"I feel overwhelmed and extremely proud to be honored by UTEP," Enriquez says. "UTEP is the foundation for my success and knowing that I started with a dream — and knowing that I have achieved that dream thanks to UTEP — is just wonderful."

Enriquez, who received her bachelor's (1975) and master's (1984) in education from UTEP, has a long history at the university. A work-study position at the Reading Center in the Education Building confirmed her passion for education and helped her explore the job market.

"At first, I wanted to be a legal secretary because of the glamour I believed was associated with it. But I realized if you go into education, when you become *viejita* they'll still hire you," she jokes.

As the associate executive director of the Region 19 Education Service Center in El Paso, she oversees Head Start — a federally funded program that provides children from low-income families with comprehensive services. It is home to the third largest Head Start program in the state of Texas, serving more than 3,800 children in El Paso and Hudspeth counties.

Mike Loya

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING



As president and principal shareholder of Vitol SA Inc., Mike Loya has been responsible for supplying oil to South Africa; presiding over the purchase of several plants in Russia and Kazakhstan; and developing business and making investments in South America.

"A college education will provide options and opportunities not available otherwise — taking those first steps into the 'real' world with a college degree made the whole difference for me."

— Mike Loya

After graduating as a mechanical engineer from UTEP in 1977, Loya received a master's in business administration from Harvard in 1979.

"A college education will provide options and opportunities not available otherwise — taking those first steps into the 'real' world with a college degree made the whole difference for me."

Under Loya's leadership, Vitol has seen remarkable growth over the past five years. Vitol sells four million barrels of crude oil and petroleum products worldwide daily and has become the largest spot charter of oil tankers in the world — producing annual revenues of almost \$50 billion in 2003.

The native El Pasoan says he recognizes the importance of his wife Leticia's support in raising their three children, ages 13, 8 and 5.

"It is not easy staying married or raising your children when your husband's business dictates that he maintains an apartment in Moscow, another one in Connecticut and hops in and out of the family home in London," Loya says.

Loya says he holds UTEP dear to his heart.

"I feel increasingly honored that the College of Engineering chose me," he says. "The lessons I learned and the relationships I started at the school are the foundation to where and what I am today."

Don Maynard

COLLEGE OF
HEALTH SCIENCES

It's been 47 years since Don Maynard played football at Texas Western College (now UTEP) — and his school record of 27.6 yards per reception still stands.



Maynard graduated with a bachelor's degree in physical education (now kinesiology) and a minor in education in 1958, then was selected by the New York Giants in the NFL Draft. He spent 13

seasons (1960-1972) with the New York Titans -- renamed the Jets in 1963 -- establishing club records for touchdowns, receptions, receiving yards, single-season receiving yards, single-season touchdowns, and single-game receiving yards.



Maynard's success on the football field earned him many honors, including membership in the NFL Hall of Fame in 1987. When he retired, Maynard was the all-time leading receiver in NFL history. He still ranks sixth in all-time pro football touchdown receptions and is a four-time AFL All-star.

Maynard is one of only two Jets to have had their number retired and one of 20 players who played in the AFL for its entire 10-year existence.

During the off-season, Maynard enjoyed helping others through his work as a plumber, financial planner and teacher. He later taught math, shop and health at Andress, Bel Air and Eastwood high schools.

"I taught for seven years," he says. "My education at UTEP opened the doors for me."

Pete T. Duarte

COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS

Described as a leader who doesn't forget where he came from, Pete T. Duarte preferred the title "chief servant" rather than his official title of chief

executive officer at Thomason Hospital.

This spring, Duarte left Thomason after more than a decade with the county hospital.



Decades earlier, Duarte had proven his commitment to helping others when he joined the Peace Corps and served in the war-torn Dominican Republic.

In 1968, Duarte helped set up a community health clinic in El Paso — now the Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe — which has since earned national recognition for its services to impoverished neighborhoods.

Ten years later, when he was named the clinic's executive director, it had become the largest community healthcare center along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Duarte received his master's degree in sociology from UTEP in 1993.

"The education that UTEP provided allowed me to grow by giving me the foundation necessary to handle complex institutional issues; to deal with relationships and personal issues; and to understand public financing of health care services and poverty — especially along the border — and politics in El Paso," Duarte says.

Duarte has also been director of Project Upward Bound and an assistant professor of sociology at UTEP.

Despite his years of service, Duarte is not ready to stop.

"I don't intend to retire. I feel like I still have another 15 or so good years of work left in me," he says, joking. "My next job will allow me to decide what I want to do when I grow up!"

Stephen J. Reynolds

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Stephen J. Reynolds can get lost in his work, but can find most any type of rock or fault

around Arizona.

Over the past 15 years, Reynolds and other researchers have completed geological maps for more than 20 previously uncharted mountain ranges in Arizona. More than 100 of his geological maps, articles and



reports have been published, including the Geological Map of Arizona.

His most recent research — which examines the evolution of continents — incorporates geological mapping, structural geology, regional tectonics, geochemistry, thermochronology, ore deposits, and the role of fluid in tectonic processes.

Reynolds graduated from UTEP in 1974 with a degree in geology. Then he earned both master's and doctoral degrees in geosciences from Arizona State University, where he now teaches.

"I feel great pride in having the UTEP geology faculty be properly recognized through this award, for the great education I received there," he says.

Reynolds says he's applying what he learned at UTEP into his own teaching. He focuses on developing his students' observational, reasoning and critical-inquiry skills, rather than their memorization skills.

"Most students look forward to coming to class because it is fun, stimulating and engaging, and it encourages natural curiosity, questioning and free exploration of alternative ideas," he says.

His teaching skills have earned him the Outstanding Professor for Excellence in Teaching and Guidance of Students award three times. He has also received the U.S. Geological Survey award for outstanding service and was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to the National Geologic Mapping Advisory Committee. ■

Bridging Borders

Juárez chapter grooms future alumni

The Asociación de Ex-alumnos Mexicanos de UTEP, in collaboration with The University of Texas El Paso and the Rotary Club Cd. Juárez Industrial, held its first Spring Concert this year.

UTEP's Symphony Orchestra and pianist Claudia Luna, under the direction of Ron Hufstader, played the concert at the Museo De La Ex-Aduana in Juárez. More than 250 alumni and guests from Juárez and El Paso attended.

The association is working to grow its membership and has been reaching out to current Mexican students to bolster its future alumni roster.

The 2004-05 association officers are:

- Angélica Narvaez, president
- Alma Woo, vice president
- Polo Barragán, treasurer
- Lorena Díaz, secretary
- Jorge Orta, recruitment chair

To join or start a chapter near you, contact the Alumni Office. ■



New Collectible, Old Main

The Alumni Association 2004 Collectible is now available.

In commemoration of UTEP's 90th anniversary, this year's collectible features Old Main, the first building on the new campus of the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy.

Old Main, built in 1917 after a fire destroyed the School of Mines in old Fort Bliss in 1916, was recorded as a Texas Historic Landmark in 1982.

All proceeds from sales of the collectible help support Alumni Association programs and activities.

View the complete collectible collection by visiting www.utep.edu/alumni. To purchase the collectibles, contact the Alumni Office.

Season of Lights

Mark your calendar for Season of Lights Dec. 3, 2004. The annual family holiday celebration is at the parking lot of the Union Building and features music and more than 200,000 lights around campus. The display is open to the public and remains lighted through early January.

Pre-Game Parties

Join the Alumni Association for pre-game parties before each home football game. This season, look for our tent on Baltimore Field (across from the Durham Center).

The traditional Homecoming pre-game party will remain at the de Wetter Center. All pre-game parties begin two hours before kickoff.

For more details, contact the Alumni Office or visit the Web.



Julio Contreras, former president of the Asociación de Ex-alumnos Mexicanos de UTEP, and his wife Natalia



Pianist and UTEP alumna Claudia Luna



Members of the UTEP Symphony Orchestra from left, Rodrigo Maldonado, John Martínez, Travis Smith, Nathan Eby, José Reyes, and Christian Salas

CONTACT US

It's easy to contact the UTEP 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

*"Our years of support for UTEP are too many to count.
Nothing happens that we aren't there for."*

- Longtime Miner supporter Susan Mayfield

Miner Vow

by Donna Dennis

Before she took her wedding vows in 1951, Susan Ballantyne took the Miner vow.

At the urging of Ellis Mayfield, then her fiancé, Susan promised that together they'd support the Texas College of Mines – now the University of Texas at El Paso – and attend every home basketball and football game they could. She agreed, and married into the Mayfield Miner family.

Since then, the Mayfields have become the steadiest of UTEP supporters, faithfully sitting in the Don Haskins Center for Miner basketball and in prime Sun Bowl seats during football season.

Neither Ellis nor his wife graduated from UTEP, even though he attended the College of Mines in the 1930s. Still, they're considered among UTEP's most loyal supporters.

"Susan and Ellis Mayfield are esteemed members of the UTEP family," says university President Diana Natalicio.

Susan and Ellis belong to the Touchdown and Take Charge clubs, booster organizations for football and basketball, and Ellis served as president of the Touchdown Club. They are regulars at lectures, presentations and special events on campus.

"Our years of support for UTEP are too many to count," says Susan. "Nothing happens that we aren't there for."

The couple also gives their financial support to the university.

Their gifts include the Ellis and Susan Mayfield Professorship Fund, the Ellis Mayfield Family Presidential Scholarship Fund and the Anna Grace Mayfield Library Fund. The Mayfields have also made a

deferred gift which deeds to UTEP the house they've called home since 1953.

"The most important thing we can leave to young people is a fine education," Susan says.

Ellis, honored as UTEP's outstanding ex-student in 1986, studied pre-law at the Texas College of Mines during the Great Depression. He received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law in 1939. He is a founding partner of the law firm Mayfield and Broadus, now Mayfield and Perrenot.

Ellis, 88, is also proud to be a member of what's called the Greatest Generation – the men and women who fought and won World War II.

"The war was a big part of my life," he says, recalling his service as a captain with the U.S. Army's 29th Infantry, the division that led the D-Day invasion. Ellis remained in the reserves until after the Korean War.

Susan and her family had been stationed in Fort Knox while her father fought in World War II. They returned to El Paso – her mother's hometown – when Susan was in high school. Susan, now 75, received a degree in Spanish and Latin American Affairs from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Susan and Ellis met in the spring of 1950 and married on Jan. 21, 1951, in El Paso. They have four children.

"I'm just the luckiest guy in the world," Ellis says of his wife. "She's the catch of my life, no doubt about it." ■



Mining the Future

Story by Cindy Ramirez
Research by Timi Haggerty



Streetcar tracks, a small contingent of Fort Bliss soldiers and acres of open desert.

That's what welcomed 27 students from seven states and two nations on Sept. 23, 1914, the first day of classes at the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy.

El Paso, then a boomtown of about 60,000 residents, was five long miles away. The railroads had opened the Southwest for mining, making El Paso a headquarters for hardscrabble miners and high-rolling prospectors. Across the nearby border, the Mexican Revolution was raging.

Amid that turmoil, a group of pioneering El Pasoans looked into the future and saw the need for an institution of higher learning, a college of mines.

"I consider my father one of the cornerstones of UTEP. He loved that school and dedicated his life to it," says Lloyd A. Nelson Jr. His dad was among the school's first 27 students and one-third of its first graduating class.



Lloyd Nelson Sr. as a UTEP professor in 1948

Lloyd "Speedy" Nelson, La Vere Leasure and Clyde M. Ney graduated from the School of Mines on May 30, 1916. The ceremony was the last on the Fort Bliss campus. Fire destroyed the buildings just months later.

Soon a new school was built on the west side of the Franklin Mountains, and in 1967, it was renamed the University of Texas at El Paso. Since 1914, more than 76,000 alumni have earned degrees here; today, as the university celebrates its 90th anniversary, more than 18,500 students are enrolled.

This Sept. 23, hundreds are expected to gather on campus to celebrate the school's nine decades of achievement. Descendants of the first 27 students will be among the guests.

La Vere L. Leasure, the first graduate of the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy, sits with his wife Margaret in this 1940s photo. Standing are the Leasure's children, John Raymond Leasure, Frances Leasure Harris and James Leslie Leasure.

Leasure's family today includes, from left, grandchildren Bobby Harris and Mary Frances Harris with their mother Frances Leasure Harris; and great-granddaughter Linda Y. Rivas with her grandfather John Raymond Leasure.



photo by Laura Trejo

"When you look back at how UTEP started and look at the university now, it's kind of mind boggling," says Leasure's grandson, Bobby Harris, himself a 1970 UTEP English grad. "We've come a long way."

Generations of tradition

La Vere Leasure is considered the mining school's first graduate because his name was first in the alphabetical listing of the three 1916 grads.

Leasure was an upper classman and a teaching assistant in chemistry. He played on the school's first football and basketball teams and was the first editor of *The Prospector*, the student newspaper. His co-editor was Lloyd Nelson.

After graduation, Leasure worked in Hanover, N.M., and married. During World War I, he served in the engineering corps, then spent most of his professional career with the American Smelting and Refining Co. in South America and Mexico before

retiring in El Paso in 1954. Leasure died in October 1966, just days before he was to be honored at Homecoming ceremonies.

Today, a street in far East El Paso bears his name.

And today, four generations of his family are proud alumni.

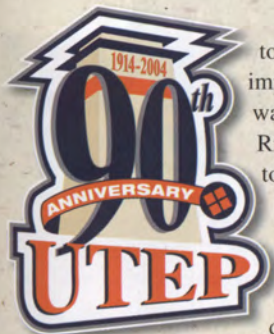
Leasure's son James Leslie Leasure graduated from the school in 1952

when it was called Texas Western College. Leasure's daughter Frances Leasure Harris had three children — James Walter Harris, Bobby Harris and Mary Frances Harris. All are proud UTEP grads.

And today, Leasure's great-granddaughter Linda Y. Rivas, a sophomore studying psychology at UTEP, is upholding the family tradition.



One Generation at a Time



84, recalls her father's life.

"He didn't tell us these wonderful stories. We heard about them years later," says Frances, who retired in Central El Paso three years ago.

Pioneering families

Many descendants of the 27 original students say they consider their family members pioneering El Pasoans. Walton Haralson Sarrels and Henry Becker are among them.

Sarrels, a 1920 mining engineering graduate, often talked about fighting *bandidos* on the way to school.

"He loved telling those Old West stories, but mostly, he loved talking about that school," recalls his son, Walton H. Sarrels Jr., 50, from his home in Tucson.

The senior Sarrels was born in Texas in 1894. He served in World War I and after graduation worked as a mining engineer for L.A. Mining, which sent him to Mexico City and Nicaragua. He died in 1985.

Becker, a 1917 mining engineering graduate, was La Vere Leasure's teammate on the school's first football team.

"I can't think of a place that I'd rather have him learn than where he did, right there in El Paso," Becker's nephew, Hugo Becker Jr. says from his home in Kentucky. "He was quite an engineer, and he learned everything he knew at that school. He was a very proud graduate."

"They've always told me how important my family was to UTEP," says Rivas. "It's an honor to be part of that."

Looking over family momentos, Leasure's daughter Frances,

Hugo Becker Jr. says his grandparents met and married in Mexico and had four children, including Henry Becker. Henry and his family were run out of Mexico during the Revolution and settled in El Paso. After college, Henry became superintendent of the ASNR smelter in Monterrey, Mexico. He died in the 1940s.

"I'm proud this is part of our family history, of UTEP's history," Hugo Becker Jr. says.

Growing up a Miner

Also part of that history is Lloyd Nelson. He was among the Texas school's first faculty, teaching geology from 1920 to 1964. He often brought his son to work with him.

"I practically grew up on that campus," says Nelson Jr., 84. He recalls prowling the labs, machine shop and student co-op while his father worked.

The senior Nelson and his wife Fay Wynn, a 1935 College of Mines grad, operated the co-op in the early 1930s.

While Nelson Jr. attended the College of Mines during the 1940s, he took a historical geology course taught by his father.

"I worked harder with him than I ever did in any other course," he says from his home in New Jersey. "I had an A. But he made me earn it."

Nelson Jr. says he's most fond of the nickname he came to inherit from his father's days on the football team. "I've gone by 'Speedy Jr.' my whole life."

Future families

The descendants of UTEP's original 27 students agree that while their families are part of university history, today's students play another important role.

"Your students there today are the ones who'll be making history in the future," Nelson Jr. says. "They should be proud of the past, but they will leave their own mark." ■

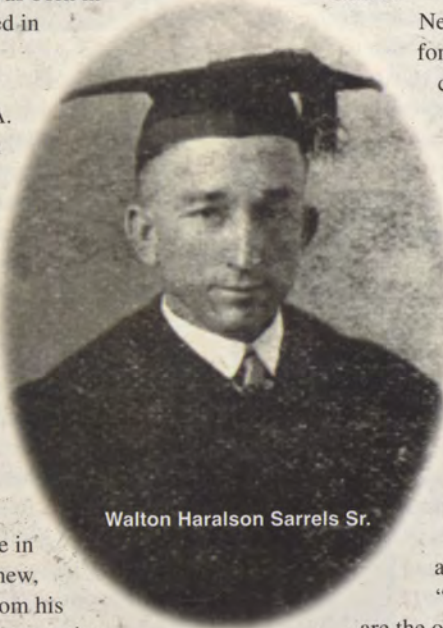


The 1916 football team included La Vere Leasure (standing) and Henry Becker (sitting).

The Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy

The 27 students who first entered the Texas State School of Mines on Sept. 23, 1914:

Raul R. Barberena, Mexico.
Henry Becker, Ariz.
Keith Davey, Ariz.
Vere Leasure, Mo.
Lloyd Nelson, N.M.
C. M. Ney, La.
H. M. Park, Ala.
S. R. Simpson, Pa.
James Biggs, Texas
Alfred Black, Texas
Fred Chesney, Texas
Baylor Foster, Texas
L. A. Goodale, Texas
H. B. Greer, Texas
Jack Ivy, Texas
George J. Johnston, Texas
E. T. Kelly, Texas
Lynn Pomeroy, Texas
William Race, Texas
W. B. Richmond, Texas
Carroll Ronan, Texas
G. E. Routledge, Texas
W. H. Sarrels, Texas
W. E. Sharpe, Jr., Texas
Claudius Smith, Texas
Orban Walker, Texas
W. Weisiger, Texas



Walton Haralson Sarrels Sr.

Miner football back in the game

by Cindy Ramirez

A new coaching staff, promising recruits and red-hot returning players are putting faith back into Miner football, which kicks-off Sept. 2.

Adding to the energy are a revamped athletics Internet site, a new coaching staff, and the new Miner athletics campaign slogan.

The campaign asks: "Do you believe?"

Head Coach Mike Price is confident the answer will soon be a resounding, "Hell, yeah!"

"You gotta believe!" says an enthusiastic Price, reiterating the slogan. "I truly believe that. But it's not just faith. Faith is a belief without evidence. We're going to prove ourselves on the field:"

The Miners, who shared the Western Athletic Conference title in 2000, won only six games the past three seasons.

Price's goal? To be WAC champions again — and soon.

"I believe we can pull it off this year. Why not? Why settle for anything less? I look at this stadium and I see potential for a full house every game." ■



Coaches' Corner



Mike Price

Head Coach



Jeff Banks

Running Backs/
Punters



Jim Clark

Cornerbacks



Tim Duffie

Linebackers



Tim Hundley

Defensive
Coordinator



Lawrence Livingston, Sr.

Asst. Head Coach/
Offensive Line



Ikaika Mallee

Defensive Line



Aaron Price

Quarterbacks/
Kickers



Eric Price

Offensive
Coordinator/
Wide Receivers



Jeff Woodruff

Safeties/
Special Teams

www.utepathletics.com/football



Players To Watch

#48 Bryce Benekos



- **Position:** Punter
- **Height/weight:** 6' 5"; 190 lbs
- **Age:** 21
- **Classification/Major:** senior, creative writing
- **Notables:** Second team All-WAC (2003); second in WAC and 47th in NCAA with a 40.8 punting average; honorable mention All-WAC; and Academic All-WAC (2002)

#83 Jonas Crafts



- **Position:** Tight end
- **Height/weight:** 6' 3"; 245 lbs
- **Age:** 23
- **Classification/Major:** senior, communications/electronic media
- **Notables:** Honorable mention All-WAC (2003); started all 12 games as tight end and was third-leading receiver, finishing with 19 receptions for 231 (2002)

#4 Howard Jackson



- **Position:** Running back
- **Height/weight:** 5' 10"; 165 lbs
- **Age:** 22
- **Classification/Major:** senior, criminal justice
- **Notables:** Ranked first in all-purpose yards (4,361) and second in all-purpose yards per game (132.2); first team All-WAC; ranked first in the league and fourth nationally in all-purpose yards; rated fourth in the WAC in rushing (2003)

#10 Chris Marrow



- **Position:** Wide receiver
- **Height/weight:** 5' 8"; 170 lbs
- **Age:** 21
- **Classification/Major:** sophomore, business
- **Notables:** Led UTEP in catches (34), yardage (467) and touchdowns (3) (2003); co-District 1-5A MVP as a senior at Franklin High School in El Paso; first team All-State recognition as a defensive back (2002)

#43 Robert Rodriguez



- **Position:** Linebacker
- **Height/weight:** 6' 1"; 230 lbs
- **Age:** 22
- **Classification/Major:** senior, history
- **Notables:** Second team All-WAC (2003); named first team Freshman All-America by *The Sporting News* after leading the WAC in tackles (137) (2001)

#3 Adrian Ward



- **Position:** Defensive back
- **Height/weight:** 5' 10"; 170 lbs
- **Age:** 22
- **Classification/Major:** senior, sociology
- **Notable:** Recorded 39 tackles (36 solos), had a team-leading three interceptions (2003); named first team All-State and All-Conference player and Chabot College Defensive Player of the Year, Hayward, Calif. (2002)

The Winning Wave

Basketball up for 2004 challenge

by Cindy Ramirez

After last season's NCAA appearance, the 2004 Miners have a tough act to follow.

Head Coach Doc Sadler says his new coaching staff and players are up to the challenge beginning this November.



Sadler

"I like the fact that our guys have experienced winning. They like the taste of it, and understand the work that goes into winning," says Sadler, who was named to his position in March 2004. "They have continued to work hard through the spring and the summer. They haven't been satisfied with what they have accomplished. They want more."

Last season for the first time in 12 years, the Miners were invited to the NCAA tournament, losing to Maryland 86-83 in the first round. The Miners were co-champions in the Western Athletic Conference.

This time, the Miners are already one of the preseason favorites in the WAC.

"I like this team," Sadler says about his lineup, including last year's star returns: Filiberto Rivera, Omar Thomas, John Tofi and Jason Williams



Holland

"I just hope we play as hard as we did last year. And I think we will."

Sadler recently completed his staff with the hiring of assistant coach James Holland and David Anwar as director of basketball operations.

Holland joins Ed Custodio and Randall Dickey on the assistant coach staff.

A native of Charlotte, N.C., Holland has 25 years of coaching experience at the collegiate and professional level. The former Globetrotter served as a southeast regional scout for the NBA's Washington Wizards. Most recently, he was assistant basketball coach at the University of Georgia.



Anwar

Anwar spent the last four years as an assistant coach at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. He helped Arkansas-Fort Smith to a 101-29 record over the last four seasons. The Lions finished fifth at the NJCAA National Tournament in 2001 and seventh in 2002. **N**

SportsinShort

Hall of Fame inductees named

The UTEP Athletic Hall of Fame has announced its 2004 inductees. The honored athletes will be inducted on Sept. 17 at the Larry K. Durham Center.



Hill

The inductees are:

Bob Beamon, track; Bobby Joe Hill, basketball; Don Maynard, football and track; Ross Moore, athlete, trainer and coach; and Jesse Whittenton, football.



Maynard

Teams to be inducted are the 1975 and 1976 NCAA Championship men's cross country teams; and the 1976 NCAA Championship men's indoor track and field team.

For more information, call 915/747-8759.

'50s Sun Bowl reunion

The UTEP athletic department will host a Sun Bowl '50s reunion honoring former Sun Bowl teams from the classes of 1949-50, 1954-55 and 1957.

Festivities begin Friday, Oct. 1 with a dinner at the Larry K. Durham Center and continue with a luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 2. The reunion will also include tickets to the Oct. 2 football game against New Mexico State at the Sun Bowl.

Individual packages are \$50 or \$80 for two people. Hotel reservations can be made at the

Sunland Park Holiday Inn with a special rate of \$60 per night.

For more information, contact Ken George at 915/637-5893.

UTEP picked fourth in WAC poll

The UTEP women's soccer team is picked to finish fourth in the Western Athletic Conference this season, based on a vote by the league's head coaches.

SMU is picked to finish first, Hawaii second and Rice third.

The Miners return 10 starters from their 2003 squad, which went 11-8 overall and 4-4 in the WAC for a fourth place finish last season.



Women's basketball names assistant coach

Jack McNickle, formerly an assistant coach at Coffeyville Community College, has been named women's basketball assistant coach.



McNickle

"He brings experience and passion in the area of recruiting, which is an added bonus to our program and our future," says UTEP Head Coach Keitha Green.

McNickle, a former journalist, helped the Lady

Ravens to a 22-10 finish and a Region VI championship in 2003. He received his bachelor of arts degree in business administration from Cambridge State University in 2002.

Softball complex to open

The \$1.8 million Helen of Troy Softball Complex is expected to be completed and ready for UTEP's newest sport this month.

The complex will house offices and locker rooms for the women's softball and soccer team. The 900-seat facility will include a VIP seating area, three batting cages and two bullpens.

The women's softball team had an 8-46 inaugural season in 2003-2004.



SportsOnline

The UTEP Athletics Department has launched a revamped Web site with improved features, including video and audio capabilities. Keep up with the latest in Miner athletic news and log on today!

www.utepathletics.com/



“The Rubin Center emerges as the ideal venue for the exhibition of some of the most compelling artwork being created today.”

—Rubin Center Director Kate Bonansinga

OPEN *for* Art

by Erica Martinez

This fall, the Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts will transform UTEP into a mecca for contemporary art by prominent local, national and international artists.



Stanlee and Gerald Rubin

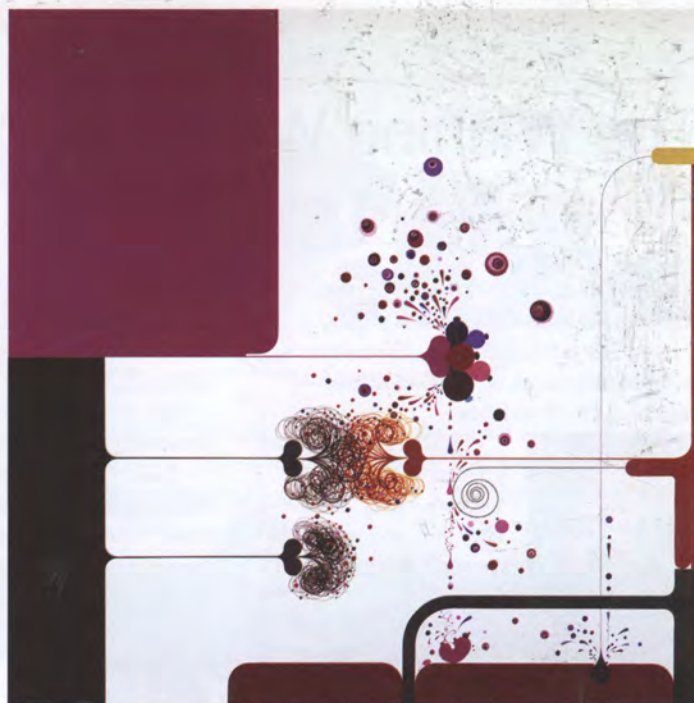
“As national, regional and ideological boundaries and borders increasingly become issues that many contemporary artists choose to address, the Rubin Center emerges as the ideal venue for the exhibition of some of the most compelling artwork being created today,” says Rubin Center Director Kate Bonansinga.

Helen of Troy CEO Gerald Rubin and his wife Stanlee, a member of the Helen of Troy Board of Directors, made a generous contribution to the building’s

renovation. The Rubins are both 1965 Texas Western College (now UTEP) graduates.

“This center is a great opportunity for local, as well as international, artists to exhibit in El Paso,” says Stanlee Rubin. “The center will be an asset to the university and community.”

For its Sept. 23 inauguration, the center will showcase vibrant contemporary drawings and paintings by university alumni, including Monica Martinez,



“Untitled” from the 2004 Space Addiction Series by Paul Henry Ramirez



Ramirez

Nicholas Muñoz, Hector Romero, Sam Reveles and Paul Henry Ramirez.

Ramirez’s images of hair-like coils play on the Rubins’ business: a beauty and hair products distributor. As a boy, Ramirez would comb wigs for his mother, who managed a Helen of Troy store in Northeast El Paso.

A native El Pasoan and acclaimed New York artist, Ramirez has been described as “provocative, sensuous and surreal.”

Reveles, a 1985 graduate, will present “A Scroll Study of Ajit Mookerjee,” a homage to the renowned Indian scholar and artist.

Muñoz, a 1994 graduate now working as assistant preparator at the El Paso Museum of Art, says he’s always wanted to present his work at his alma mater.

“This is a real accolade for me,” says Muñoz, whose exhibit consists of assemblages of pieces of wood and spray paintings.

The 14,700-square-foot Rubin Center features three exhibition galleries, two large classrooms and studio space for student work. **N**



Muñoz

INAUGURAL EXHIBITS

- **“Seriously Playful:** Paul Henry Ramirez, 1995-2004,” Sept. 23-Dec. 4 in the Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Gallery.
- **“Martinez, Muñoz, Reveles and Romero:** Current Work by UTEP Graduates,” Sept. 23-Nov. 6 in the L Gallery.
- **“Wishing Worlds”** Drawings by Sook Jin Jo, Sept. 23-Nov. 13 at the Project Space at the Rubin Center.
- **“Wishing Worlds-We Are All in One,”** sculpture by Sook Jin Jo through summer 2005 outside the Rubin Center.
- **Information:** 915/747-7837 or www.utep.edu/arts

Photo by Laura Trejo



Sam Reveles with his painting, “Desert Host of Ornaments,” in the background

Heart of a Volunteer

Service empowers bank executive

"She has a generous spirit and knew she had a responsibility to give back to the university."

- Edi Brannon on Maria Alvarez

by Erica Martinez

A longtime volunteer, Maria Alvarez didn't fully appreciate the importance of community service until she arrived at New York's Columbia University for her graduate studies.

"There were many homeless people living on the campus of Columbia," says Alvarez, a 1986 UTEP graduate and now a vice president at J.P. Morgan Chase. "I knew that if I was going to stay in New York after completing my degree, I was going to have to do something to help them."

Alvarez set out to make a difference and served as a board member of the nonprofit organization New York Cares.

She launched an acclaimed tutoring program for children in Manhattan's impoverished community of Washington Heights, led recreational outings for at-risk youth in Harlem, and raised funds for numerous organizations.

She is also involved with the century-old organization Fresh Air Fund, which provides summer vacations to children from some of New York's toughest neighborhoods.

The 45-year-old contributes to the United Negro Fund, March of Dimes, Sierra Club and Doe Fund – and most recently, UTEP.

With a company match from J.P. Morgan Chase, Alvarez donated more than \$10,000 to the College of Business Administration.

"It's pretty exciting to be part of a company that does such social good," she says.

Once an analyst in the treasury arm of the retail banking division, Alvarez is now the executive in charge of the Operations, Risk and



Regulatory Compliance Department for Chase Education Finance – the student loan arm of the firm.

Alvarez says her giving nature was instilled at El Paso's Loretto Academy, which encourages community involvement.

A former boss inspired her to succeed – in a somewhat unorthodox manner.

"She made it clear that she would fire me if I ever stopped going to school," Alvarez says about Edi Brannon, a supervisor at The Popular department store where she worked during her undergraduate years.

Alvarez earned a marketing degree from UTEP and a master's in business administration from Columbia as a Roger E. Murray Fellow.

Brannon says Alvarez always knew exactly what she wanted.

"Maria has the stamina, drive and vision to be successful at whatever she sets her mind to," Brannon says. "She has a generous spirit and knew she had a responsibility to give back to the university."

Alvarez, along with Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, won a Lewis Hine Award for exemplary work with youth from the National Child Labor Committee in 1993. The following year, her corporate volunteerism was featured in a chapter of "Heroes After Hours" by David C. Forward.

Alvarez was named in Hispanic Business Magazine as one of "100 Hispanic Influentials for 1995" and

was honored that year with the New York Association for New Americans Award. ■

Matching Funds Program

- **Many corporations match** employee, retiree and surviving spouse contributions to charities and organizations, including universities.

- **For example, ExxonMobil** matches employees' donations 3-to-1 under the Foundation Educational Matching Gift Program. This year, UTEP received more than \$6,000 from the ExxonMobil Foundation.

- **In the last five years**, the university has received about \$400,000 in matching gifts from various companies, including Bank of America, SBC, J.P. Morgan Chase and Motorola.

- **To find out if a company participates** in a matching funds program, contact its human resources department.

- **For information** on giving to UTEP, call 915/747-8533

www.matchinggifts.com/utep



Administrative appointments position UTEP for future

Staff Report

UTEP starts the fall semester with organizational and administrative changes designed to position UTEP for future growth and development of its research and education programs.

"UTEP's administrative structure has remained relatively constant during a period of enormous enrollment growth and significant graduate program and research development," says UTEP President Diana Natalicio.

"We are a different University today than we were 15 years ago," she explains. "These organizational changes will align our infrastructure to meet current needs, and position us to capitalize on opportunities to move the University to the next level."

The university created two new positions: vice president for health affairs and vice president for information resources and planning.



Gilbert A. Castro, Ph.D., was named vice president for health affairs and will oversee the University's many health-related research and education partnerships, including the cooperative master's degree in public health with UTHSC-Houston, the UTEP/UT-Austin doctor of pharmacy degree, and collaborations with the Texas Tech medical school.

He joins UTEP from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.



Stephen Riter, Ph.D., UTEP's provost for nine years, is now vice president for information resources and planning. His new administrative unit will consolidate and integrate the University's information resources, making them more accessible to users across the campus for decision- and policy-making.

"We are a different University today than we were 15 years ago."

In other appointments:



Pablo Arenaz, Ph.D., associate vice president for academic affairs at UTEP, was named interim vice president for academic affairs while a search for a provost is conducted.



Leslie O. Schulz, Ph.D., was named dean of the College of Health Sciences.

Schulz comes to UTEP from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where she served as a faculty member and as associate vice chancellor for academic affairs.

She replaces interim dean Karen Schmalig, Ph.D., who has been named dean of the College of Health and Human Services at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte.



Michael Eastman, Ph.D., was named interim dean of the College of Science.

A former UTEP faculty member and administrator, Eastman most recently served as dean of science and engineering at UT Pan American.

He replaces Thomas Brady, Ph.D., who recently announced his resignation.



Gary Mann, Ph.D., former chair of UTEP's Accounting Department, was named interim dean of the College of Business.

He replaces Charles Crespy, who is now dean of business at his alma mater, the University of New Mexico. ■

Magazines rank UTEP tops in awarding bachelor's to minorities

by Cindy Ramirez

UTEP ranks second in the nation in awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanics across all disciplines, according to a June 2004 article in *Black Issues in Higher Education* magazine.

The magazine's "Top 100 Undergraduate Degree Producers" ranks schools based on degrees awarded during the 2002-03 academic year as reported by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics. The magazine also ranks schools based on bachelor's degrees awarded in individual disciplines by minority group.

In 2002-03, UTEP awarded 1,367 bachelor's degrees to Hispanics, a 15 percent increase over 2001-02. Florida International University ranked first, with 2,478 bachelor's degrees awarded.

According to the magazine, UTEP also ranks second in awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanics in engineering (behind Florida International University) and second in health professions (behind UT Pan American).

In awarding bachelor's degrees to minorities overall, UTEP ranked 29th in all disciplines combined; sixth in health professions and related clinical sciences; 21st in mathematics and statistics; and 25th in physical sciences.

UTEP also ranked among the top 50 universities in awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanics and minorities in a variety of areas, including biology, business, computer information sciences, psychology and ethnic and gender studies.

In May 2004, *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education* ranked UTEP fifth in awarding bachelor's degrees and seventh in awarding master's degrees to Hispanics in 2001-02.

Founded in 1914, UTEP now serves more than 18,500 students, about 71 percent of whom are Hispanic. UTEP is the only doctoral-research university in the United States with student population that is primarily Mexican-American. ■



Pepsi Partnership

Cola becomes UTEP's choice for new generation

by Cindy Ramirez

It's the cola. And now Pepsi is UTEP's cola — exclusively.

Pepsi-Cola and UTEP recently signed a seven-year contract that puts the soft drink in the university's 168 vending machines and 60 soda fountains as of Sept. 1.

"We at Pepsi are very excited because not only is this a partnership between UTEP and Pepsi, but it's a partnership that involves the entire community," says Rick Valtierra, general manager of Pepsi Bottling Group of El Paso.

Campus vending machines now feature both the UTEP and Pepsi logos, as well as depictions of the university atmosphere. The red, white and blue Pepsi logo will also be seen on 20 athletic department signs, including the Interstate 10 and Mesa Street marquees.

"They have committed to assist the university, particularly with athletics, in developing marketing and promotional

packages to reach out to the community through partnerships they already have," says Cynthia Villa, UTEP's vice president of finance and administration.

UTEP's 10-year contract with Coca-Cola ended Aug. 31, 2004. Coke had been the university's cola of choice since the early 1960s.

"Coke had been a terrific partner," Villa says. "They were very supportive of the university and an excellent team to work with."

Most recently, Coca-Cola demonstrated that support by placing UTEP's 90th anniversary logo on some of their bottled products in the region.

Villa says taking the Pepsi challenge was a tough choice, but ultimately the university got the better deal.

While details of the contract were still being worked out, Villa says Pepsi will also provide scholarships and funds to make some campus vending machines compatible with

Miner Gold Card technology.

The Miner Gold Card works much like a debit card for students, faculty and staff. Vending machines across campus are being retrofitted to accommodate the cards.

Valtierra says the bottling group, which stretches from far East El Paso County to southern New Mexico, hopes to promote the City of El Paso and UTEP.

"We want to drive some of this excitement about UTEP athletics and academics into our satellite areas and across the El Paso region," he says. "We're happy to be on board." ■



News&Notes

UTEP top customer of minority businesses

UTEP is among the top 10 Texas agencies and universities that have the highest percentage of spending with Historically Underutilized Businesses, according to the Texas Building and Procurement Commission's (TBPC) Semi-Annual HUB Report for fiscal year 2004.

UTEP ranked sixth in percentage of HUB spending among the top 25 agencies that spent more than \$5 million on goods and services between Sept. 1, 2003 and Feb. 28, 2004.

About 32.5 percent of UTEP's nearly \$13.6 million in expenditures was spent with HUB vendors. UTEP was the highest-ranked UT System university in the TBPC's top 25.

University Communications wins national awards

UTEP's Office of University Communications won two national bronze medals in the 2004 Circle of Excellence Awards Program from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

The winning entries in the categories of Specific Media Relations Projects and Special

Program Publications Packages received praise from the judges.

In the media category, special recognition was given to Cindy Ramirez, coordinator and editor; Donna Dennis, public affairs specialist; and writers Megan Baeza and Erica Martinez.

In the publications category, graphic designer John Downey, and Elizabeth Thurmond-Bengtson, assistant director for Special Events, won recognition.

Wells Fargo opens on-campus store

Wells Fargo opened its first El Paso "cyber" banking store at UTEP this summer.

The branch is located on the first floor of the Union Building East, next to the University Bookstore.

It differs from traditional banks in one major way: no cash passes between hands. Withdrawals and deposits are made at an ATM. And two computer terminals allow Wells Fargo

customers access to online banking, where they can pay bills and view their bank statements.

The personal bankers can open new accounts, process loan applications, and assist newcomers to online banking.

Research dollars rising

UTEP was among the state's top public universities in research and development in fiscal year 2003, with \$27.8 million in expenditures reported, according to a recent report by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.



That ranks UTEP sixth among the state's public universities, and third among U.T. System institutions (excluding medical and health schools) in research spending. ■



• A L U M N O T E S •

50s **Richard Shain Cohen** (M.A. '55) wrote his second novel, *Be Still, My Soul*, which follows a family through the Great Depression and World War II. Cohen is a resident of Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

60s **Manuel R. "Bob" Ybarra** (B.A. '68) is chairman of the board of directors for the Government Employees Credit Union in El Paso.

Dr. J.A. "Tony" Marquez (B.S.M.E.T. '67; Ph.D. '99) is the 2004 Dentist of the Year, selected by the El Paso chapter of the Academy of General Dentistry.

70s **Lucy Ellen Antone** (B.A. '72) is a human capital officer with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management in Washington, D.C.

Nancy Beck (B.B.A. '75), SunTone business development manager for Sun Microsystems in San Jose, Calif., was profiled on the company's Web site during Sun's Worldwide Volunteer Week 2004.

Clive Cochran (B.A. '77), associate creative director for MithoffBurton Partners in El Paso,

received his 20th Certificate of Design Excellence Award from *Print*, a national graphic design publication.

Charles Geach (B.S.Ed. '74; M.Ed. '79), an instructional technology administrator with the El Paso Independent School District, was awarded the 2004 Alan Shepard Technology in Education Award from the Astronauts Memorial Foundation.

Dr. Jerrold M. Grodin (B.S. '71), a board-certified physician in cardiovascular disease, received the Hope for Humanity award in November 2003 from the Dallas Holocaust Memorial Center.

Linda Gonzalez-Hensgen (B.B.A. '77), director of student financial aid at El Paso Community College, is president of the Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

Luis Herrera (B.B.A. '77), director of information services at the Pasadena [Calif.] Public Library, is president of the Public Library Association.

Ivonne R. Jimenez (B.A. '76), extension services administrator for El Paso Public Library, is assisting the Texas Library Association to provide leadership education opportunities for its members.

Gary J. Mann (B.B.A. '79; M.B.A. '80) is interim dean of UTEP's College of Business

Administration.

Victor Ayala Jr. (B.A. '84) is an employee relations specialist with American Express Bank in New York City.

80s **Irma Estrada** (B.S.N. '81; M.S.N. '98), of El Paso, is nurse manager of R.E. Thomason General Hospital's critical care unit, and is the Life Savers Transplant Support Group's Member of the Year.

Lt. Col. Anna E. Hofer (B.A. '83), of Spring Branch, Texas, retired from the U.S. Army in September after 20 years of service.

Tresa Rockwell (B.B.A. '82) of El Paso is one of 13 women appointed to the Governor's Commission for Women.

90s **Suzanne Azoulay** (M.A. '90) of Dallas is on the Governor's Commission for Women to help resolve challenges faced by Texas women.

Ricardo Barraza (B.S. '98) is the new head football coach at El Paso's Socorro High School.

Graciela Cordero (B.F.A. '92), print production manager for MithoffBurton Partners in El Paso, has worked for the advertising agency for 10 years.

Jose E. Mendez (B.S.E.E. '93), an electronics engineer with the Information Operations Directorate at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.,

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was the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Award Conference Role Model of the Week for the week of May 31, 2004.

Roberto Strongman (B.A. '93; M.A. '95) is an assistant professor in the Department of Black Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he teaches comparative Caribbean literature and cultural studies.

Carlos A. Tovar (B.F.A. '95) is director of graphics for the Wall Street Journal Europe, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

00s **Kimberly M. McCarden** (B.A. '01) is the publicist for the El Paso Museum of Art.

Sheryl Luna (B.A. '02), a teacher at the Metropolitan State College of Denver, won the first edition of the Montoya Poetry Prize, awarded by the Institute for Latino Studies and the Creative Writing Program at the University of Notre Dame.

Patricia D. Adauto (B.B.A. '00) was named Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Building and Planning Services by the City of El Paso.

OBITS **Clyde Wise** (B.A. '59; M.A. '62) March 18, 2004. Wise, a resident of Napa, Calif., was a U.S. Air Force veteran. He taught at Anthony High School in Anthony, N.M., and at Vintage High School in Napa.

Candace Lynn Cusac-Martinez (B.S. '75) March 31, 2004. Martinez was a 27-year veteran of the El Paso Police Department, including 10 years with the School Resource Officer program at Ysleta Middle School.

Master Sgt. James C. Nunn (B.I.S. '99) April 2, 2004. Nunn, retired from the U.S. Army, was a fifth-grade teacher for the Socorro Independent School District in El Paso.

Maj. Morrison Fleming Clay (B.A. '66) April 6, 2004. Clay, retired from the U.S. Army, was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He worked as a trainer and an American history teacher at Ysleta High School in El Paso. In 2003, he was inducted into the Sun City Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame.

John Edward Fifer (B.S.Ed. '63) April 9, 2004. A longtime resident of El Paso, Fifer was a decorator for the White House Department Store, J.C. Penny's and Farah Manufacturing.

Robert Edward Kelly (B.A. '71; M.A. '78) April 9, 2004. Kelly, a longtime resident of El Paso, was a pilot in the U.S. Air Corps and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He later served as an English and business teacher at Father Yermo High School, Lydia Patterson Institute, El Paso Community College and UTEP.

Pamela Ann Fraser (B.I.S. '00) April 10, 2004. Fraser was a teacher for the Socorro Independent School District in El Paso.

Thomas J. "Tom" Keffer (B.A. '75) April 14, 2004. Keffer was a resident of Rio Rancho, N.M. He worked for Mountain Bell Telephone Co. in El Paso and retired from Qwest Communications in Albuquerque, N.M. He was the founder and president of the Ysleta Chess Club and was a U.S.A. Class A Chess Champion.

Paula Lehnhausen Kiska (M.A. '56) May 5, 2004. Kiska was an assistant professor who taught Russian literature in the UTEP Department of English for nearly 30 years.

Sgt. Isela Rubalcava May 8, 2004. A lifelong resident of Canutillo, Texas, Rubalcava was killed in Iraq while serving in the U.S. Army as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

— *Compiled by Shannon Kanorr and Howard Rigg*

Alumni directory in the works

UTEP has partnered with Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company, Inc., to produce a new alumni directory expected to be available by September 2005.

Starting in October, the company will contact alumni by mail or telephone and will ask them to update their contact information. The data will be used to create a directory available for purchase by alumni. The data will also be used to update university mailing lists, including one used to deliver *Nova Quarterly*.

The 40-year-old Harris Publishing primarily produces alumni and membership directories in print and on CD, and provides online directories and broadcast e-mail services.

Through the new directory, UTEP hopes to find lost members, enhance networking, increase participation and improve communication among its alumni.

The last UTEP alumni directory was compiled in 1995.

Oaxaca's Hallmark

by Cindy Ramirez

El Pasoan Fernando Oaxaca, a 1950 UTEP graduate and entrepreneur credited with opening doors for Hispanics in politics and business, died of cancer May 28, 2004, at UCLA Medical Center. He was 76.

The oldest of three children of Mexican immigrants, Oaxaca served in World War II and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He worked in the aerospace industry in the 1950s and 60s. In the late 1960s, he became one of the founding members of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly. He served as the assembly's second president.

"Thanks to his leadership and vision, today Hispanics are in leadership roles in the White House, corporate boardrooms, presidents of universities, and other visible roles on the American landscape," says Massey Villareal, national chairman of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly.

Oaxaca co-founded Cruz/Kravitz IDEAS, a national advertising agency specializing in the Latino market. He also founded Coronado Communications, one of three media firms hired by the Immigration and Naturalization Service in 1988 to publicize the federal amnesty program for illegal immigrants.



Oaxaca served as director and past-chairman of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation, the biggest Hispanic community services institution in the

United States, and as chairman of the Mexican Culture Institute. Both organizations awarded Oaxaca Lifetime Achievement Awards.

He led a number of Hispanic organizations, including the National Association of Latino Elected Officials and the Hispanic Council of Foreign Affairs.

He served on the White House staff of President Gerald Ford as associate director, Office of Management and Budget, and in government positions with presidents Ronald Reagan and Richard Nixon.

HispanicVista.com, a website he helped found to promote discussion of issues relevant to Latinos, calls Oaxaca a champ.

"Fernando, *hermano*, we will continue to champion your cause. You will be remembered by grateful future generations of Americans, of all political affiliations, backgrounds and creeds."

He is survived by his wife, Bertie; his daughter, Virginia; and his brother, Jaime Oaxaca. ■

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