

Fall 2005

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



COMING HOME

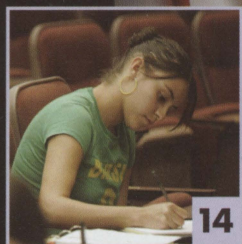
Honored alumni,
reunions, pep rallies,
football ... more!

HOMECOMING
Section
pgs. 4 to 11



TRAIL BLAZERS

First black students
recall integration



FRESHMEN FEARS

Programs help
freshmen transition,
succeed

University
Bookstore
Catalog
Inside

Dear UTEP alumni,

The beginning of each new academic year is always exciting. New students arrive on the campus with their dreams, and the talent and energy to achieve them. New faculty and staff members come from top-flight universities across the country to join the UTEP team. They bring new ideas, new perspectives and a commitment to help achieve UTEP's mission. We welcome them all.

Expectations for 2005-2006 at UTEP are unusually high. Fueled in part by the success of the Miner football team last year under Coach Mike Price, excitement is palpable, both on the campus and throughout the El Paso-Juárez community.

Extensive media coverage of UTEP athletics has thrust the university onto state and national stages and energized UTEP alumni across the country. Wherever I travel now, folks want to talk about UTEP and the amazing turn-around of our Miner football team.

And Miner basketball will surely be in the national spotlight as well, as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship and the release of the Disney film, "Glory Road," which tells the story of Coach Don Haskins and Texas Western's history-making 1966 season. Imagine a premiere showing of the film in the Don Haskins Center on the UTEP campus!

There are many other reasons for excitement about the coming year. We will celebrate the grand opening of several outstanding new facilities, the results of a \$50 million construction program – the largest in UTEP's history.

The first to step up to the plate will be the Helen of Troy Softball Complex on Sun Bowl Drive, adjacent to the Swimming and Fitness Center and the Soccer Field. Thanks to UTEP alumni Jerry and Stanlee Rubin and Helen of Troy, UTEP's new women's softball team now competes in one of the most beautiful facilities in the U.S.

The Academic Services Building, a striking new addition to the southern face of the UTEP campus, will follow. Easily accessible from Schuster Avenue and I-10, this new facility brings together in a single location the offices that are directly involved in undergraduate and graduate enrollment transactions: Admissions and Recruitment, Registrar, Financial Aid, Student Business Services, and Scholarships.

Considerable progress has also been made in completing two academic facilities, which will greatly relieve space

pressures in Engineering and Biology, among UTEP's fastest growing academic and research programs.

This year will also mark the completion of the work of UTEP's Centennial Commission, whose report will be released in November. One hundred UTEP alumni, supporters and new friends dedicated their talents and time during the past year to develop a vision of UTEP in 2014, our 100th anniversary, and a roadmap of recommendations to help move us toward it. Chaired by UTEP alumni Larry Durham and Philip Martinez, the Commission has done a splendid job of helping us ensure that UTEP's future institutional planning is well aligned with the expectations of our external constituents.

There is indeed going to be a lot to cheer about at UTEP this year, and we hope that all UTEP alumni, both here in El Paso-Juárez and throughout the world, will join in the celebration.

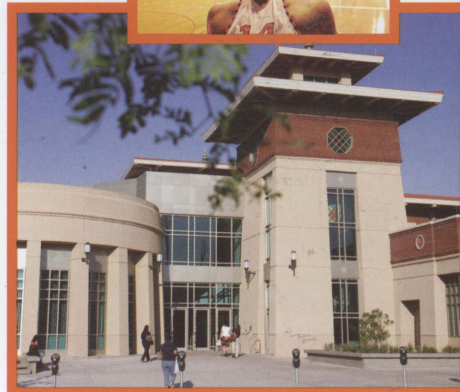
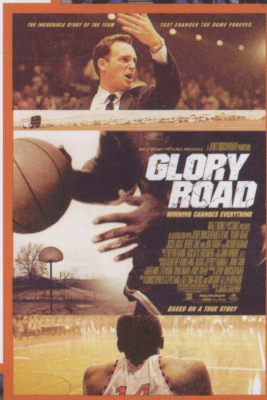
I can't think of a better way for alumni to strengthen ties to UTEP than by participating in Homecoming 2005.

You can join us in honoring the accomplishments of outstanding UTEP graduates, including two new Distinguished Alumni and Gold Nuggets in each of the colleges. You can participate in a week-long schedule of entertaining events. And, you can catch up with former classmates and favorite professors and learn firsthand about all of the many new developments at your University.

Homecoming Week begins on Oct. 17 and wraps up on Saturday, Oct. 22, with the Homecoming football game against new Conference-USA opponent Marshall University. We hope to see you there.

Go Miners!

Diana Natalicio
UTEP President



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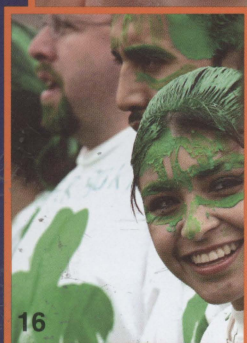
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J.R. Hernandez

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John Downey

ON THE COVER
UTEP quarterback
Jordan Palmer



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BELIEVE

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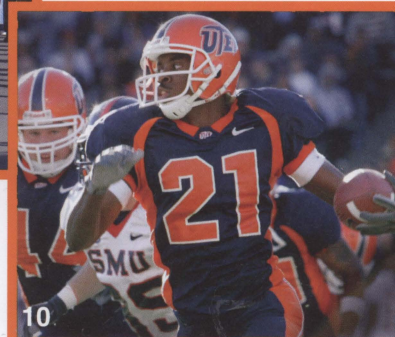
Our two honored alumni look back on their days at UTEP – and tell how determination coupled with a quality education earned them success.

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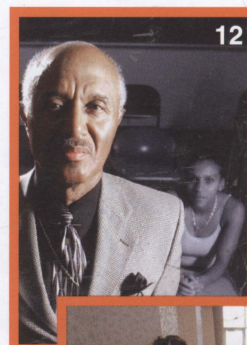
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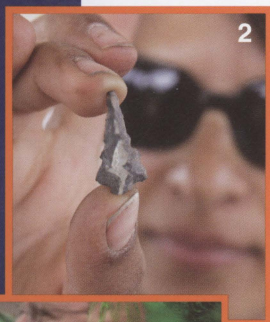
By excavating a prehistoric village in their search for pottery shards, stone tools and bones, UTEP students have found the key to their futures.

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From new degrees to famous guest speakers, UTEP offers its students a lot to talk about.

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UTEP professor Anthony Z. Kruszewski's mother's tragic death gave him the strength to follow his dreams. He now pays tribute to her by helping others further their studies.



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Reclaiming the PAST

by David Peregrino
Photos by J.R. Hernandez

The relentless summer sun and a monsoon season gone MIA have turned the cactus-studded Tularosa Basin into a dry, dusty oven.

But the students in UTEP's Summer 2005 Archeological Field School have found ways to keep working through the blazing desert afternoons. Canopies shade work sites, bandanas keep grit out of mouths and sunscreen is plentiful.

"And we have music, lots of water and good company," says Erin "Dallas" Shanks as she worked with her team to excavate a pit house at Three Rivers, N.M., a blip on the map between Carrizozo and Alamogordo.

Eleven students, led by Associate Professor of Anthropology David Carmichael, spent six weeks this summer excavating and mapping parts of the Three Rivers site, a complex prehistoric village spread over an area the size of the UTEP campus.

Hidden by the desert soil, many of the site's structures are dated to around A.D. 1000-1350 and are attributed to a desert-dwelling culture that anthropologists call the Jornada Mogollon.

"This is an extraordinary site ... a major, major site," says Carmichael. Three Rivers is so rich in archeological features, students "don't have to worry about whether or not they are going to find things."

Because gathering an archeological team for a long period of time is no inexpensive proposition, the Three Rivers site has not been significantly excavated since the 1970s.

The opportunity to excavate this summer came courtesy of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management, which is helping to fund the field school. The BLM administers the land and the nearby Three Rivers Petroglyph Site park, home to thousands of examples of Jornada Mogollon rock art.

Field school students use a screen to sift through buckets of dirt for artifacts. At the Three Rivers site, it was common for the students to find pottery shards, animal bones, tools and projectile points.



Carmichael is thankful for the win-win partnership.

"We are helping (the BLM) recover information about the site ... and they are providing a public service by offering an education for the students," he says.

Some of the best clues about the ancient culture come from trash "middens," or mounds of refuse excavated in the village. Often found in the middens are pottery shards, stone tools and bones of butchered animals.

Carmichael also hopes to find seeds and other evidence of food plants.

"That way we can talk about the (Mogollon culture's) subsistence," he says. And if there is evidence of plants not native to the area, "we can answer questions like 'how much did they move around?'"

The students learn field techniques, such as mapping out a grid of one-meter squares over a site, identifying the different features of a pit house, sifting buckets of dirt, and carefully identifying and recording every artifact found.

The students received assistance from UTEP's Geology Department, which provided remote sensing and ground-penetrating radar services to locate archeological features. Carmichael also says Terra Arc, a company run by two former students, provided digital modeling and digital mapping services.

For Jacqueline Barragan, a junior anthropology major, Three Rivers was her first experience in field excavation. She learned quickly that there is no "Raiders of the Lost Ark" glory. Instead, excavation is painstaking hard work. It is hour after hour with archeological pick in hand, slowly scraping away thin layers of soil.

A long afternoon yielded Barragan some pottery shards and an occasional small mammal bone. Then, at last, came an energizing discovery.

"I was getting real tired ... then I came across a projectile point," Barragan says. "I got very excited and wanted to go around and show it to everybody."

Ana Lujan, a UTEP anthropology graduate now enrolled in graduate school at NMSU, also enjoys the thrill of discovery.

"It's kind of cool to be able to touch something that you know people had touched many centuries ago," she says.

The students wound down their digging around 3 p.m. each day. After packing up, they headed to their campsite six miles away, in the much-cooler clime of the Lincoln National Forest.

After cleaning up in a shower enclosed by a teepee, the students scattered throughout camp. Some napped in the shade, others sat on picnic tables beneath a large pavilion shelter, working on their archeological journals.

"We do chores, fill the shower bags, clear off the tables to get ready to eat," says Erin Brown, a senior biology/anthropology major, describing camp life. At night, the students sometimes gather for board games. "We played 'Battle of the Sexes' the other night," Brown says.

Weekends often meant a break from digging. Over the July 4th weekend, the students visited the nearby Mescalero Apache reservation to view a girls' coming-of-age ceremony.

"It sure beats being in the classroom," says Toni McNair, a senior history/anthropology major.

Carmichael says if he can continue to find sources of funding, he is eager to offer future field school experiences at Three Rivers.

"It's a destination that is in El Paso's backyard," Carmichael says. "It's a real gem. There's enough here to last me my whole career." ■



UTEP junior anthropology major Jacqueline Barragan examines a projectile point.



Canopies offered some relief from the relentless desert sun. Wide-brimmed hats, sunglasses and bandanas were de rigueur at Three Rivers.

See an online photo gallery of the Three Rivers dig by clicking on the Photos link at Horizons Online News, www.utep.edu/horizons

The Three Rivers gallery is listed under the Summer 2005 photos.



HOMECOMING 2005

OCT. 17-22

This fall, UTEP's athletic teams are asking just one thing of their fans: **BELIEVE.**

It's a concept that is intangible, abstract. But we see it when our football team marches on the field. We feel it when we join friends and family for the first home game of the season.

But **BELIEVE** transcends playing fields.

As we welcome alumni, friends and family to Homecoming 2005, we are reminded that UTEP continues to believe in its mission of providing a quality higher education to a diverse student population. After all, the true measure of a university is the success of its students, on and off the field.

Believe in our students, our teams. **Believe in UTEP.**

HIGHLIGHT EVENTS

Ron Harvey Memorial Golf Tournament

12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19
Fort Bliss Underwood Golf Course
Registration begins at 11 a.m.

Homecoming Pageant

6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19
Magoffin Auditorium

Reunion Dinner and Dance

Honoring the Classes of 1980 and 1995
7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center

Homecoming Parade

12:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21
University Avenue

Alumni Association

Distinguished Alumni Event

6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21
Don Haskins Center

Golden Grads Luncheon Honoring the Class of 1955

11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Tomás Rivera Conference Center, Union Building East, Third Floor

Alumni Association Pre-Game Party

Honoring the Classes of 1955, 1980 and 1995
4-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
de Wetter Center

Homecoming Football Game

UTEP Miners vs. Marshall Thundering Herd
7:05 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Sun Bowl

www.homecoming.utep.edu



EVENTS BY COLLEGE

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Information: Shari Schwartz
915/747-7728 or
sschwartz@utep.edu

Homecoming and Gold Nugget Award Reception

4-6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20
Lobby, Business Administration Building, First Floor

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Information: Julie Cooper
915/747-5572 or
jcooper@utep.edu

Gold Nugget Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 21
Templeton Suite, Union Building East, Third Floor

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Information: Gabby Gandara
915/747-6945 or
ggabby@utep.edu

Civil and Mechanical Engineering Luncheon

11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21

Engineering Breezeway

Information: Ninfa Huerta and Ana Arzola, 915/747-5464
nhuerta@utep.edu or
anarzola@utep.edu

Engineering Homecoming Breakfast

8 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center
\$10 per person; business casual

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Information: Merced Sierra
915/747-7268 or
msierra@utep.edu

Gold Nugget Reception

10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 21
Fountain Room, College of Health Sciences

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Information: Estella Estrada
915/747-7016 or
eestrada@utep.edu

University Choirs

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11
Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall

\$5 general admission; \$3 seniors and students

Information: William McMillan
915/747-6630 or
wmcmillan@utep.edu

Wind Ensemble

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12
Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall

\$5 general admission; \$3 seniors and students

Information: Ronald Hufstader
915/747-7796 or
rhufstad@utep.edu

Gold Nugget Ceremony and Reception

5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20
Wise Family Theatre, Fox Fine Arts Center, Second Floor

Languages and Linguistics International Breakfast

8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 21

Liberal Arts Building, First Floor, Room 109

Information: Rita Arismendiz
915/747-5767 or
arismen@utep.edu

English Department

Homecoming Reception

4-6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21

Hudspeth Hall Foyer

Information: Ceci Rhymes

915/747-6240 or

crhymes@utep.edu

History Wine and Cheese Reception

4-6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21

Liberal Arts Building, History

Lounge, Room 321

Information: Michael Topp and

Edith Yanez, 915/747-5508 or

mtopp@utep.edu or

eyanez@utep.edu

Communication

Homecoming Brunch

10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22

Cotton Memorial Building Lawn

Information: Patricia

Witherspoon and Rosie Antillon

915/747-5129 or

roantil@utep.edu

Political Science Homecoming

Barbecue and Awards

Ceremony

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday

Oct. 22

Benedict Hall Front Lawn

Casual dress; families invited

Information: Mona Segura

915/747-7968 or

rsegura@utep.edu

OTHER EVENTS

* All events are free unless otherwise noted

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Information: Dean's Office
915/747-5596 or
science@utep.edu

Gold Nugget Breakfast
9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 21
Geology Reading Room,
Geological Sciences Building,
Third Floor
By invitation only
Information: Jeanie Webb
915/747-6753 or
ewebb@utep.edu

Geology Brunch
9:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Geology Reading Room,
Geological Sciences Building,
Third Floor
Information: Sandra Ladewig
915/747-6551 or
ladewig@geo.utep.edu and Pam
Hart, 915/747-5501 or
hart@geo.utep.edu

Department of
Mathematical Sciences
Welcome Back Departmental
Coffee
10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Bell Hall, Room 125
Information: Lanna Tallmon
915/747-5761 or
lanna@utep.edu

Dean's Barbecue
5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Leech Grove
Information: Juan Camacho
915/747-5536 or
jcamacho@utep.edu

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Open House
3-5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20
Graduate School Office,
Academic Services Building,
Room 223
Information: Dolores Licerio
915/747-5491 or
dlicerio@utep.edu

Graduate Students
Tailgate Party
5-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Leech Grove
Information: Jaime Silva
915/747-5491 or
jaimes@utep.edu

HERITAGE HOUSE

Exhibits featuring the Class of
1955
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday-
Friday, Oct. 19-21, 10 a.m.-noon
Saturday, Oct. 22
Information: 915/747-5592

RECREATIONAL SPORTS DEPARTMENT

**Singles Racquetball
Tournament**
5:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20
Memorial Gym, Racquetball
Courts
\$15 per entry; one division only
Gift certificate awards: \$100,
\$50 and \$25
Information: Ruben Espinoza
915/747-5103 or
espinoza@utep.edu

**Doubles Racquetball
Tournament**
5:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21
Memorial Gym, Racquetball
Courts
\$20 per team; one division only
Gift certificate awards: \$50, \$25
and \$15
Information: Ruben Espinoza
915/747-5103 or
espinoza@utep.edu

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Information: 915/747-5670 or
sdc@utep.edu

Student Group Competitions
10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Oct. 17 - Oct. 20
Union Breezeway
Students will compete in various
tasks throughout the week to
become champions of
Homecoming Week.

Float Making Party
7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20
Don Haskins Parking Lot

Homecoming Parade
12:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21
University Avenue

Pep Rally
1:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 15
Undergraduate Learning Center

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Information: Art Gloria
915/747-5584 or
agloria@utep.edu

SGA Homecoming Pageant
6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19
Magoffin Auditorium

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

Information: Patricia Wentrcek,
915/747-8934
pwentrcek@utep.edu or
www.utepbookstore.com
Sept. 26: Homecoming T-Shirts
go on sale
Oct. 17-22: Daily "Miner Blue
Light Specials" on selected
merchandise
Oct. 17 and 21: Wild balloon
hats
Oct. 18: Spirit face painting
Oct. 20: Interactive style show
in the Breezeway, Noon
Oct. 20: Alice in Minerland Hat
Contest
Oct. 21: Spirit face painting

UTEP ALUMNI BAND
Information: 915/747-5665 or
ctredway@utep.edu

Marching Band Rehearsal
3-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Sun Bowl Stadium
Bring your instrument and wear
your UTEP colors

**Alumni Band Party and
Business Meeting**
4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Fox Fine Arts Center
All former musicians and
Golddiggers are invited

**Football Game Halftime
Performance**

UTEP ATHLETICS
Ticket information: UTEP
Ticket Office, 915/747-5234

Soccer: UTEP vs Tulsa
Noon Sunday, Oct. 16
University Soccer Field

**Volleyball: UTEP vs University
of Central Florida**
7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21
Memorial Gym

Homecoming Football Game
UTEP Miners vs. Marshall
Thundering Herd
7:05 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Sun Bowl Stadium

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION/ ALUMNI RELATIONS

For information on Alumni
events and fees, call 915/747-
8600, 866/GO-MINERS,
alumni@utep.edu or
http://homecoming.utep.edu

**Alumni Association Ron
Harvey Memorial Golf
Tournament**
1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19
Fort Bliss Underwood Golf
Course
Registration begins at 11 a.m.

**Golden-Grads Dinner and
Dance**
7-10 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20
Ardivino's Desert Crossing

Reunion Dinner and Dance
Honoring the Anniversary Classes
of 1980 and 1995
6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20
El Paso Natural Gas Conference
Center

Open House
8:30 a.m.-noon Friday Oct. 21
de Wetter Center

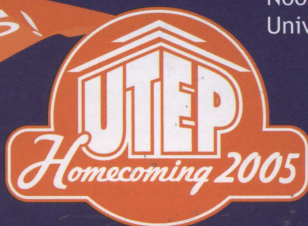
**Reunion Luncheon Honoring
the Class of 1955**
1 p.m. (after Homecoming
Parade) Friday, Oct. 21
Geology Reading Room,
Geological Sciences Building,
Third Floor

**Alumni Association
Distinguished Alumni Event**
6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21
Don Haskins Center

**Golden Grads Luncheon
Honoring the Class of 1955**
11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
Tomás Rivera Conference
Center, Union Building East,
Third Floor

**Alumni Association Pre-Game
Party**
Honoring the Classes of 1955,
1980 and 1995
4-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22
de Wetter Center

GO MINERS!



Life Lessons

Palko retires from corporate America, heads back to school

by Laura Cruz

Steffen Palko understands the importance of education.

"The success I have achieved in life is in large measure due to the education I received in the El Paso public schools and at the University of Texas at El Paso," he says. "I am extremely grateful to the dedicated educators who molded my life and gave me the tools to compete."

For his success in life, his dedication to education and his loyalty to UTEP, Palko, co-founder of XTO Energy, is a 2005 Distinguished Alumni.

But finding success wasn't easy for the 1971 alumnus, who sold shoes for the now defunct Anthony's clothing store and bused tables at the El Paso Truck Terminal near Interstate 10 and Airway Boulevard while studying at UTEP.

"It's hard to get much of a job if you are unskilled and uneducated," Palko says. "I also worked part time at the Schellenger Research Laboratory which was located on the campus. I fabricated circuits for them."

The 1968 Andress High School graduate says that like many current UTEP students, he, too, had to juggle work, college and family.

"I got married in 1969 and had a child in 1970," Palko says. "Making money was absolutely necessary."

Following his graduation from UTEP, the electrical engineer began his career in the oil industry with Exxon Corporation as a petroleum engineer. After five years at Exxon, Palko worked for several independent oil companies, gaining more responsibility in management.

The ambitious Palko then co-founded XTO Energy Inc. (formerly Cross Timbers

Oil Company) in Fort Worth and helped turn it into a top-flight public company. Today, it is one of the nation's fastest growing natural gas and oil producers.

"My ambition (while at UTEP) was to be in corporate America," Palko recalls. "I never imagined starting my own company and I never imagined having an S&P 500 company."

XTO Energy Inc. is now a successful independent oil and gas exploration/production company with \$2 billion total capitalization and revenues of more than \$500 million per year.

Although the El Paso native found great success with XTO Energy, he says he felt he needed to do more than conquer the business world. At the age of 55, Palko retired this spring to pursue another degree within the education field.

Palko was recently accepted into Texas Christian University's doctorate program, where he plans to evaluate how to enhance success and effectiveness among students by using and combining various fields of study.

"One of the things that I hope to do is take a look at master teachers and look at why they are successful and why others aren't," he says.

The success of future generations depends on quality education, Palko says. For that reason, he has dedicated countless hours to various education-oriented projects and organizations.

He served eight years as a school board trustee for the Fort Worth Independent School District and as education chairman of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce.

Under Palko's leadership, the school board originated and developed Fort Worth: Project C3, one of the nation's

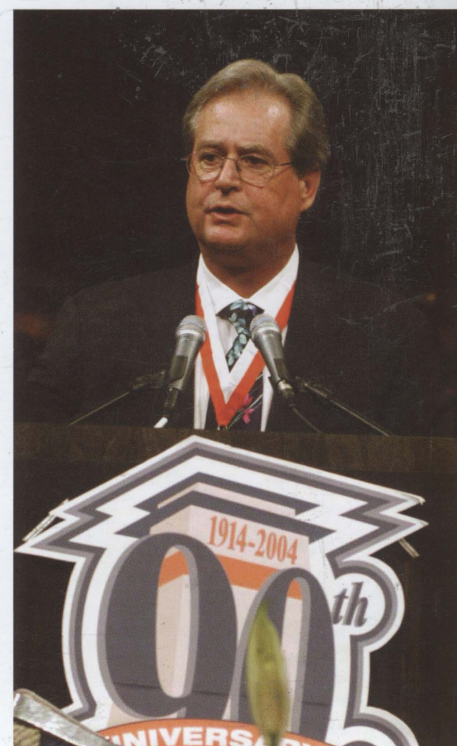


Photo by Laura Trejo

first formal school-to-work linkages. C3 received national recognition from the U.S. Department of Education and the National Alliance of Business.

The UTEP alumnus, who served as the university's May 2005 commencement speaker, continues to use his success as a platform to improve education and inspire youth.

Although 34 years have come and gone since he graduated from UTEP, Palko says it's important to hold onto his UTEP and El Paso connections because "it's part of my roots."

"UTEP provides an opportunity for people who might otherwise not have had the chance for a bright future," he says. "It's important to support the university and its goals. Thanks to my educational experience, I have never taken a back seat to a graduate of any other university."

For Palko, being named a Distinguished Alumnus is a tribute he greatly values.

"I really, sincerely appreciate the honor and I'm humbled by the recognition," he says. "I've used learning to create success and opportunities in my life. This award is from a learning institute. For that reason, this award means a little more. Education and learning are the most valuable things in life." ■

Global Success

Education takes Vickers to CEO

by Laura S. Ruelas

As a young man working at Kmart, Danny Vickers admired his managers who had earned business degrees.

"I worked my way through college. All that I could see at the time was to finish school so that I could go to work," Vickers says.

He soon realized that running his own business would be the best thing he could ever do to establish himself as a business owner and family man.

"My father always worried about having enough money to pay the bills, so my main priority was to earn a degree that would enable me to provide for my family," he says.

The Irvin High School graduate earned his B.B.A. from UTEP in 1977, followed by a master's in economics in 1990.

Vickers is the founder and former president and of Electronic Data Management International, a data services company with more than 2,000 employees in Juárez and Monterrey, Mexico. He was honored as a UTEP Gold Nugget in 2003 and will be

honored as a 2005 Distinguished Alumnus during Homecoming Week this October.

"I expected to be a financial success. But, I did not expect to accomplish enough to be distinguished by my school and community," he says. "I am deeply honored and surprised to receive these awards."

Growing up in a military family helped him build discipline and determination, Vickers says. At the age of 27, he was already president of the Holguin Corporation, an El Paso-based software company. His boss, Hector Holguin, was an inspiration.

"I attribute a lot of my success to UTEP and to Hector... he helped me become a leader that cared about

the community," he says.

After a few years of working with an international trading company, Vickers' passion for entrepreneurship changed his life.

He started EDM International in 1988. The data processing company works on information processing, data capture and software development.

"There is no doubt in my mind that UTEP prepares business graduates to compete in the global economy. I have been fortunate enough to work around the world and I have seen first hand that UTEP prepared me well," he says.

Some of his work in the community includes being commissioner for Colleges and Universities for the 21st Century of the State of Texas, director of the Science and Technology Council for the State of Texas, director of the Texas-Mexico Border Task Force for the State of Texas and chairman of the Educational Summit for El Paso.

"Besides striving to be a good parent, I want to help solve the achievement gap in public education," he says. "I believe that the key to our future is education and I firmly believe that education is a responsibility of all citizens." ■

Danny Vickers and his wife Mary, and family Daniel (left), Janey and Robert (top right)



Miner's Gold

Alumni honored for success

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



NANCY BOMBACH

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Bombach (B.A. 1990) is secretary and treasurer of Saratoga Homes in El Paso and Chicago.



Education: Bachelor's in elementary education

Experience: 20 years in current position; served as social worker, State of Texas; homemaker with four children

Community Service: catechism teacher, choir member, St. Mathews Catholic Church; member, Illinois Pro-Life movement

To students: "You have to hang in there and finish. Your degree is the most valuable asset you will need."

To alumni: "We should give back to the university because it was so important in our lives. We also should give back so that others might benefit the way we did."

ARTURO BRAVO

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Bravo (B.S. 1979) is a dentist in Columbia Valley, California.



Education: Bachelor of Science in biology; D.D.S., University of Southern California

Experience: dentist, Columbia Valley Clinic, Health Resource Services Administration;

commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service for 23 years

Community Service: dentist and public health officer implementing oral health programs and critically needed dental

services to the underserved and special needs populations; National Health Service Corps Ready Responder

To students: "Choose a career wisely and follow your heart. At the end of the day, the true measure of success is the legacy you leave, not the amount of money you earn. Look beyond your circle, as opportunities exist in places one least expects."

To alumni: "Always remember your roots and the people that helped you along the way."

IRMA ESTRADA

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Estrada (B.S.N. 1989; M.S.N. 1998) is the Critical Care Unit nurse manager at Thomason General Hospital in El Paso County.



Education: Bachelor of Science in nursing; master of science in nursing

Experience: 35 years in current position; part-time nurse faculty member; served as staff nurse, Thomason

surgical unit; freelance piano accompanist

Community Service: board member, Life Savers Transplant support group; transplant coordinator, Southwest Transplant Alliance; volunteer, Thomason breast cancer support group

To students: "I tell students to become involved. You need to care about nursing. If more of us would really care we wouldn't have a nursing shortage or a nursing faculty shortage."

To alumni: "You also need to be involved. Don't just check out. Be part of all the solutions. It's amazing how our university evolves when alumni are involved."

NANCY MILLER HAMILTON

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Hamilton (M.A. 1954) is an author and retired lecturer, reporter and historian.



Education: Bachelor's in journalism; master's in English

Experience: Over 50 years in the field of writing; reporter for the El Paso Times, El Paso Herald-Post; media relations for the El Paso

School District; associate director of Texas Western Press; part-time lecturer in public relations at UTEP and historian; currently an author

Community Service: member, UTEP Heritage Commission; member, UTEP Athletic Hall of Fame Committee; American Mensa, Ltd.; former president, Public Relations Society of America, Rio Grande Chapter

To students: "Be attentive to every opportunity to learn from your teachers. Throughout my career, I have found myself relying on information or advice that dates back to my days at the College of Mines/Texas Western."

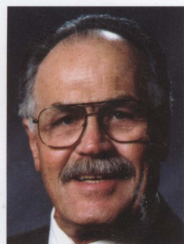
To alumni: "We all need to be aware of the rapid changes in our university in recent years and its increasing role of importance to this region. Nova Quarterly is an excellent resource for keeping up. Attending Homecoming events is a good way to see how the campus is growing and to reunite with old friends."

CHARLIE HART

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Hart (B.A. 1966; M.Ed. 1968) is superintendent of the Canutillo Independent School District in west El Paso County.

Education: Bachelor's in speech and education; master's in education administration



Experience: principal, Raymond Telles Academy; director, El Paso Independent School District's Pupil Services; student activities manager, Bowie High School; teacher, Andress High

School

Community Service: member, El Paso Junior Chamber of Commerce; administrative council board member, Trinity United Method Church; Regional Advisory Council president, Region 19; member, El Paso Teachers Federal Credit Union Board of Directors

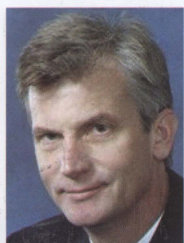
To students: "Realize you are attending one of the finest universities in the country. Be proud to graduate from such a prestigious university."

To alumni: "Alumni have to support the university any way they can, whether it be through finance or time. We have to help young people achieve their life goals."

PAUL JOHNSON

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Johnson (B.A. 1980) is president of DPT Laboratories, Ltd.



Education: Bachelor of arts in Spanish; M.B.A., Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University in Dallas

Experience: president, DPT Laboratories, Ltd.; senior vice

president and general manager, DPT Labs; project management, sales and marketing, Johnson & Johnson Medical, Inc.

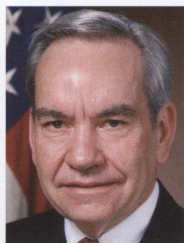
To students: "Attend class, learn, do your best. Life is a journey. Relish this time and have fun. Most importantly, stay the course and finish! Obtaining a college education can open doors you never thought possible."

To alumni: "Be proud of what we have. UTEP has had a major impact on many lives. I know; I'm one of them."

R. NOEL LONGUEMARE

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Longuemare (B.S.EE. 1952) is president of Longuemare Consultants, Inc.



Education: Bachelor's in electrical engineering; master's in electrical engineering, Johns Hopkins University; Stanford Executive Program, Stanford University

Experience: Founded Longuemare Consultants, Inc. in 1997; served as deputy undersecretary of defense for Acquisitions and Technology for four years; holds eight patents and 17 patent disclosures

Community Service: Vice chairman of the National Academy of Engineering's Air Force Studies Board; does pro-bono work for the Department of Defense and the Defense Science Board

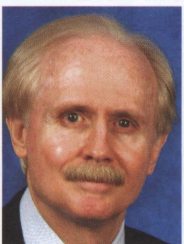
To students: "Learn how to study, because life should be a continual learning experience. A degree...provides the basic tools, but it's only a start. The real learning occurs after you begin work in the field of your choice."

To alumni: "Those of my generation especially are awed by the tremendous progress the university has made in all areas - size, breadth of studies offered, and the overall quality of education provided. We also want to see this great institution continue to succeed. Do your part to help make this happen."

D. EDWARD MARTIN

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Martin (B.B.A. 1968) is a partner with Eisner L.L.P., in New York.



Education: Bachelor's of business; master's of business administration, College of William and Mary

Experience: Certified Public Accountant in New York since 1978; serves as head of

Eisner, L.L.P.'s Not-for-Profit Industry Group; has been published extensively on accounting issues in the nonprofit sector

Community Service: Treasurer/chair of the Finance Committee, Board of Trustees, the City and County School in New York City; chair of the Audit Subcommittee and Special Finance Issues Committee, Board of Trustees, the Jewish Home and Hospital in New York City

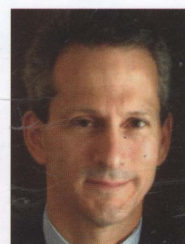
To students: "I received an excellent education and preparation for my career at the university and I would encourage current students to do the same by taking advantage of all UTEP has to offer."

To alumni: "My experience (at UTEP) gave me an appreciation for learning and for continuing the intellectual growth that I have carried with me throughout my life. I would hope that other alumni are able to find that same appreciation and use the tools they received at UTEP to continue learning their whole lives."

R. PAUL YETTER

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Yetter (B.A. 1980) is a founding partner with Yetter & Warden, L.L.P.



Education: Bachelor's in business; Juris Doctorate, Columbia University

Experience: Founded Yetter & Warden, L.L.P. in 1997; served as law clerk to the Hon. John R. Brown on the

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
Community Service: member of Holy Name Catholic Church; participates in the campaign to restore a historic Houston building into a downtown place of worship, Holy Cross Chapel; chairman of the Alliance for Judicial Funding, Inc.

To students: "Your college education in El Paso is an invaluable foundation for the rest of your life. If you work hard, accept new challenges, and have faith, your UTEP experience will be a springboard to a fun and successful career. And remember what someone once told me: 'Press on, regardless.'"

To alumni: "Don't forget the people, institutions and city that paved the way for your future. UTEP is the best bargain in higher education. It deserves your support - in time, effort, and contributions. Your support will help shape countless new lives and careers in El Paso and around the state." ■

GameFace

by David Peregrino

The Miner football team, coming off an amazing 8-4 season, is the Conference USA coaches' pick to win the league's Western Division this year.

But Coach Mike Price is keeping his players' focus on the game, not the preseason polls.

"It's an honor for our players to be recognized by the coaches for what we've done," Price says. "I'm really pleased from that standpoint, but I'd rather creep up on people than be the target."

So the Miners will be looking to put opposing teams in their sights, beginning with the NMSU Aggies at the season opener in Las Cruces on Sept. 3. **N**

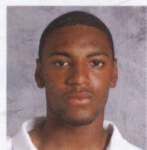
2005 Football Season Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time (MST)	Media
Sat. Sept. 3	NMSU	Las Cruces, NM.	8:30 p.m.	ESPNU
Fri. Sept. 16	Houston*	Sun Bowl	6 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat. Sept. 24	UNM	Sun Bowl	7 p.m.	CSTV
Sat. Oct. 1	Memphis*	Memphis, Tenn.	6 p.m.	CSTV
Fri. Oct. 14	Tulane*	New Orleans, La.	6 p.m.	ESPN/ESPN2
Sat. Oct. 22	Marshall†*	Sun Bowl	7 p.m.	i Network
Sat. Oct. 29	Rice*	Houston	4 p.m.	i Network
Sat. Nov. 5	Tulsa*	Sun Bowl	7:05 p.m.	
Sat. Nov. 12	Texas Southern	Sun Bowl	7:05 p.m.	
Sat. Nov. 19	UAB*	Sun Bowl	4 p.m.	i Network
Sat. Nov. 26*	SMU*	Dallas	1 p.m.	
†Homecoming Game		*Conference USA Game	Times subject to change	



Photo by J.R. Hernandez

ONES 2 WATCH



Jayson Boyd

Wide receiver
Jayson Boyd ended last season ranked first on the team in receptions (42) and second in yards (560), good enough to make the All-WAC second team. The pundits have their eye on Boyd as he enters his senior year.

Lindy's magazine gave Boyd the preseason Conference USA "best hands" award, and picked Boyd, Jordan Palmer, Thomas Howard and Chris Mineo for the preseason All-Conference first team.

FactFile

Age: 21

Classification/Major: senior, sociology
Height/weight: 6'4"; 210 lbs

Notes: Father Jeff Boyd played at Colorado and is in the CFL Hall of Fame following a career with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.



Thomas Howard

All eyes are on Thomas Howard, the linebacker who racked up 62 tackles last season, 14 of them for losses, and eight sacks and two interceptions.

Howard is one of 50 players in the country on the watch list for the Bronko Nagurski Trophy, presented to the National Defensive Player of the Year. *Dave Campbell's Texas Football* magazine tapped Howard for preseason Texas Defensive Player of the Year.

FactFile

Age: 22

Classification/Major: senior, communication

Height/weight: 6'3"; 240 lbs

Notes: Father Thomas Howard Sr. played for Texas Tech and was chosen by Kansas City in the 1977 NFL Draft.



Alex Obomese

Defensive end
Alex Obomese made 36 tackles, 7 of them for losses (32 yards) and 4.5 sacks over 12 games in a reserve role last year. Now expected to be a starter, his fearsome talent earned him a spot on a watch list for the Ted Hendricks Award, presented to the nation's top defensive end.

FactFile

Age: 21

Classification/Major: junior, psychology

Height/weight: 6'3"; 235 lbs

Nickname: "Obo"

Notes: Favorite class at UTEP is psychology. Wishes he could have listened to Martin Luther King Jr.'s speeches in person.



Jordan Palmer

Quarterback
Jordan Palmer is ready to put up some jaw-dropping passing yards. Palmer last year passed for 2,818 yards and 26 touchdowns, earning an All-WAC honorable mention.

Look for Palmer to rocket the ball to Jayson Boyd, Chris Francies, Johnnie Lee Higgins Jr. and Chris Marrow, part of the nation's 10th-best receiving unit, according to *The Sporting News*.

FactFile

Age: 21

Classification/Major: junior, communication

Height/weight: 6'5"; 230 lbs

Notes: Nickname is "J.P." His brother Carson won the Heisman Trophy at USC in 2002 and was the top pick in the 2003 NFL Draft by the Cincinnati Bengals.

Sun Bowl gets extreme makeover



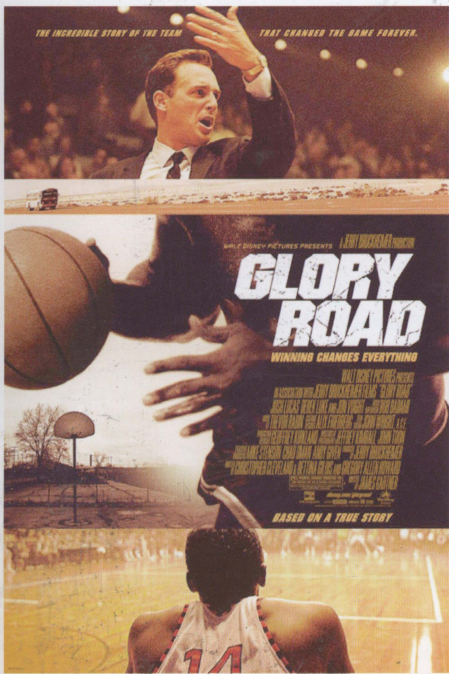
The Sun Bowl received a grand facelift in August, with a colorful paint job and updates that give the south entrance a Bhutanese architectural flair.

More upgrades are planned for the 42-year-old facility, including new signage throughout the 51,500-seat stadium and a north concourse flag display featuring the 12 Conference USA schools.

About \$40,000 in labor and materials for the south side improvements were generously donated by the Associated General Contractors of El Paso, which includes KWAL Hanley Paint, VEMAC-Construction, Sunsets West, Gorman Moisture Protection, Manny Carrizal Painting and other businesses.

The new look and signage were designed by graphic artists in UTEP's Office of University Communications, led by Phil Flores and John Downey. **N**

SportsinShort



Walt Disney Pictures

ComingSoon.net, which promotes various film companies' movies, credits the poster to Walt Disney Pictures.

Josh Lucas, who plays a fighter pilot in this summer's "Stealth," takes on the role of legendary coach Haskins.

The filmmakers spent several weeks last year filming at the UTEP campus and various locations around El Paso.

According to the Walt Disney Pictures Web site, the release date for "Glory Road" is Jan. 13, 2006.

Bogdan wins NCAA title



Bogdan

Mircea Bogdan won the 3,000-meter steeplechase finals at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in June, becoming the first male Miner since 1999 to win an NCAA title.

Bogdan, a senior from Romania, came from behind with 400 meters remaining to take the win.

"The last lap I ran as fast as I could for the final 300 meters. I can't believe I won," says Bogdan.

Soccer diary online

Fans can follow senior midfielder Kaletia Roberts through the 2005 season via her online journal "Heads Up with Kaletia." Roberts, a three-time All-WAC honoree, will write about her experiences as a Miner athlete as she and her team pursue a Conference USA title.

To read her journal, visit www.utepathletics.com, mouse over the "For the Fans" link and choose "Online Journals." The soccer team opened its 2005 season against North Texas in the eighth annual Miner Classic on Aug. 27.

Basketball paradise

The UTEP men's basketball team had a most enjoyable pre-season tune up when they traveled to Spain and the Canary Islands in August to play three games against foreign club teams. In between games, the team soaked in the sun on island beaches, toured historic and cultural sites, and made plenty of new friends and fans.

"It's an unbelievable opportunity for them to see another part of the world and to be educated on its unique history," says Coach Doc Sadler. "From a basketball standpoint, it was a great year to do this because we have so many returning players and a pair of transfers (Edgar Moreno and Tremaine Fuqua) who had to sit out last season."

The trip was financed by the Rebounders Club, the fund-raising arm of UTEP basketball.

Check out the daily reports and photos of the Miners' trip at www.utepathletics.com



UTEP Athletics

Torero: Senior guard Miguel Ayala shows off his personalized bullfight poster.

Sneak peek

A movie fan site offered a first look at a poster for "Glory Road," the upcoming Disney/Bruckheimer film about Don Haskins and the Texas Western College (now UTEP) 1966 NCAA basketball champions.

TRAIL BLAZERS

It was 50 years ago that a dozen students broke color and social barriers by becoming the first blacks to enroll in an all-white public Texas university – Texas Western College, now UTEP.

by Laura Cruz

John English recalls his first days at Texas Western College in 1955 as a bag of mixed emotions: happiness, sadness, fear and pride.

"I was very uncomfortable. It was a culture shock," recalls English, 68. "I felt far behind the other students, but I knew I had to go on. Desire and determination pushed me."

The Houston native, like many other students, was the first in his family to attend college. But unlike many college students at the time, he was black.

That fall semester in 1955, English was among the first group of black students to enroll at TWC (now UTEP) -- the first state college in Texas to integrate its undergraduate classes. This historic event opened the door of opportunity for blacks and other minorities.

Today, UTEP takes pride in its mission of providing educational opportunities to all students no matter their race or socio-economic background. The vast majority of UTEP's nearly 19,000 students are minorities, and many are first-generation college students.

But opening that door was no easy task.

In 1955, Thelma White, valedictorian of the 1954 class of El Paso's all-black Douglass School, was denied admission to Texas Western because of her race and filed a lawsuit in U. S. District Court. While waiting for the lawsuit to go to court, White enrolled at New Mexico A&M, now NMSU, from where she later graduated.

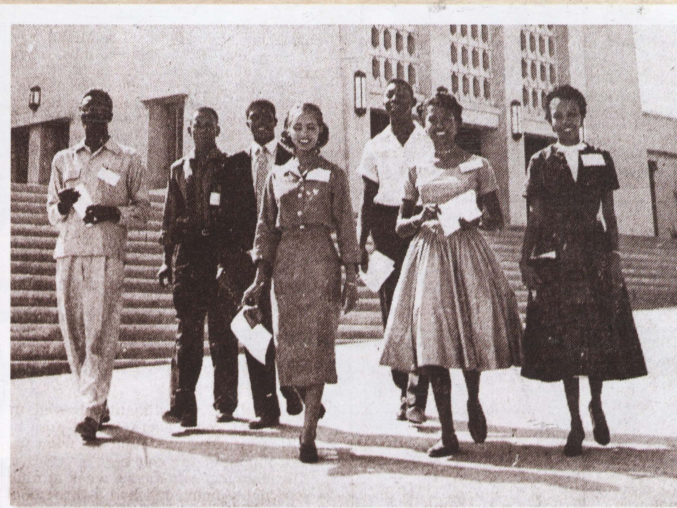


White

During litigation, however, the Texas Board of Regents decreed opening TWC to blacks and soon after, the court held that segregated schools in Texas were unconstitutional.

Following the ruling, English and 11 others enrolled at TWC, including Joe Atkins, Mabel Butler Hill, Bernice Bell Jordan, Sandra Campbell, Marcellus Fullmore, Silverlene Hamilton, Margaret Jackson, Leonard McNeece, William Milner, Clarence Stevens and Mildred Parrish Tutt.

In 1966, TWC again broke race barriers by starting five black students in the finals of the NCAA basketball tournament, defeating an all-white Kentucky team for the national championship. The historical event is being depicted in the upcoming Disney/Jerry



Shown above are seven of the Negro Freshman students as they come out of freshman orientation September 9. They are, from left to right: William Milner, Marcellus Fulmore, John English, Mable Butler, Clarence Stevens, Margaret Jackson, and Sandra Campbell.

The Prospector, the student newspaper, featured this photograph of seven of the first 12 black students to enroll at Texas Western College, now UTEP, in September 1955.

Bruckheimer movie "Glory Road," due out early next year.

It was also 1966 when faculty became integrated with the hiring of Marjorie Lawson, who died in 1984.

Lawson's husband, Juan O. Lawson, was also hired to teach chemistry in TWC's College of Science and eventually became the first black administrator in the University of Texas System.

"We still need to be vigilant, but the doors are open wide enough now that if a person really applies him or herself, they can advance," says Lawson, who is pastor of Holy Light Church of God in Christ in El Paso.

For Maceo C. Dailey, Texas Western's successful integration "was a resounding victory for African-American leaders in the black community."

Dailey, director of UTEP's African-American Studies Program, says, "We professed to be a freedom-loving nation, but in reality we were oppressing people of color and denying them equal



Bernice Bell Jordan and her husband **Bill** at UTEP in 1988.

opportunity. The arena of education was the crucial one to address to make it possible for people of color to move forward."

UTEP history professor Charles Martin says El Paso and TWC were pioneers in improving race relations across the state. However, Martin explains, El Paso was forced to follow state policies, which meant public bathrooms, water fountains and places like

the Plaza Theater and UTEP's own dorms remained segregated.

Bernice Bell Jordan, the first black student to register at TWC, remembers not being allowed to live in the dorms.

"I found a room on Eucalyptus Street in the projects in the African-American community," recalls Jordan, who transferred to TWC from Prairie View A&M as a music major.

"I didn't really have friends," says Jordan, who retired from teaching and now lives in San Jose, Calif. "I was just there. I did a lot of studying and practicing. But I had a wonderful experience. I

“The initial wave of African-American students encountered hostility and bigotry, but most of them maintained their focus to become better and productive citizens, knowing they were trail blazers.”

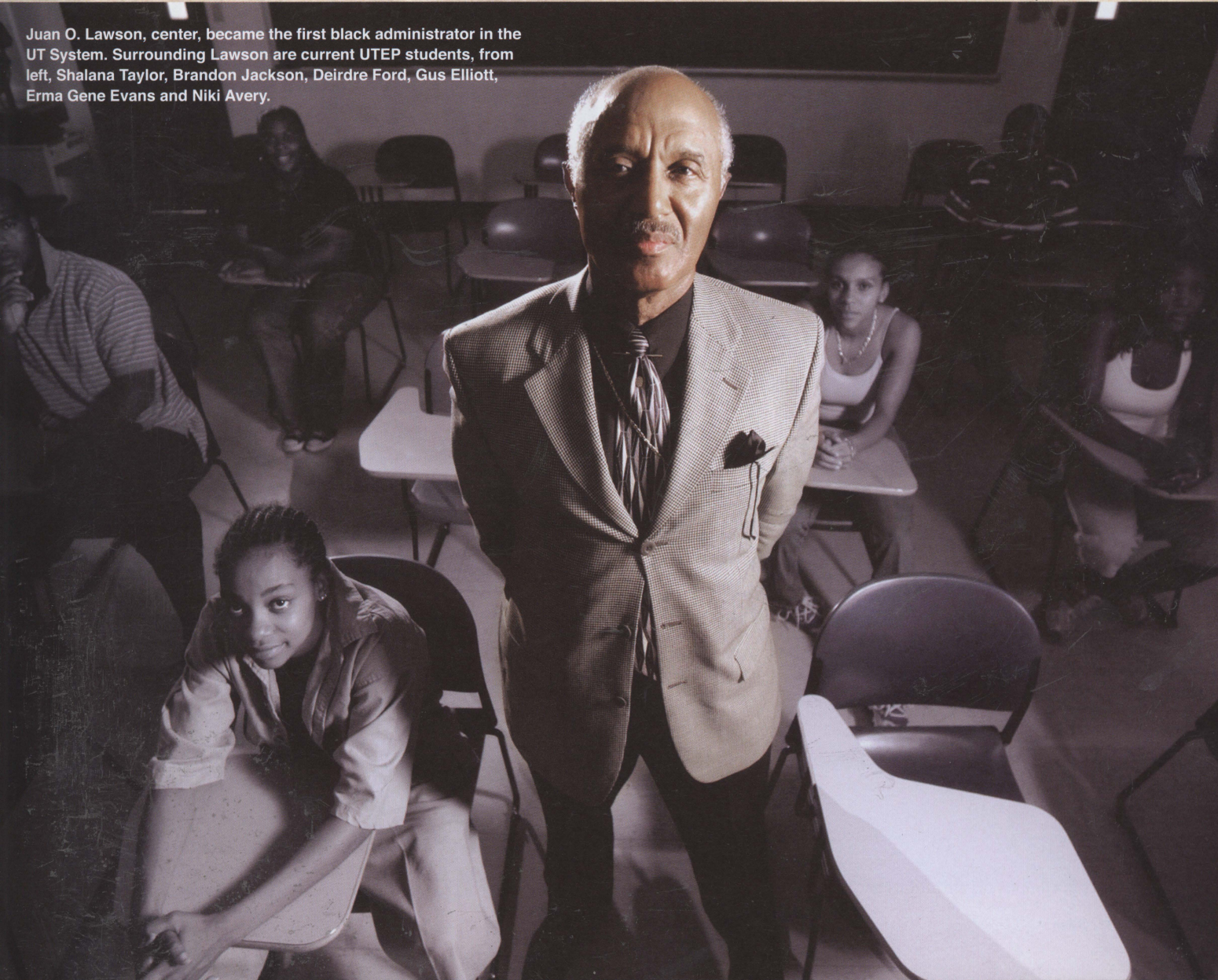
sang on stage and was given the leading soprano role in the opera ‘Mefistofele.’”

Dailey says by observing the 50th anniversary of integration at UTEP, the university doubles its “dedication to democracy.”

“The initial wave of African-American students encountered hostility and bigotry, but most of them maintained their focus to become better and productive citizens, knowing they were trail blazers,” Dailey says. “We can’t thank them enough for the blows they took, the physical and emotional pain they endured.” **N**

Photo by J.R. Hernandez

Juan O. Lawson, center, became the first black administrator in the UT System. Surrounding Lawson are current UTEP students, from left, **Shalana Taylor**, **Brandon Jackson**, **Deirdre Ford**, **Gus Elliott**, **Erma Gene Evans** and **Niki Avery**.





FRESHMAN FEARS

PROGRAMS HELP FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS GAIN CONFIDENCE, SUCCEED

by Laura S. Ruelas

Starting college can be a nerve-racking experience. “At first I was a little scared. But I gained confidence after a while,” says Claudia Ochoa, 18, a freshman who recently graduated as valedictorian from the rural Fabens High School in far East El Paso County.

Claudia, and her twin sister and Fabens salutatorian Carla, started UTEP in the summer rather than the traditional fall semester under the university’s College Assistance Migrant Program.

CAMP, a federal program for students from migrant and farm-worker families, is just one of several programs UTEP offers to help do away with the stomach butterflies and ease the nerves of incoming freshmen.

Each fall, more than 2,300 new freshmen walk onto the UTEP campus for the first time. Initiatives such as CAMP, Entering Student Programs, Student Success Programs, Gator Camp orientation and SmartStart all aim to acquaint students with the rigors of university life.

“CAMP transforms them into college students. It’s all structure, balance and commitment,” says Rueben Moreno, program coordinator for CAMP.

The programs provide students with orientation sessions, advising and tutoring, connect students in similar fields, and help engage students in campus organizations and activities. Their overall goal is

to level the playing field for these students, many of whom are the first in their families to attend college.

Moreno worked with the Ochoas and a bright group of more than 30 students during the summer, and saw how eager they are to continue their education.

“The girls try really hard. They study so much,” he says about the Ochoas. “Claudia really works hard, she wants to do well and she really pushes herself. She’s very, very energetic.”



Freshmen Claudia Ochoa (right) and her twin sister Carla head out of the Undergraduate Learning Center after a long day of lectures and studying.

Photos by J.R. Hernandez

But every student is different, even when there's the bond of sisterhood, Moreno says.

"Carla seems calmer, a little less stressed and is handling it well," he says.

The CAMP summer program enrolls students in seven hours of course work to learn about college life and all its academic responsibilities. Claudia, along with the majority of students, lived at the Miner Village student housing during the program.

Carla, a single mother of a 9-month-old boy, made the 120-mile long round trip drive each day.

"It kept me really busy. I had to drive everyday. Then I had to study and take care of my baby," she says. "I thought it would be easier, but I'm glad we came."

Once adjusted to college life and the pesky butterflies under control, the students in these programs begin to blossom, Moreno says.

Carla plans to major in secondary education, while Claudia is still deciding her path.

"Our mom is so proud of us," Claudia says. "Because of CAMP, I know we are prepared for this (fall) semester."

Also prepared is Joe Lomeli, 18, a graduate of El Paso's Americas High School. Lomeli says he understands young students can go a little wild when they start college.

"Why play around and party?" he asks. "I'm going to school and I have a purpose. I don't want to lose sight of that."

Lomeli participated in band and choir in high school, but at UTEP, he wants to focus on his education 100 percent. His goal is to graduate with a degree in English and American Literature and then teach.

Like the Ochoa sisters, Lomeli completed Advanced Placement courses in high school. He tested out various UTEP courses, including history and political science.

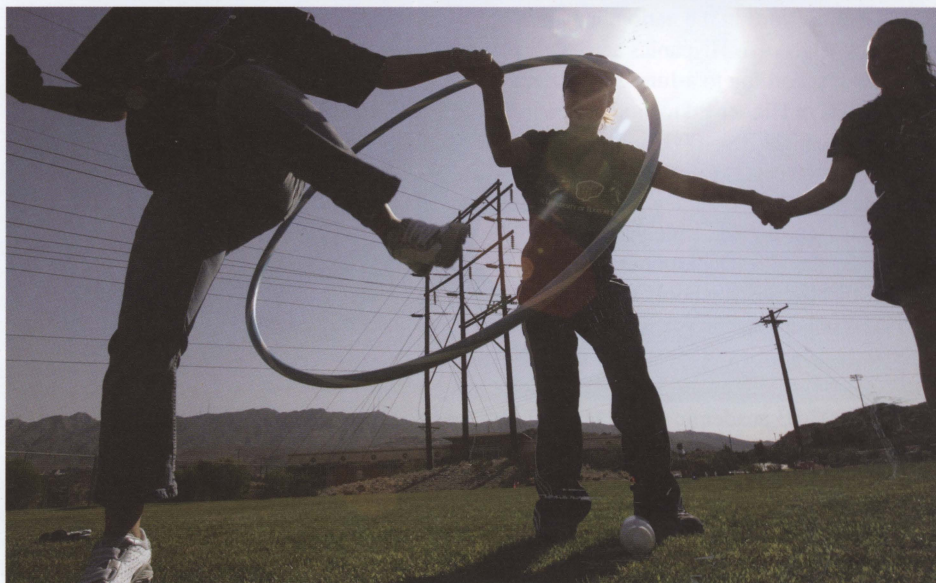
"I had a one-day orientation back in the spring. I met with counselors and that's when I took my placement tests. I knew I wanted to get a jump ahead," he says.

Lomeli opted out of participating in SmartStart, an intensive four-week summer program for new freshmen. Instead of enrolling in the six-hour course load under SmartStart, Lomeli took one course to get a head start.

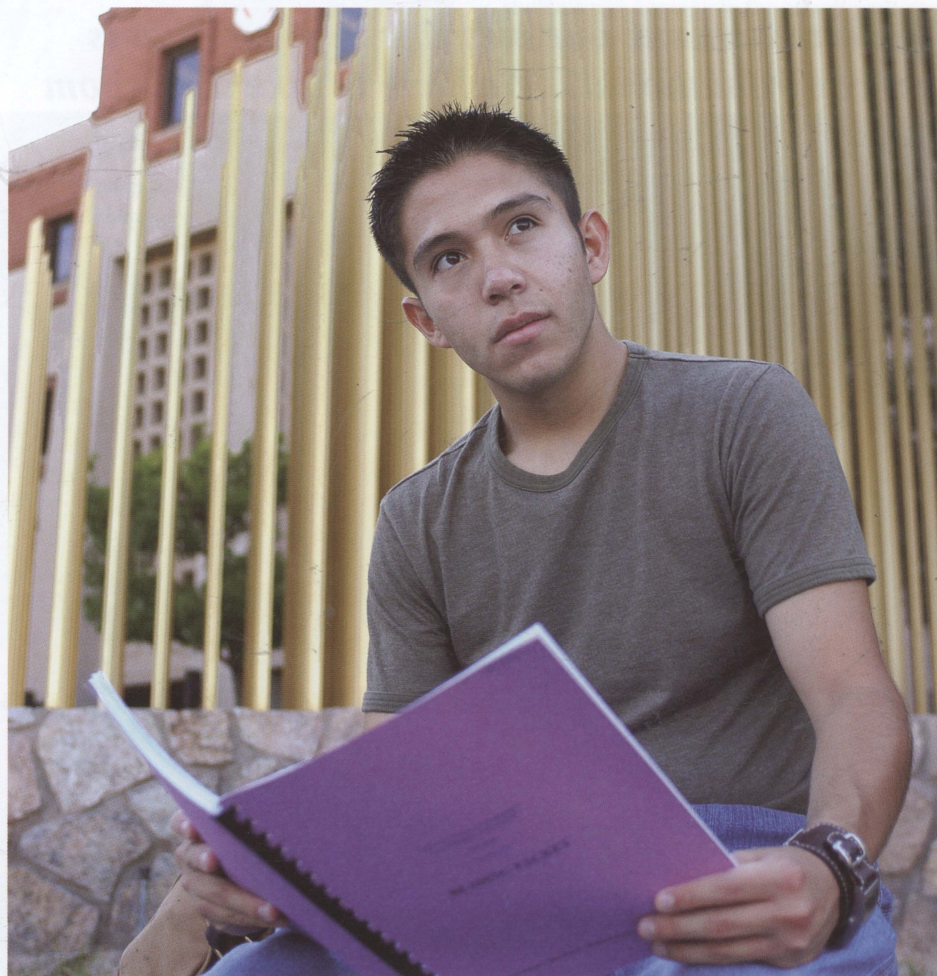
All three students hope to graduate in three years, thanks to their early planning and their dedication to the success programs available through UTEP.

"I'm enjoying it," Lomeli says. "I say you should make the most of it." ■

**"CAMP transforms them into college students.
It's all structure, balance and commitment."**



More than 30 students participated in the CAMP summer program, where they learned team work, leadership skills and the fundamentals of becoming a successful college student.



Lomeli

Photo by Laura Trejo

Access and Excellence UTEP tops in awarding degrees

UTEP ranks third in the nation in awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanics across all academic disciplines, according to a June 2005 article in Black Issues in Higher Education magazine.

The magazine's Top 100 Undergraduate Degree Producers survey ranks colleges and universities based on degrees awarded during the 2003-04 academic years as reported by the U.S. Department of Education. The survey also ranks schools according to the total number of undergraduate degrees awarded to minorities in individual disciplines.

In 2003-04, UTEP awarded 1,461 bachelor's degrees to Hispanics, a 7 percent increase over the 2002-03 academic year. Only UT Pan American (1,477 degrees) and Florida International University (2,588 degrees) rank ahead of UTEP.

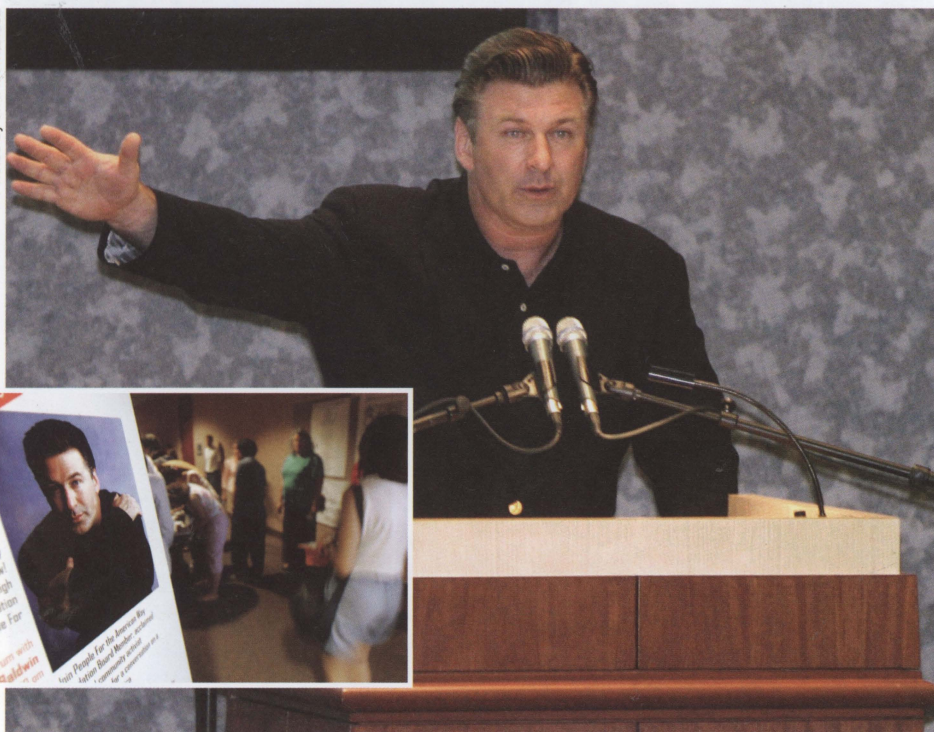
The magazine also ranked UTEP in the top five schools awarding undergraduate degrees to Hispanics in a number of specific academic disciplines.



In their Words

"We have to hone our message in a way that is less confrontational...We have to take the venom and the acrimony out of the political process."

— Actor and community activist **Alec Baldwin** at UTEP in June as part of the Center for Civic Engagement's CYnergy Fellowship program, which encourages young people's civic awareness and leadership



Photos by J.R. Hernandez

Computer Science Ph.D. approved

Computer science students now have the opportunity to pursue their studies to the highest level at UTEP.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board this summer approved UTEP's Ph.D. program in computer science. The program begins this fall semester.

Ann Gates, associate professor and head of the Department of Computer Science, says the new Ph.D. will help meet the demand for highly trained technology experts and help boost the numbers of Hispanics with graduate degrees in technology.

The computer science Ph.D. is the university's 13th doctoral degree in the growing Graduate School. Among the newest doctoral programs offered are studies in Rhetoric and Composition, Interdisciplinary Health Science and International Business. The Graduate School also offers more than 70 master's-level degrees and programs.

Longtime city cop now UTEP chief



Walsh

Clifton Walsh, a longtime El Paso Police Department veteran, has been named UTEP's police chief.

Walsh, who will oversee about 55 police officers and staff for the University Police

Department, began his law enforcement career in 1977. He has worked his way up through the ranks and recently served as commander at the West Side Regional Command Center. Walsh also has 13 years experience as an instructor at El Paso Community College.

He serves as a board member of the Advocacy Center for the Children of El Paso, is a volunteer for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of El Paso and is a member of various organizations, including the Rotary of West El Paso and the Country Club Optimist. ■

Shamrock Traditions



Celebrating heritage: Engineering students painted themselves shamrock green as they celebrated TCM Day on campus this spring. The colorful celebration harks back to the time last century when UTEP was known as the Texas College of Mines. Each year around St. Patrick's Day, students pay homage to the patron saint of engineers, reminding the UTEP community of the university's mining heritage.

On exhibit

The Warhol Way: The iconic multicolored images of Marilyn Monroe, China's ruthless leader Mao Zedong and more were part of the "Andy Warhol's Dream America" exhibit at UTEP's Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts this summer. The exhibit featured some 100 of the quirky artist's screen prints from the collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, including the 1967 Marilyn Monroe prints and the famous Campbell's Soup cans.



Family Tribute

Longtime professor honors loved ones through endowments

by Laura S. Ruelas

It was 1944 when Z. Anthony Kruszewski's mother died of starvation and disease in the Ravensbruck Nazi concentration camp, just two weeks before its liberation. He was only 17 years old, and her death marked one of the most tragic days of his life.

But her horrific death did not deter his aspirations. Instead, Kruszewski followed his mother's dreams and now pays tribute to her determination and strength by helping further the study of politics and social science.

"I was directed to study politics by my mother, who wanted me to be a scholar or a diplomat," the UTEP professor says about his mother, Irena Grąbowska-Kruszewska, a Polish Christian.

In her honor, Kruszewski created his first endowment to UTEP, where he has been a professor of political science for more than 35 years. The Kruszewski Family Endowed Professorship in Political Science was created in 1992 and was the first endowed professorship in the social sciences.

"It was a major tribute both to my parents, who gave me directions for life, as well as my brother and my sister-in-law, who always believed in me," he says.

The funds support an outstanding senior faculty member in the Department of Political Science who is conducting research and teaching in the subfield of International Relations and Comparative Politics of the Slavic nations-states.

The topic is of special interest to Kruszewski, who was born and raised in Warsaw, Poland. In his early teens, he struggled through the German occupation. He later served in the anti-Nazi Polish Resistance Movement, and at one point, commanded more than 100 Polish troops in a battle to overthrow Warsaw's Nazi occupiers.



Anthony Kruszewski and his wife, June, have been married for 50 years.

*"We just give.
UTEP is growing and
doing wonderfully."*

In 1944, he was captured and taken prisoner by the Nazis. After six months, he and 16,000 other Polish soldiers were liberated by the 2nd Canadian Division of the British Army.

After the war, he rejoined the Polish and British armies. He soon returned to his studies, and in 1951 earned a bachelor's degree from the School of Political Science in London.

"After the German invasion of Poland and then the Soviet-led imposition of communism

for 45 years, it reinforced my interest in international relations."

Kruszewski attributes his trials in Warsaw to his success in education and his strength in character.

"The beginning of World War II in 1939 completely changed my life, which in the final analysis led me to El Paso," he says.

Helping others pursue their interest in politics is his way of giving back to UTEP.

"Although I have specialized in European (politics)...I was attracted to UTEP since it gave me a rare chance to establish those studies in El Paso, from scratch. I also saw a great chance in building UTEP into a major university, offering the citizens of the area a good education and upward mobility opportunity," he says.

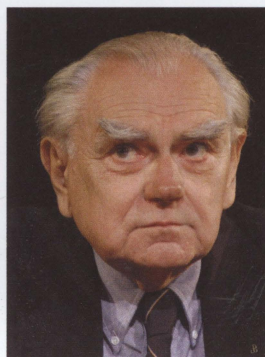
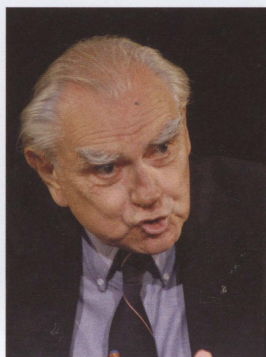
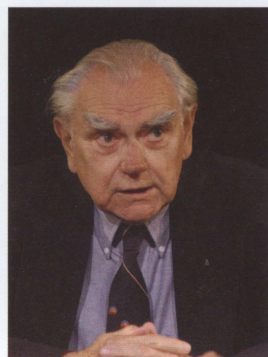
His wife June Sadowski, whom he met in 1953 while pursuing his doctorate in political science at the University of Chicago, has been with him since the very beginning. She received her master's in Spanish from UTEP in 1979.

"We just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in March. That's a long, long time, but it has been fun," she says.

The couple also created the Mary Misiewicz Sadowski Memorial and the Irena Grabowska Kruszewska Memorial Endowed Scholarship. In 1999, the Kruszewski's became members of the university's premier donor recognition society, the UTEP Trust. They are shareholders of the trust, indicating they have made donations totaling from \$100,000 to \$499,999.

The couple is also planning to establish a June Sadowski Kruszewski Professorship in Theatre Arts this fall.

"You could ask me how much we have donated and I couldn't say," she says. "We just give. UTEP is growing and doing wonderfully. We're happy to be a part of it all." ■



Alumni Association Board

Meet the new board members at the Association's Homecoming Pre-game Party and Annual Meeting on Oct. 22.

Officers

Richard Gutiérrez, President
Norma De La Rosa, President-Elect
Marilyn Munden, Vice-President for Membership
Clara Duncan-Adams, Vice-President for Ways and Means
Scott White, Vice President for Public Relations
Diana Orígel-Gutiérrez, Treasurer
Gilbert De La Rosa, Secretary

Directors

Hector Almeida	Richard Martínez
Lisa Ann Askenazi	Lars Peters
Elizabeth Dahl	Henry Quintana
David D. Kelley	Joe Valenzuela
Debra Koch	Jose Villanueva
Gerardo Licón	Laura Winter

Heritage House

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 at 915/747-8600.

Wanted: Alumni Group Reports

We want to know what our non-El Paso alumni do to support the Miners. Do you get together with a group of alumni to watch a UTEP game on TV? Do you participate in online chat rooms to discuss Miner athletics? Whether you are part of an official chapter or just get together with a few Miner fans, we want to know. Photos are welcome, too.

Send your information to the Alumni Relations Office, de Wetter Center, 500 W. University Ave, El Paso TX, 79968-0724 or alumni@utep.edu

Movin' Miners 2006

- **Wonders of Iceland**, May 24 – 31, 2006: Explore this island of dramatic contrasts forged by fire and ice with Smithsonian Journeys Travel Adventures. From \$2,629 with air.
- **Alaska Cruise Tour**, June 8 – 19, 2006: Twelve-Days in a Nature Wonderland
- **Other proposed 2006 trips:**

India	17 days	March 3-19
Bhutan	14 days	September
S. America	13 days	November

For more information on Movin' Miners trips, please contact Lee Nelson at the Alumni Office 915/747-8600 or lnelson@utep.edu.

MINERS ON THE *MOVE* Danny Olivas



Danny Olivas (BS, Mechanical Engineering, 1989) is a NASA astronaut and was at the Kennedy Space Center supporting the launch of Discovery in July.

What was your role in the launch of Discovery?

First, I, along with three other astronauts, boarded Discovery less than 24 hours prior to the crew boarding and performed communication checks. This was

the final opportunity to evaluate the communications hardware for the crew so that on launch day, all they needed to do was climb on board and plug themselves in.

We also flew the Shuttle Training Aircraft, and flew a variety of approaches to the runways at Kennedy Space Center (KSC) to verify that all the runway equipment was set properly in the event an abort of Discovery would lead her back to KSC for an emergency landing.

Was your heart pounding?

It was a proud moment knowing the crew was doing what all of us needed them to do...returning America to space.

When did you realize you wanted to be an astronaut?

When I was 7 during a visit to the NASA museum. As we were leaving, my dad and I stopped to look at a rocket engine. My dad told me about working in L.A. at a factory that manufactured parts for the engine. I realized then that no matter how big or how small the contribution, all are needed to make space exploration a reality.

How did UTEP prepare you?

I'm the first to admit I was a pretty middle-of-the-road student when I started college. But I got to explore a lot of job opportunities at UTEP and my professors encouraged me to take on big responsibilities while I was still in college. It helped me to realize that I had control over my own destiny.

– Kim Miller

Are you a Miner on the Move? If you're a UTEP grad and would like to be considered for in this column, please send us your name, occupation/title, year of graduation and your daytime phone number and e-mail address. Please include a high-resolution color photo. E-mail us at nova@utep.edu or write us at Nova Quarterly, University Communications/Hertzog Bldg., 500 W. University Ave., El Paso, Texas, 79968.

40s

Susanna Small Sutro (B.A. '44) of Guilford, Conn., was the featured speaker at UTEP's Millennium Lecture on "Central Asia: Historical Perspective on the Great Game Today." She is a member of the Society of Women Geographers, serves on the Harvard University Committee on Inner Asia and Altaic Studies, and is the honorary secretary of the Royal Society for Asian Affairs in London.

50s

Robert J. Benford Sr. (B.A. '58), who retired as a sales and human resources manager, is a licensed realtor. He resides in Sun City Center, Fla.

Lucy Galvan Carrera (B.A. '59) is a fourth-grade teacher at Wood Elementary School in Tempe, Ariz. The Phoenix East Valley Tribune named Carrera the Tribune in Education 2005 Teacher of the Year.

Felipe de Ortego y Gasca (B.A. '59; M.A. '66), a language and literature lecturer at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, received the 2005 Patricia and Rudolfo Anaya Crítica Nueva Award from the University of New Mexico, where he received his Ph.D. The

award recognizes his influential contributions to Chicano literature and critical theory. **Sergio F. Plaza** (B.S.C.E. '55; M.S.C.E. '69) is the owner of Plaza Engineering Consultants in El Paso.

60s

Michael G. "Mike" Dickson (B.S.Ed. '68; M.Ed. '76) retired as superintendent of El Campo Independent School District in El Campo, Texas. He now resides in Aurora, Colo.

J. Art Morales (B.B.A. '67), of Houston, is a managing director for Samuel A. Ramirez & Co., an investment banking firm.

Dale L. Walker (B.A. '62) resides in El Paso. He writes historical books and edits novels for Tor/Forge, a New York publisher, and is a book columnist for the Denver Rocky Mountain News. His new book, *Mary Edwards Walker: Above and Beyond*, is a biography about the civil war surgeon and only woman to earn the Congressional Medal of Honor.

70s

Dr. Eugenio A. "Fred" Aguilar (B.S. '74) is a plastic surgeon at the Ermosa Centre for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery in Houston. He was featured on two episodes of ABC's *Extreme Makeover*, the television series that showcases everyday people undergoing cosmetic procedures. **Azucena Dominguez** (M.A. '77) teaches mathematics at Parkland High School in El Paso.

Robert L. Giron (B.A. '73), of Arlington, Va., is an English professor at Montgomery College in Takoma Park, Md., and the editor/poet of a newly released international anthology of poetry, *Poetic Voices Without Borders*. **Kenneth L. Oefelein** (B.M.Ed. '72) earned a master of science degree in computer education and cognitive systems from the University of North

Texas in December 2004. He is employed by the San Felipe Del Sol Consolidated Independent School District in Del Rio, Texas.

Patricia Isbell Oefelin (B.S.Ed. '75) earned a master of science degree in computer education and cognitive systems from the University of North Texas in December 2004, and in March 2005, earned her master technology teacher certification. She is employed at the San Felipe Del Sol Consolidated Independent School District in Del Rio, Texas.

Philip W. Rhoades (B.A. '70; M.A. '76), a professor of criminal justice at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, received the Texas Recreation and Parks Society Educator of the Year award in March.

Janice G. "Jan" Sherrouse (B.B.A. '75) retired from Tyler Junior College in Tyler, Texas, where she was an instructor and the department chair for information management.

80s

Elizabeth P. "Lissa" Danigelis (B.M. '88) retired after 17 years as a dancer for the Nevada Dance Theater in Las Vegas. She is an instructor and assistant officer manager at Pilates in Las Vegas.

Leopoldo Flores (B.S.C.E. '80), a resident of Winters, Calif., is a project manager for the Solano County Public Works in Fairfield, Calif., where he is responsible for the design and construction of all capital improvement projects.

Christopher B. Mapes (B.S.Met. '87), a resident of Alexandria, Va., is chair of the Washington, D.C., section of the Society of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, and an international trade analyst for the U.S. International Trade Commission.

Irene Driscoll Rubens (B.B.A. '84), of Orange County, Calif., is a corporate bankruptcy and litigation attorney.

Melissa Springer Wiseman (B.B.A. '84; M.A. '89) is an associate professor of economics at Houston Baptist University, where she has been named Advisor of the Year. She also received a certificate of merit from the National Academic Advising Association for her role in faculty academic advising.

90s

Jackeline Carter-Teo (B.A. '92) is a training director for Knack! Pte Ltd. She is the 2004-05 Mrs. Singapore Galaxy and represented Singapore in the 2005 International Galaxy Pageant in June.

Dr. Christina De Santos (B.S. '96) is an obstetrics/gynecology doctor with the Rio Grande OB GYN Group in El Paso.

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Connie Fattorini-Vasquez (B.I.S. '96) is the principal at Mesa Vista Elementary School in El Paso.

Mary Kidd Partridge (B.A. '95), of El Paso, is the regional manager for GuestLife El Paso, Juarez and Southern New Mexico magazine, a bilingual hotel room hardcover.

Juan A. Silva (B.B.A. '98) is the owner of Annabel's Cleaning Service in Mesa, Ariz.

00s **April D. Babbitt** (B.S.E.E. '03), a San Jose, Calif., resident and systems engineering associate for Lockheed Martin Corp., received the Lockheed Martin Integrated Systems & Solutions Community Service Excellence Award.

Jesse R. Hernandez (B.A. '03) is a victim advocate for the Maricopa County Attorney's Office in Phoenix, Ariz.

Robert Lara Jr. (B.A. '04) is a student at the University of New Mexico School of Law in Albuquerque.

Gerardo Rodriguez (B.A. '04) is the vice president and editor of El Diario de El Paso, an El Paso Spanish-language newspaper.

In Memoriam

Linda G. Havens Dickson (B.A. '84) Sept. 8, 2004.

Edgar W. "Ed" Whitley (B.S. '62) Blackfoot, Idaho; Dec. 9, 2004.

Sheila H. Mitchell (B.A. '79) Gardnerville, Nev.; Dec. 15, 2004.

Rosella Tellez Madrid (B.S.Ed. '92) El Paso; Feb. 16, 2005.

Lt. Col. Arthur V. Hull (B.B.A. '58) Killeen, Texas; March 11, 2005.

Jane Kennedy Sullivan (B.A. '41) El Paso; April 4, 2005.

Lt. Cmdr. Dale Edward Shover (B.A. '68) El Paso; May 4, 2005.

Dr. Dan M. Brown (B.A. '43) Colorado Springs; May 5, 2005.

Inez S. Haraway (B.S.Ed. '70) San Antonio; May 5, 2005.

Lorie A. Van Nostrand (B.S. '90) West Lafayette, Ind.; May 5, 2005.

— Compiled by Shannon Kanorr

Alumni Directory

UTEP is working with Harris Connect to compile an alumni directory.

By now, you may have received a phone call, e-mail or letter from Harris asking you to provide some biographical information, as well as contact information. Please know that this information will be listed in the UTEP Alumni Directory, which will be available for purchase by alumni.

A directory will enable you to find and keep in touch with old classmates. Also, this directory will assist the University in keeping the most accurate and up-to-date records possible on all alumni so we can let you know what's happening at UTEP.

The directory will be available in hard bound for \$79.99, soft bound for \$69.99, and CD Rom for \$79.99. Combination packages are also available. The directory is projected to be completed by April, 2006, however we encourage you to place your order as soon as possible.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the UTEP Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship fund.

For questions about the directory, including ordering, please call the Harris Connect Customer Service Department at 1-800-877-6554 or via e-mail at customerservice@harrisconnect.com or Sue Avis, program coordinator at 915/747-8533 or savis@utep.edu



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