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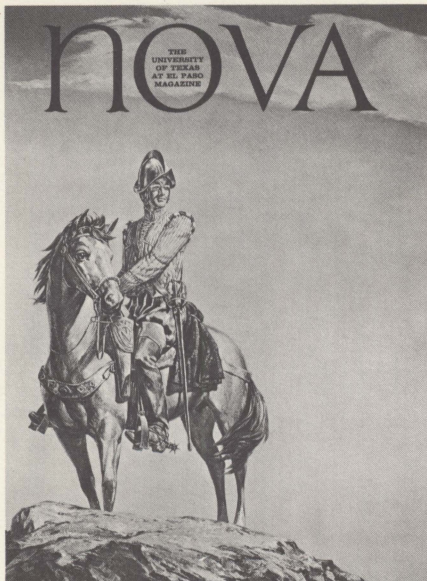
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NOVA

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF TEXAS
AT EL PASO
MAGAZINE

Vol 4
#1





NOVA's fall cover is "Toribio", a Spanish conquistador, frontispiece from *The Hands of Cantu* by Tom Lea. It is reproduced by permission, Little, Brown and Company, Boston; and is owned by C. H. Leavell and Company of El Paso. Our gratitude is extended to each.

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NOVA, IN COLOR, IS THREE

For the first time, as you have noticed by now, NOVA has a four-color cover. It is the second time we have been privileged to use a work of Tom Lea's. In addition, special attention is called to the information on the Exes Art Portfolio, "Southwestern Collection," (in which the Lea painting is included) in this issue.

NOVA is three and the announcement of that fact gives us a chance to heap encomiums where a heap of them is due.

The biggest heap goes, without question, to Bassel Wolfe, owner-proprietor of Ad Art & Design Studio, who has designed all NOVAs to date, to its success and our delight. Lee Cain's superlative photography is also deserving of our special gratitude. Among contributors, Mrs. Rhoda Milnarich is most loyal and capable and has yet to turn down an assignment. Thanks too, of course, to all other contributors during the past year: Bill Crawford, Nancy Miller Hamilton, Helen Durio, Joe Lewels, Jeff Berry, Rex Gerald, Leon Metz, and to our interviewees, Dr. Harding, Jim Phelan and Baxter Polk.

Assorted special thanks for contributions of ideas, copy and answers go to Steele Jones, Wynn Anderson, Jeanette Smith, Carmen Leal and to Lyman Dutton and his associates at Guynes Printing Co.

Oh yes, 10,500 copies of NOVA are now being printed and the end is nowhere in sight.



MILTON LEECH: U.T. EL PASO'S ACTING PRESIDENT

Acting President Milton Leech

On August 2, 1968, with expressions of confidence from Chancellor Harry Ransom and the Board of Regents of the University of Texas System, Dr. Milton Leech, first man to hold the position of vice-president of U.T. El Paso, became the sixth acting president of the institution.

The indefiniteness surrounding the timing of the selection of the successor to Dr. Joseph Malchus Ray (who retired Sept. 1 from the office to return to teaching) influenced the decision by the Chancellor and Board to name an acting president who would be allowed to continue those programs already underway as well as those planned for the future.

Dr. Leech, a native of Cameron, Texas, holds three degrees from U.T. Austin, his Ph.D. in drama and education awarded in 1962. He has been a member of the U.T. El Paso faculty since 1949 and is an Air Force veteran of both World War Two and Korea. He became head of the University's Department of Drama and Speech in 1960 and, in 1962, served as Executive Director of MISSION '73, the citizen's committee which made an intensive study of the institution and published a ten-year plan for its progress. As Dr. Ray has written in his book *On Becoming a University*: "One highly favorable by-product of MISSION '73 activity was development of the administrative tal-

ents of Dr. Milton Leech, who served the Mission as Director. His service here was his introduction to a distinguished career since."

From 1963-64, Dr. Leech was Assistant to the President; 1964-65 was Dean of Administration, and in 1966 became the University's first vice-president.

In naming Dr. Leech acting president, Chancellor Ransom said "I have full confidence that Milton Leech can give U.T. El Paso the leadership, both from an academic and community standpoint, needed at this time."

Dr. Ray, meantime, told the El Paso Times: "I have unbounded confidence in the competence, good judgement, and integrity of Milton Leech, and I know that he will carry on the work of the institution without loss of tempo."

In response to his selection as acting president, Dr. Leech said, "Chancellor Ransom and the Board of Regents have asked me to be the acting president of U.T. El Paso, and in order to provide continuity in the operation of the institution until a new president has been chosen, I have agreed to their request.

"The completion of next year's operating budget, the drafting of a Legislative Budget Request for the 1969-71 biennium, this University's concern for the Coordinating Board's Master Plan for higher education in Texas, and in-

creasing programs of inter-institutional cooperation in the University System, are all examples of the need for some continuation of the operation which President Ray so ably guided for eight years.

"With the cooperation and support of the faculty, staff, student body, Central Administration, and members of the Board of Regents, U.T. El Paso can continue its climb toward the goal of becoming a truly first class University."

As Dr. Leech began his duties as acting president, an announcement from Austin on August 24 told of the naming of a joint committee on the selection of a president for U.T. El Paso, composed of three members of the Board of Regents and seven El Pasoans with official ties with the University. The joint committee will join the existing faculty committee in screening candidates and selecting the next president of U.T. El Paso. Named to the joint committee were Regents John Peace (chairman), Frank Ikard and Joe Kilgore; representing the Ex-Students' Association, John Donohue, Jr. (president), Conrad Ramirez and Roger Ortiz; from the U.T. El Paso Advisory Council, William Hardie (chairman), Leonard Goodman, Jr., and Richard Feuille. Dr. John Richards, Dean of the School of Business Administration, represents the administration on the joint committee.

—Editor

There is never a dearth of material written about celebrities, nor a diminishing demand for it. Movie and TV magazines and pulps and slicks of an even more sensational nature are avidly perused by those eager to ascertain what "he" or "she" or "they" are really like. To find out what Henry is really like presented some unusual problems. A celebrity he is, but an easy subject to interview he is not. After all, Henry is a burro. One might say *the* burro.

Small, well-formed, attractive, and fun-loving, Henry handles with ease his position as U.T. El Paso mascot. Still, Henry is a burro. To bring his "true story" to the attention of his fans (who are legion), it was necessary to adopt the indirect method of interviewing those who know him best, then to fit the pieces of information together to form a fairly accurate picture of his personality, his habits and his career.

Little is known of Henry's childhood. Even his closest associates lacked factual information concerning his background. Perhaps the most puzzling fact of all is that no one on the entire U.T. El Paso campus seems to have any idea where Henry came from (and NOVA will be eager to know even after this article is printed.) Therefore, his biography prior to the last year and a half is, of necessity, brief and sketchy.

It can be assumed, however, that Henry, probably born in Mexico of hard-working, poor but proud parents, has attained a status in life undreamed of by his family and ancestors. This status is due almost entirely to the fact that Henry is blessed with the charisma, the "star quality" so essential to those who gain and hold the public eye. The "how" of the development of his curious talents will remain a mystery, but there is no doubt that Henry merits every bit of the admiration and acclaim given him during his appearances at important athletic events on the University campus.

Henry appeared on the campus scene in the early part of 1966 due, in great part, to an edict of former U.T. El Paso President Joseph M. Ray. It seems that Henry's predecessor, a burro named Clyde, was short not only on star quality but also on attractive physical attributes. His main claim to fame, in fact, was a remarkably underslung abdomen which gave him a strange, sway-backed silhouette. It became painfully and increasingly apparent to all (and particularly to Dr. Ray) that Clyde would have to go.

No one could have brought the matter to a neater, more succinct conclusion than Dr. Ray who, in an unforgettable letter to the then Dean of Students, Dr. C. E. Kelsey, Jr., expressed

the prevailing, or at least administrative opinion of the unfortunate Clyde. Dr. Ray wrote,

Dear Clyde (Kelsey):

I have seen just about all I can stand of that sorry-looking, pot-bellied burro they have at the football games. If we cannot get a clean, natty-looking burro, let us forget the whole thing.

Please be my agent to clean this matter up once and for all. Check first with George McCarty to be sure what involvement he has with the animal, if any.

Sincerely,
Joseph M. Ray
President

Steps were immediately taken to supplant poor Clyde (the burro) with the more attractive Henry; the University finally had a mascot of which every Miner, particularly Dr. Ray, could be proud.

Henry, though undoubtedly more satisfactory as the school mascot, does have a difficult temperament at times. In addition to the usual mule-like stubbornness inherent in the species, he is also overly endowed with conceit, brashness, and wanderlust. Tied in the Kappa Sigma backyard on campus on Homecoming Day last year in preparation for his appearance at the stadium later in the evening, Henry decided he couldn't wait any longer for public acclaim. Unnoticed by the fraternity members, he broke loose and wandered unescorted up to the stadium. When he arrived there, he caused consternation and no little pandemonium, not so much because of his presence, but because of his attitude. He succumbed to his peculiar habit of nipping at the posteriors of several innocent bystanders (whether out of pique or a desire for attention or a dietary insufficiency it has never been established.) He also has been known to direct a well-aimed hoof towards those who venture too close to him.

Practical problems concerning Henry's welfare seem to crop up periodically. Since there is no dormitory on campus available to burros, accommodations for him must be supplied elsewhere. To date, the kindness of El Paso citizens has solved this problem; he was first domiciled at the home of the E. M. Wingo family in the Upper Valley, then last summer, when it was necessary to find him another home, a request for volunteers printed in the El Paso Times elicited immediate and gratifying response. Mr. and Mrs. John Yerby of the Upper Valley graciously provided Henry with a new abode.

Another problem concerning Henry's professional career concerns his trans-

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING HENRY

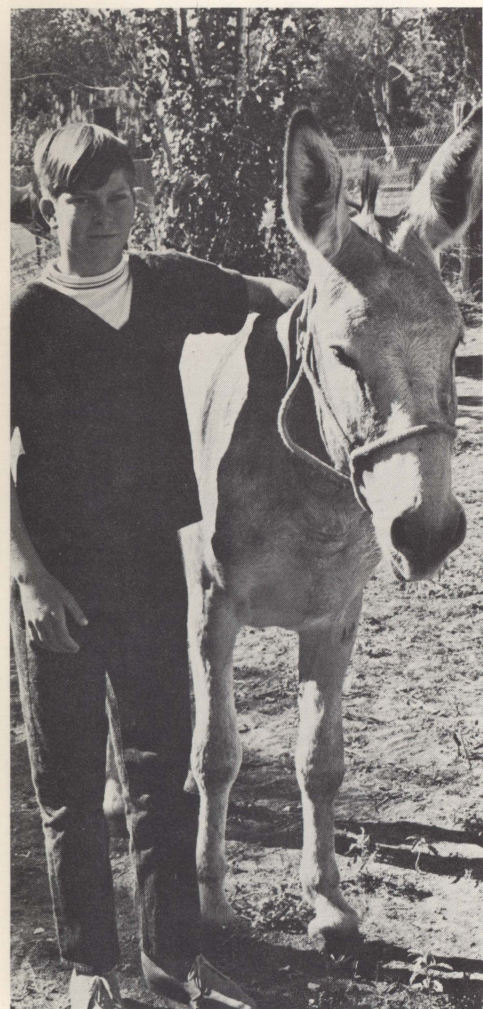


By Jeannette Smith

portation to and from the football games on campus. The responsibility was first assumed by the APO engineering fraternity; later it became the voluntary assignment of the Kappa Sigs. Patience as well as strength is sorely tried during every encounter between the picturesque animal and his student-conveyors however, for Henry has a deep and abiding distrust of horse-trailers. According to Mrs. Yerby, two hours is a conservative estimate of the time it takes to load the burro into the trailer, and success comes only after using every form of enticement known to man or beast, including a variety of well-meaning suggestions from pseudo-cowboy passers-by.

Practical problems notwithstanding, the Yerby's have a true affection for Henry. While visiting with him, Mrs. Yerby, and her two sons Kenny (12) and Paul (14), additional bits of information concerning Henry's personality came to light. Pastured out in a back lot, the small gray burro placidly studies any newcomers who view him from the other side of the fence. However, the placidity in his black eyes quickly changes to wariness when visitors enter his domain, and a few steps too close

Henry poses with Kenneth Yerby who, with his elder brother Paul, helps take care of the burro at their Upper Valley home.



to him is an open invitation for one of those nips for which he is so famous. (Rule of thumb when visiting Henry is to face him at all times.)

Mrs. Yerby commented upon Henry's intelligence, explaining that when he gets tired of one of the boys riding around on his back, he heads straight for a line of trees and proceeds to brush against the trunks of them, thereby neatly eliminating the extra, unwanted burden.

Henry is obviously content in his Upper Valley home; he has plenty of space, plenty to eat, a snug little stall to protect him from the elements, and conversational companionship of an equine nature, if he desires it, with a group of neighboring horses on the other side of the back fence.

The best of two worlds is Henry's—his homelife is one of contentment; his professional life is one of prestige and prominence, for he is most important to the University campus scene. In a world and an age where the value of traditions is rapidly diminishing, the importance of Henry as mascot to the University cannot be overstated. Dr. Milton Leech, acting-president of U.T. El Paso, had this to say about Henry: "Since the halftime show has become such a spectacle in American football games, institutions have had to try harder than ever before to provide entertainment not only for the hometown crowd but also for TV audiences. Since we can't have a real live miner to represent U.T. El Paso, the next best thing seems to be the Miner's inevitable companion, the burro.

Henry fulfilled his role more than adequately last year, and all of us are looking forward to even greater things from him during the 1968-69 school year."

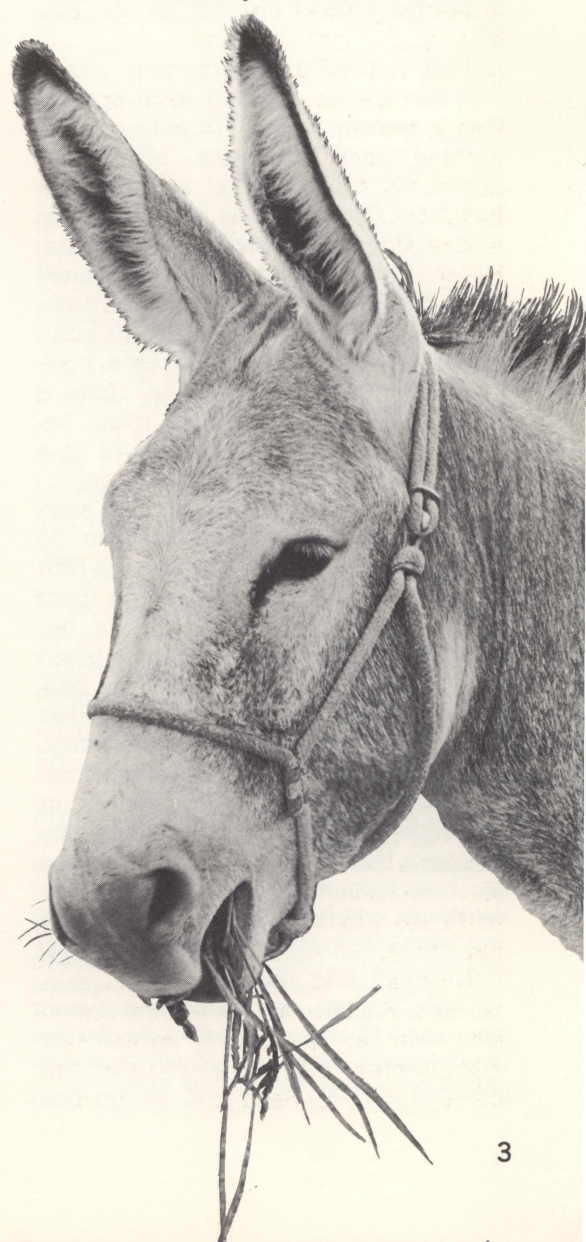
And, according to Ron McCluskey, Student Association president: "Henry symbolizes the school spirit of the student body, and reflects the stubbornness and determination characteristic of the athletic teams at U.T. El Paso. Students notice that when Henry kicks up on the football field, so does the team. The fans were aware of the non-presence of Henry at the first game of the season, and to those who place importance on morale, it was one of the reasons why the Miners were only able to tie the Santa Barbara Gauchos." (Editor's note: Henry could not make his first appearance of the season because of transportation difficulties, however assurances have been made that he will be present at the remainder of the Miner home games.)

Henry's career as a celebrity is seasonal, but that's the way he likes it. His yearly schedule gives him ample

time to relax, to enjoy the bountiful beauties of nature, and to ponder the complexities and the hustle and bustle of the world around him. Of his two roles, Henry undoubtedly prefers the remote, unassuming one. To him, the atmosphere of quiet and serenity must truly be *la dolce vita*. One wonders if he really enjoys his alternate role of mascot when, outfitted in his vivid orange blanket, the small gray burro stands surrounded by all the color, the excitement, the music, and the roar of the crowds. Perhaps he merely waits, during those hours in the stadium, for the time of return to his peaceful pasture—unaware that he is an essential component of the overall scene—uncaring of the importance of being Henry.

NOTE: Space does not permit the listing of all the people who helped to dig out information concerning Henry for this article. However, special thanks go to Dr. Milton Leech, Student Association President Ron McCluskey, the John Yerby family, burro expert Mr. Frank Brookshier of Maxwell, N.M., and particularly to former U.T. El Paso President Joseph M. Ray, whose generosity in allowing NOVA to reprint his "Clyde" letter gave the article the professional fillip of the true humorist.

Photos by Albert Nedow



ONLY THE SHOWER ROOM WAS OFF LIMITS

By Rhoda Milnarich

In 1936, Bailey School was the oldest elementary school in El Paso. Naturally, it was called "Old Bailey," and it stood where the Central YMCA now stands. Bailey's principal that year was Mrs. Alberta Morse and she had a special problem. On the face of it, her problem does not seem too remarkable—she needed a playground director who could also teach English and spelling—but it serves to introduce one of U.T. El Paso's most remarkable alumnae.

In those bygone years, not many men were training themselves to teach in elementary schools. They didn't mind being coaches or working on the playgrounds but they were not especially enthusiastic, as a sex, about teaching the more mundane subjects such as reading, arithmetic, spelling and geography. So, Mrs. Morse was finding it especially difficult to get her triple threat playground director for Old Bailey.

That particular bygone year was a depression year too and even scarcer than men school teachers were jobs for women school teachers. Miss Edith Schell, for example, had a brand new B.A. from the College of Mines and she was looking for a teaching job. Fortunately, Mrs. Morse and Miss Schell came together with their mutual problems and the meeting ended with Edith Schell being hired as Bailey's playground director—as a "fill-in" until a regular teaching assignment could become available. She started work at a salary of \$750 for the school year.

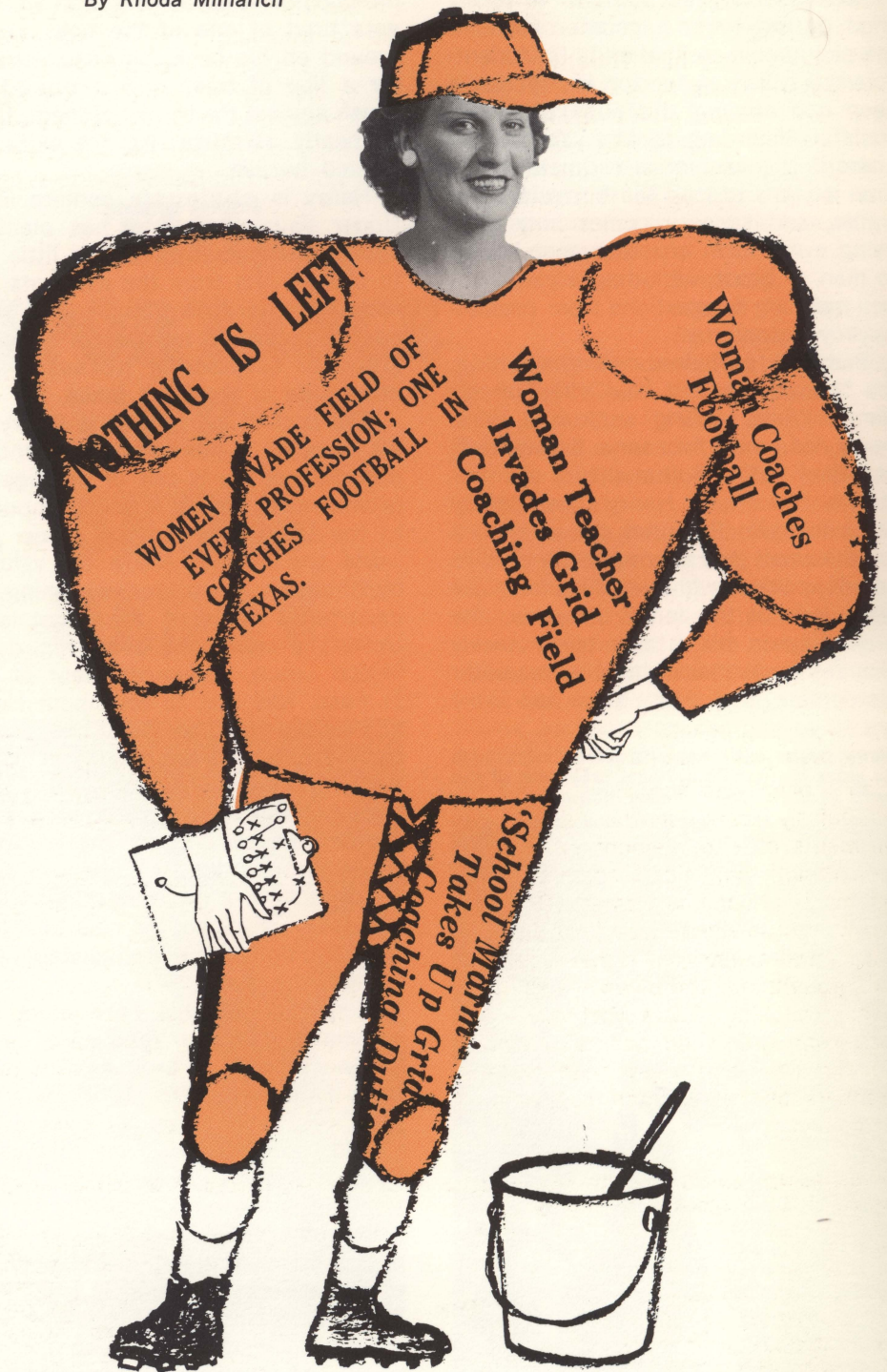
The novice Old Bailey teacher soon learned that she was expected to do more than lead the first-through-fifth grades in calisthenics and watch them play during free periods. Part of her job was to coach the school teams (sixth and seventh grades) in football, basketball, track, soccer, and any other sport that might catch the kids' fancy. She thus became the first woman football coach in the City of El Paso and in the State of Texas and, although she now says the coaching episode was just an "interlude in my life," it was evidently an interlude that she enjoyed and made enjoyable for all who knew and worked with her.

Time changes everything and everyone, naturally. Old Bailey School has long disappeared; El Paso's face has changed in every way, and so too has

changed Edith Schell. In 1936 she was a slender young woman, just launching her career in teaching. In 1968, Edith Schell Zanker is a nationally known educator and, in the intervening 32 years, she has added some weight. Mentioning this fact about anyone else might be something less than apropos but she takes the change in size in characteristic good humor: "This is the 'mama image' I have developed," she says.

The good humor she shows now was evident in 1936. So was her concern

for the welfare of children. She took the coaching job because she was told that without a playground director, there would be no sports program at Bailey School that year. When she became coach she entered into the job with zest. She got out on the field and played with the teams — no sideline quarterbacking for her — and although she may not have known the rules when she began, she soon learned the finer points of all the games. She learned to coach—and what is more, she partici-



pated in almost all the action on the field (although she does not recall entering into tackling pile-ups) which endeared her the more to her young charges.

Only the shower room was off limits to Edith Schell.

Her boys loved her. Thirty-two years have passed since Miss Schell led her sixth and seventh grade teams to victories on the gridiron and on the basketball court. Her "boys," who have not seen her in those years, still remember her vividly. Dr. Mario Palafox for one. He was on the Bailey basketball team that year and recalls her charm and that her basic lack of knowledge of team sports was not at all important. He goes on to tell how the boys on the team loved her and were so "impressed" by Miss Edith Schell that their attitude toward their lady coach was "quite opposite to what people might think. We were not ashamed of having a woman coach. We were very proud of her."

She inspired the highest efforts of the basketball team and that year Bailey School won the inter-city basketball championship.

Dr. Ernesto Santoscoy remembers how attractive she was. He thinks it is just possible that this is one reason Old Bailey had sports equipment at a time when money was scarce all over and particularly scarce in the athletic departments of the elementary schools. Even though she didn't seem to know too much about the games (Dr. Santoscoy was on the baseball, basketball, and football teams), he remembers that she brought an enthusiasm and vigor to her coaching duties that made the boys want to do their best. Dr. Santoscoy and Dr. Palafox are both prideful members of that winning basketball team.

Even more important, she brought the ideals of sportsmanship to the playground. Another of her students, Fernando Palafox, says that the boys played the games because they enjoyed the sports; they won because they played well and they played well because her vitality reached out to them. All of her former athletes are agreed that her lack of technical knowledge was unimportant — her outgoing attitude got the Old Bailey sports program off to a good start that year.

Miss Schell was liked by the boys she coached, and she was equally well liked by her fellow coaches. She attended all the regular coaching meetings and participated in coaches' activities. Dr. Guy McNiel (now Director of Research and Evaluation for the El Paso Public Schools) was a fellow coach. He says she fit in very well with the group; they all welcomed her and went out of their way to help her. She admits, "I had to have all the help I could get from those boys then."

Some of the "boys" who helped her were Dr. McNiel, Lamar Taylor (now principal of Crosby School), Douglas K. Ballentine (now commercial attache with the American Embassy in Mexico City), Victor Stewart (who was for many years textbook custodian in El Paso), and Joseph Ball (who is now Dr. Joseph Ball and a professor of speech in Pittsburgh.)

Dr. McNiel reminisces, "I will always remember Edith Schell. She was young and attractive, and we always talked about the fact that she was coaching sports at old Bailey." He also says that even though she may not have known much about sports, her "boys played real hard for her and won the basketball championship."

Another slant on Coach Edith's suc-

cess is given by Mrs. Katherine O'Malley, who taught in the primary grades at the time Miss Schell was "Coach." She too speaks of Miss Schell's charm, but adds that on the playground she showed an excellent and wonderful understanding of children and a liking for them which they reciprocated. Mrs. O'Malley thinks it was this characteristic which made her such a good coach and later contributed so much to her extremely successful career in teaching.

For Miss Schell spent only one year on the playground. While she was coaching, she was also being courted, and in the summer of 1937, she became Edith Schell Zanker. As Mrs. Zanker she returned to teaching but not to the playground. She was assigned twelve mentally retarded children and thus was given what was probably the first special education class in the El Paso Schools. Working with retarded children became her life's work.

In 1958 she received an M.A. from Texas Western College. By this time she had become Executive Director of Memorial Park School for Retarded Children, a position she still holds. She also teaches courses at U.T. El Paso to certify teachers who want to enter the field of teaching exceptional children and is well known for her pioneer work in this field.

In a way she is still "coach." Although her face and figure have changed, her eyes sparkle and the zest she brought to the basketball court, football field, and track, is still very much apparent. Thirty-two years later, her spirit is youthful; her vitality is undiminished; her personality is unchanged. In 1968, she threw a football around for NOVA with the abandon of 1936, and she told her story with obvious delight mingled with the regret we all have for those wonderful days when we were young and next year had more meaning than last.

Mrs. Zanker's year of coaching may have been an "interlude," but it was an interlude that possibly helped to shape the lives of many people in El Paso, people to whom her name is synonymous with fair play and a zest for life.

NOTE: A special word of thanks to Dr. McNiel, Mr. Taylor, Dr. Palafox and Dr. Santoscoy for interrupting their busy schedules for interviews. Mr. J. M. Whitaker tried his darndest to find a photo of Mrs. Zanker in 1936 and Mr. Ross Snyder, Public Relations Director for El Paso Public Schools worked equally as hard. In addition, thanks to Mrs. Valenzuela of the El Paso Herald-Post for her research job in the files of the El Paso newspapers, to the El Paso Public Library and a lot of people who helped during the hectic three days of the Labor Day weekend.

Dr. Guy McNiel, center, and Mr. Lamar Taylor recall how they coached Mrs. Zanker when she was Coach Edith Schell of Old Bailey.



SOUTHWESTERN COLLECTION

An art portfolio containing works by six noted Southwestern artists is being published by the Ex-Students' Association of The University of Texas at El Paso.

The portfolio, "Southwestern Collection," will contain 12 prints, six of them in color and six in black and white, and will include two prints of the works of each artist, most of them published for the first time. The prints will measure up to 16 by 20 inches in size.

The handsome portfolio was designed by Carl Hertzog of U.T. El Paso, whose distinguished books and artistic products are prized by collectors. Introductory text will be written by Dr. S. D. Myers, head of the editorial board of the Texas Western Press.

The portfolio is priced at \$35 and may be ordered through the Ex-Students' Association office at U.T. El Paso.

The artists represented in the portfolio are Tom Lea, whose oil painting "Toribio" is reproduced in color in the collection as it is on the cover of this fall NOVA; Manuel Acosta, Peter Hurd, William Kolliker, Dr. Robert Massey, and Russell Waterhouse.

The artists or the owners have permitted the Ex-Students' Association to reprint the paintings without charge so that all income can be used by the Association for the advancement of its programs on behalf of the University.

These programs include scholarships and student loans, superior student recruiting, and contributions to the Library. Ex-Students' Association President John Donohue, Jr., has stated that the first of the profits from the sale will be used to enlarge the library endowment initiated by the Association last year.

Ex-Students' Association Treasurer W. Cole Holderman, in charge of the project, said the portfolio is being printed by Guynes Printing Company, which has worked closely with Mr. Hertzog in other projects requiring printing of exceptional quality.

Several of the artists have contributed the originals to the Association,

as well as granting reproduction rights to them. El Paso Artist William Kolliker contributed two works. One, "Desert Garden," is a semi-abstract oil painting of desert flowers, valued at \$1,500. It will be reproduced in color in the portfolio. The other is an etching entitled "Moonlight," to be printed in black and white.

Manuel Acosta is permitting the association to print his most prized oil painting "Doña Concepción Sanchez Acosta," which will be reproduced in color. Another, "Canciones de la Revolución," an oil painting of a Mexican woman singing, will be reproduced in black and white and is being given to the Association. Its value is estimated at \$1,500.

Peter Hurd's contributions include "The River's Bend," a water color of the Hondo River near Hurd's New Mexico ranch, to be printed in color, and "Sentinel," a lithograph showing the night guard for a wagon train, which will be given to the Association. "The River's Bend," is owned by Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bailey of El Paso.

Tom Lea's "Toribio," an oil painting of a Spanish conquistador, was the frontispiece for Mr. Lea's book, *The Hands of Cantu*. It is to be printed in color by permission of its owner, C. H. Leavell and Company, and by permission of Little, Brown and Company, Boston.

"Toro," the second of Mr. Lea's works in the portfolio, is a water color of a Mexican fighting bull. Owned by Mr. Joe Lea of El Paso, it will be printed in black and white.

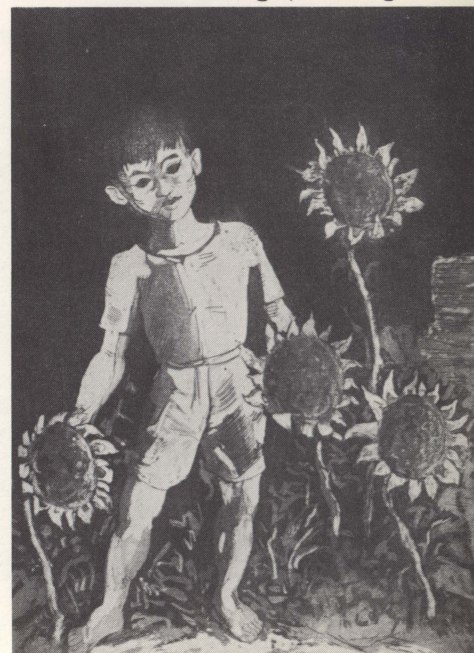
Robert Massey's "Butterfly" to be printed in color, is an egg tempera of Mexican figures and butterfly. His etching, "Rebozadas," is being contributed to the Association by Dr. Massey.

Russell Waterhouse of El Paso will have two water colors in the portfolio. They include "Line Camp," portraying a ranch cabin, to be printed in color, and "Pueblos at Sunset." The latter work is owned by Mr. Mandy Zabriskie of El Paso.



Robert Massey's "Rebozadas," egg tempera in color.

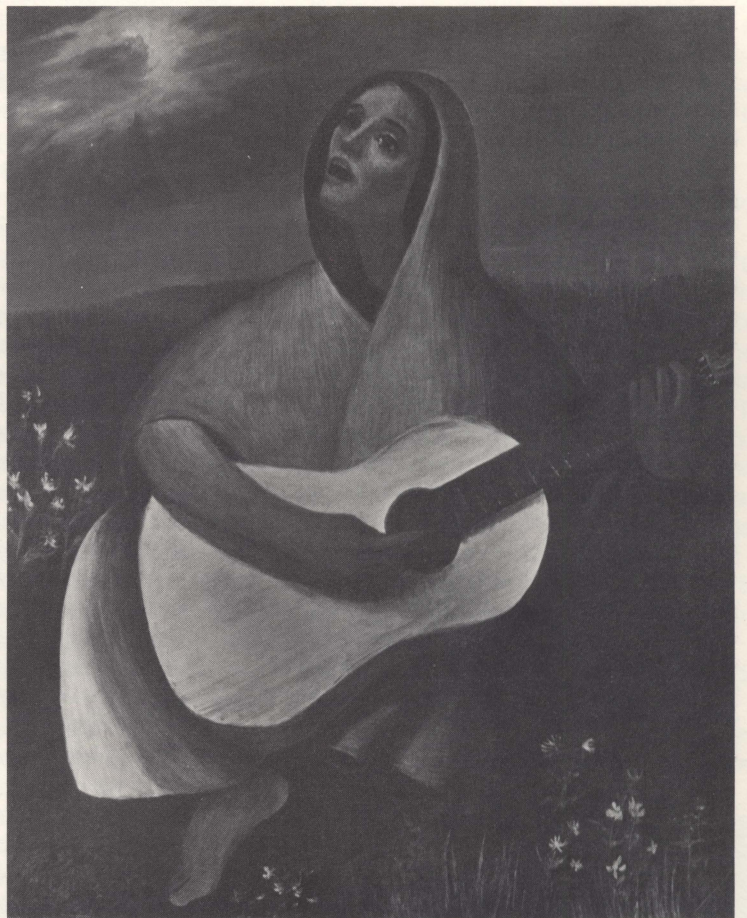
Wm. Kolliker's "Moonlight," etching in B&W





Tom Lea's "Toro," watercolor in B&W

Peter Hurd's "Sentinel," lithograph, B&W



Manuel Acosta's "Canciones de la Revolución," an oil.



Russ Waterhouse's "Pueblos at Sunset," watercolor.

NOVA INTERVIEWS BAXTER POLK

University Librarian Baxter Polk has been a familiar figure at U.T. El Paso since 1936 and remains one of the best-liked and best-known members of the University staff. He was born in Santa Anna, Texas; received his B.A. from Hardin-Simmons University in 1935, his B.S. in Library Science from the Univer-

sity of Oklahoma in 1937 and his M.S. in L.S., Columbia University, 1952.

Completion of the \$1.5 million extension of the campus library gave us a chance to talk to Mr. Polk in mid September for this NOVA interview.

—Editor

Editor: When you came to the College of Mines in 1936, what was the library like?

Polk: When I first came here, the library was on the top floor of old Kelly Hall. There were outside stairs and the book stacks were at one end of the building and the reading room was at the south end with a glass partition between the two. There was an old fountain of bottled distilled water that went bubble, bubble, bubble and the students used to have a lot of fun going up and pushing the button to make it bubble, disturbing everybody in the reading room. I think we had two encyclopedias, out of date, and about twelve thousand volumes, some of which were stored down in the basement under an old trap door down there on the dirt. That was the priceless collection of Bureau of Mines and USGS publications which was the most valuable specific collection in the library. Geology, Mining and Metallurgy used them, or were trying to. They were stored down there because the librarian thought they were worthless. So I rescued those and made a hit with old Cap Kidd.

Editor: What changes took place after you began working there?

Polk: There wasn't any immediate change as I recall but I looked up some figures the other day that will interest you. My total budget at that time for books, periodicals and bindings was

\$2,500. Of course, in those days, libraries could get books for an average of \$1.42 a volume. I checked on that also. Compare that with \$9.50, \$13.50 or \$17.50 today.

Editor: What were the holdings like in 1936?

Polk: We were subscribing to about a hundred journals which was a very, very small collection, mostly technical. We had almost no literary journals and none of the popular things. So I took a poll of the students. I put slips of paper on the circulation desk and asked students what they would like to see in the way of journals and popular reading. There were no news magazines then, not even "Reader's Digest."

Editor: You were pretty much a one-man operation?

Polk: At the beginning there were four student assistants and myself. And I also taught four classes, besides running the library. They were putting together a business administration department at the time and wanted someone who could teach typing and shorthand. It just so happened that to prepare myself for a job on the side, I had learned typing and shorthand and knew it pretty well, so I taught the four courses, managed the library, did all the cataloging, all the buying, all the processing—everything. And all this for \$150 a month. It was several months before I blew my stack and threatened to quit.

Editor: The picture has now, obviously, completely changed what with the size of the library, its budget, and the services it offers. Now how do you go about delegating the responsibility over there?

Polk: Let's get the building built first.

Editor: All right. But first, what we are really after is how many professional people do you NOW have to help you?

Polk: I have 43 full time staff members, counting myself, of whom six are professional librarians, plus over 100 student assistants. About 40 percent of the students are on the Work-Study Program.

Editor: I remember it has been only about five years ago that you said you had not one professional librarian to assist you.

Polk: That's right. Yes. We now have six professionals and we need about five more, actually.

Editor: For the size of the operation?

Polk: For the size of the operation. We should have at least ten or twelve professionals. So we've got that to do yet.

Editor: Are you satisfied with your new building, now that it is completed?

Polk: If I said that I was satisfied with the new building, I'd probably never get another one. So, I'm not satisfied with the new building by any manner of means. Let's go back and review what originally happened. In my original request for additional library space, I asked for 98,000 square feet which I thought was a very modest request. Before it left the campus, the building figure was reduced to 73,000 square feet and by the time it got back from Austin it had been reduced to 53,000 square feet. I had envisioned taking the south wing of the library addition all the way out to University Avenue, the north wing all the way to the wall of Magoffin Auditorium, and enclosing that area which is now the courtyard. This would have given us, on each floor, an additional 5,000 square feet in long stretches of clear space where you could put up book stacks, reading tables and so on. We have now moved into the new building and have already absorbed almost all the space. It will probably be necessary, before long, for us to put book stacks in those beautiful windowed corridors. This is what we are faced with if we don't get the Cotton Memorial Building in a big fat hurry.

Editor: Does the possibility of getting the Cotton Memorial Building help you out?

Polk: I really don't like the idea because we would then have a three-building complex that would be an awfully dif-



"It was several months before I blew my stack and threatened to quit."



"If I said I was satisfied with the new building, I'd probably never get another one."

difficult thing to supervise, organize, and run properly. But if we get Cotton Memorial, we can use it for special services. We can move the archives over there, put the documents over there, and probably use it for our very special collections such as the John McNeely and that type of thing. We could remodel that building and make it fairly useful.

Editor: Baxter, you're talking about the need for space not only for books but also for students to study?

Polk: That's right; that's one of the things we have lost, plus most of the reading space that we have planned and most of the reading and studying space in the stack areas.

Editor: What is the seating capacity in your new quarters?

Polk: We hope to have at least 750 seats. We have something like 585 new chairs coming in, plus the 300 that we already have.

Editor: That was in the old library?

Polk: We have about 300 and that included seats in the stacks and in the corridors.

Editor: Can we get some idea of your library operation? The budget, especially, the size of it and it's derived?

Polk: Well, I brought along with me the budgets back to 1962 just for comparative study. In 1962-63, for books, periodicals and bindings, the state appropriated \$38,800. Now during that time we picked up a little extra money from some of the trust funds, not very much though. As a matter of fact, I think we spent about \$60,000 that year. That was 1962-63, just six years ago. In 1963-64 the budget went up from \$38,800 to \$50,000 adjusted upward during the year to \$110,000. This again is state appropriated funds. That year we got a little extra money, I remember. Dr. Ray helped me but I don't recall exactly how much, and we received

extra support from the Excellence Fund. Now in 1964-65 the budget was \$47,000 but it was adjusted up to \$72,000. Still, it was a bad year. Remember, we've had bad years. In 1965-66 we got \$87,000; in 1966-67, \$100,511 plus, quite a big sum, around \$60,000, from Excellence. Now this 1967-68 fiscal year we are at the \$173,000 mark. That's state money. It should be about three times that much but we are picking up about \$105,000 from the Cotton Trust Fund, a good hunk from Excellence and \$17,000 from a government grant. In the last two years we've had about \$50,000 from government grants which has helped us a great deal. But you can see those budgets have not steadily increased as far as the legislature is concerned and you know they threw us a special curve this year: they tried to give me, in salaries, books, periodicals and bindings, equipment, maintenance, operation, and everything, exactly the same amount that I had last year. And we had to accept that from the legislature but we have gotten other funds through the efforts of Joe Ray and Milton Leech which will help a great deal.

Editor: Can you give us an idea of what percentage of that is to be spent for books and what for salaries?

Polk: Library salaries should be about 50 percent over and above the book budget. A lot of people don't agree with this, but this is the American Library Association standard. Their philosophy and theory is that if you have a sizable book budget and you don't have a staff to administer it, the job just doesn't get done. In other words, if you buy more books than you can catalog or process, you just inconvenience your patrons. Our total appropriation last year was \$430,215 and our book budget was \$173,166. This year the book budget is less than half of the total budget.

Editor: Are the state appropriations determined by formula?

Polk: Yes. They were \$3.94 for each graduate credit hour and \$1.96 for each undergraduate hour in the first year of the biennium; \$4.14 and \$2.06 respectively in the second year of the biennium.

Editor: In theory, at least, all the state institutions are treated alike?

Polk: Everybody meets the same obstacle at the state legislature because this is the formula set by the Governor's Coordinating Committee on Higher Education.

Editor: What changes would you recommend in this formula or do you think the formula approach is a proper one?

Polk: Well, of course the ideal thing would be to leave it up to the individual library and let it be worked out through local channels, through state represen-

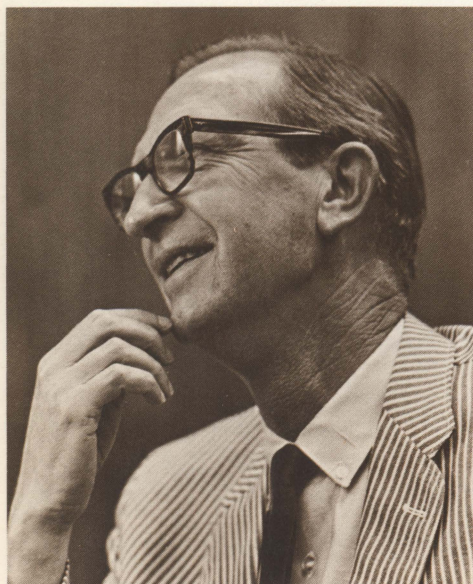
tatives, state senators and so on. The best way in the world to handle it would be to base it on what the librarian considers his actual needs. I doubt if we will ever have an ideal situation such as this. For example, the legislature has completely ignored the fact that we have physically expanded our plant to the extent of \$1,500,00. There is no provision whatever in the formula for an expanded physical plant. The only thing we'll get, probably, is a couple of extra janitors and we'll be lucky to get those. But there's no provision whatever for taking care of the present inventory in the new building. In other words, if you are expanding your quarters you would assume that you are also expanding your collection or wish to expand it. There's nothing particularly progressive about those figures, if you have a backlog such as we do, on not catching up with the enrollment over a period of years. Then too, there were years when we didn't even have the formula and when we were very low on the scale.

Editor: So we have fared better under the formula than we did before?

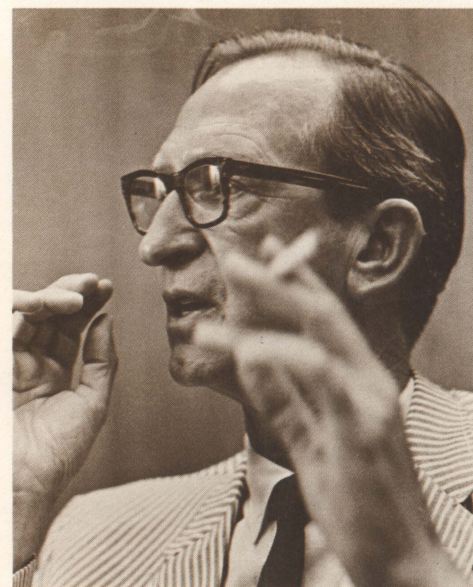
Polk: We have actually fared better under the formula but in a way it's a crippling affair because you get the cart before the horse. You induce graduate students to come here and graduate faculty to come almost solely on the basis of the library holdings. You can't induce students, for example, to come for a master's degree when they can't do their research locally. I feel there should be provisions in advance of these degrees, not after the fact, but we don't get any money for them until after they are enrolled.

Editor: What about gift support in addition to the formula?

Polk: It is increasingly important and of course we've been able to use most



"... I made a hit with old Cap Kidd."



"... it was a bad year. Remember, we've had bad years."

of the big gifts for the purchase of material supporting the seventeen graduate programs we now have. But it's running awfully thin and nobody gets much.

Editor: We need a great deal more than we're getting?

Polk: We certainly do.

Editor: Baxter, what specific areas of the library holdings are the strongest and what are the weakest?

Polk: We have, in recent years, emphasized, more or less, the engineering section of the campus. I think we have probably done more for the School of Engineering than for any other single school on campus. And, of course, it has paid off very well for, as you know, all of their departments are accredited by the Engineer's Council for Professional Development and this is fine. We've achieved a great deal for them and we have received some very fine compliments. Now we are trying, through the good efforts of Dr. Whalen, (James W. Whalen, new head of the Department of Chemistry) to get the American Chemical Society to accredit the master's degree in chemistry. One of the big drawbacks has been library holdings of both American and European journals in chemistry and related sciences. I think probably the weakest aspect of the library right now lies in our files of current journals. We only subscribe to about 1,600 journals. A library our size, with 10,000 students and 17 graduate programs, should have a collection of at least 2,500 or 3,000 journals. We have a subject guide to a list of publications around the world. We are lacking so many. We only have about 30 percent of what is available in most of the sciences and of what we actually should have to support those programs properly. That means the inter-library loan service is con-

stantly busy because we just don't have the things that those people need. They need some very obscure journals and this is a very critical point. Also, I'd like to mention something else. There is a neglected group on this campus, a woefully neglected group—the undergraduates. There are between 25 and 30,000 books published in this country every year, and we buy a very small percentage of those books for general reading for the undergraduates. We need duplicate books for all courses that require outside reading, multiple copies of things that they should be reading. We ought to have a broader general collection of books. You asked me the other day, if somebody gave me a gift of \$100,000, how would I spend it? I'd probably, surprisingly enough, spend it on just that kind of purchase—a general reading collection for undergraduates. I have found that these are, for the most part, very intelligent, curious, inquiring students. They are interested in a wide variety of things that the library doesn't provide—not just *avant garde* literature, not the fringe material—but general, basic things that they want to know about. They are curious, they want certain information and we should buy a much larger percentage of current general in-print books than we buy in the specialized areas. We have neglected a wide area of subjects and trends in our current society which we should make available to the students.

Editor: Is there anything besides money that the library needs?

Polk: Well, the library needs some additional professionals to help people get at the material we have. For example, we have only one reader's advisor. She tries to take care of the whole student body and the whole faculty. This is ridiculous. She can't possibly give them the kind of personal attention they need. In this matter of making the library easier to use, incidentally, we've recently made a very distinct innovation in our card catalog system. We have divided it into a subject catalog which is separate, and into an author-and-title catalog, filed together. And, we have refiled the whole card catalog alphabetically, strictly alphabetically. There is no more of what we used to call "primary entries" and "secondary entries" and so on. This was very confusing to the public, a very confusing system that the original American Library Association adopted in their cataloging rules. It's going to be much easier now for the students to get at the books through the card catalog.

Editor: On another subject: in the MISSION '73 Report, it was envisioned that by 1973 the holdings of the library on our campus should reach 500,000 vol-

umes. Do you think . . .

Polk: Our last accession number as of sundown, August 31, was 247,000 volumes, very close to 248,000. We added the total accessions which included all books, bound periodicals, documents and microfilms. We accessioned between 25,000 and 30,000 actual items (I wouldn't call them books because they were not all books) last year. We have five years to go to 1973 and that will be in the middle of the fiscal year for us. If we're going to achieve the MISSION '73 figure in five years we are going to have to add 50,000 volumes a year. But we're not going to do that on our present budget.

Editor: Is there any hope that this recommendation will somehow be accomplished?

Polk: Well, we could pad. Some libraries do. But I refuse to do that because, in the first place, I think it's dishonest. You have what you have and there is no point in trying to "fake out" something. For instance, a lot of libraries even accession some of their broadsides, their pamphlet files and that type of thing. We do not. The items we accession will be a part of the permanent collection.

Editor: To your credit, many say that we have a library better than we have a right to have. Do you have any assistance from the faculty in determining what you are going to acquire?

Polk: I must truly say that I'll take credit only for having been friendly enough and receptive enough to receive the ideas of the faculty. The faculty here have helped me, over the years, immeasurably in building up the collections. I have been willing to listen to them over the phone and to see them in person—I still see any member of the faculty who wants to come to me about anything in his department or



"...in a way (the formula) is a crippling affair."



"... we have only one reader's advisor . . . This is ridiculous."

subject area that he thinks he might need both in periodicals and books, even in services. Over a period of years, eight or ten older members of the faculty have taken a consistent, positive interest in the library and have helped me a great deal in building these things up.

Editor: Who are some of these people?

Polk: John McNeely, of course. Certainly Dr. Sonnichsen has been very helpful, Dr. Braddy has been equally helpful, and there have been people in geology, engineering, the physical sciences, and many others, including, more recently, the new department chairmen who come here very alive, very alert, very interested in the library. I always gauge a faculty member's ultimate success on the campus as to whether or not, when he comes for an initial interview for a position here, he visits the library. If I find out that somebody's going to be a department chairman or a prominent member of the faculty and has not visited the library, I'm a little leery of that person . . . I think that things are not going to be as good for him as they might have been. But all of these new department heads, in math, in chemistry, for example, these people visited the library before they ever took up their positions to find out what we have. Dr. Leahey, for example, of math, wrote me several letters from the University of Hawaii and sent me lists of the things he wanted. He was very specific in what he thought the library needed. These things make for good planning for the future.

Editor: Does the Library Association put down any guides as to how many volumes a library should have, based on its student enrollment?

Polk: Yes, there is a basic formula. A four-year college library, beginning with 1,000 students, usually should have a basic collection of 50,000 volumes. Then you add a certain percentage of volumes as your enrollment increases. So that you would be adding, proportionately, between 50 and 60,000 volumes a year. A full four-year undergraduate college should have a basic collection of 250,000 volumes for an enrollment of 2,500 students. Now we have 10,000 students and we haven't quite reached a quarter-million volumes yet. Of course one should also look at the quality of the collection. I think we have a first rate quality collection. I think this is one of the distinguishing things about our library. This is, more or less, a hand-picked collection of books. It's done very carefully, very thoughtfully, and you have to work a little harder. You don't just go through somebody's catalog and buy everything in it. You select. You check your holdings in the particular subject area and see where you need things the most. This makes a lot more work for the staff, a lot more work for me, and a lot more work for the faculty. We can't just say we're going to buy all the books of all the university presses, which is what the large university libraries do. These are automatic purchases; they don't select, they just take whatever is offered. We can't do that because we don't have that kind of money.

Editor: Now the library began recently, when Leon Metz was hired, a serious acquisition of archival materials. Are there any specific aims and directions in that department?

Polk: We hope to make that primarily a local collection plus northern Mexico. We are concentrating heavily on the northern provinces of Mexico and the border region. We also are collecting material from southern New Mexico which some of the New Mexico institutions don't seem to be interested in doing. We've made some pretty good hauls there, as a matter of fact. But we're concentrating primarily on the El Paso area and northern Mexico.

Editor: What changes will be made in the library's operation now that the new building is finished?

Polk: The library will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until midnight. On Saturday the hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Sunday, and this is new, we'll be open from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. with all services in effect.

Editor: Is there an all-night reading room?

Polk: I'm glad you brought that up. We have started an all-night reading room which can be locked off from the main part of the building. It will be open during the day, accessible from the inside

of the building. At 5 p.m. the inside doors will be closed; the outside doors opened and students can come and go in that room all night long if they wish.

Editor: Will the room be staffed?

Polk: No. It will be unattended. There will be no books there, just reading tables, but it will be open all night.

Editor: Many of these changes have come about, in part, because of student demand, is this not so?

Polk: Right. The Student Association came to me very courteously and very persistently and asked me if this could be done. We had already wanted to do it, we really didn't need any persuasion, but this group was extremely energetic about it. Last year's Student Association did more than any other group has done and presented their requests to me. They wanted to know if they should compile a petition and all that, which they did, and sent it to the President, and I think it had its effect. Libraries around the country are doing the same thing. Some stay open around the clock but I don't think we are ready for that yet.

Editor: One final, perhaps elementary question: why does our university—or any university—place so much emphasis on its library?

Polk: I think the best answer to that question can be found in the newest issue of the Yale Library Gazette. I've just finished reading it and here's a passage I marked: "Yet not everyone realizes even now that the strength of a university is in proportion to the strength of its library. It is extraordinary how hard it is to grasp that elementary fact. We hear a great deal about 'building the humanities,' but more about the need to do it than about how it can be done. It can only be done in a library . . ."



"With 2,500 students you should have 250,000 volumes . . . we have 10,000 students and haven't reached a quarter-million yet."



"There is a neglected group on this campus . . . the undergraduates."

THAD STEELE: OUTSTANDING EX

Thad Avant Steele, Division Manager for Southwestern Portland Cement Company and 1933 graduate of the College of Mines and Metallurgy, has been named "Outstanding Ex-Student" for 1968 at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Mr. Steele was selected by a committee of University faculty and alumni on which he himself has served in former years. As Outstanding Ex-Student, he will be the center of the November 15-16 Homecoming Activities: the Honors Banquet, the Homecoming Parade and the football game between U.T. El Paso and Wyoming during which he will be introduced.

Although Mr. Steele is not a native of El Paso (he was born in Pottsville, Texas and graduated from high school in Woodville, Oklahoma), he has been a native El Pasoan in name and spirit since 1928.* In that year he arrived on the campus of the College of Mines and Metallurgy as a transfer student from Murray State Agricultural College at Tishomingo, Oklahoma—and from the day he arrived he was a BMOC, in the old, esteemed sense of the acronym.

Those were the days when, the school being so small (505 student enrollment), each student knew almost every other student. One of the most widely recognized was Thad Steele, for he was a star football, basketball and baseball player, was voted the most outstanding athlete two years in a row (the only person ever to receive the honor for two consecutive years), and also found time to participate in a variety of other campus activities. He served as editor and business manager for the *Flowsheet*, president of the Letterman's Club (its first) and was a member of Alpha Phi Omega.

The El Paso newspapers, the *Prospector* and the *Flowsheet* of the 1928-33 era contain abundant proof that Thad Steele was one of the most valuable football players the college ever had. One headline from the downtown newspaper of that time underlined the

prevailing opinion of his athletic prowess. It read: "Miners Gloomy As Thad Steele Becomes Ill With Sore Throat." Another article named Steele as the *Herald-Post's* choice of center on its "All Southwestern Team." He was captain of the Miner football team 1929-30, and All-Border Conference Center in 1929-30-31, playing football under the well-remembered Coaches "Doc" E. J. Stewart and Mack Saxon.

Those were also the days when the atmosphere on campus was much more neighborly, when most students had nicknames, memorable ones such as "Knothead," "One Shot," "1/2 Wit," "Joe McFilty," and "Life Buoy." Thad Steele had a nickname too, symbolizing

his worth to the football team in particular and to the school in general. He was known as "Steller" Steele.

It wasn't all play for Thad Steele during his college career. In addition to his four-year athletic scholarship (eligibility rules were different in 1928), he worked his way through college at jobs with the El Paso Natural Gas Company and the Texas Highway department. As a student, he lived in the men's dormitory which at that time was located in what is now the Education building.

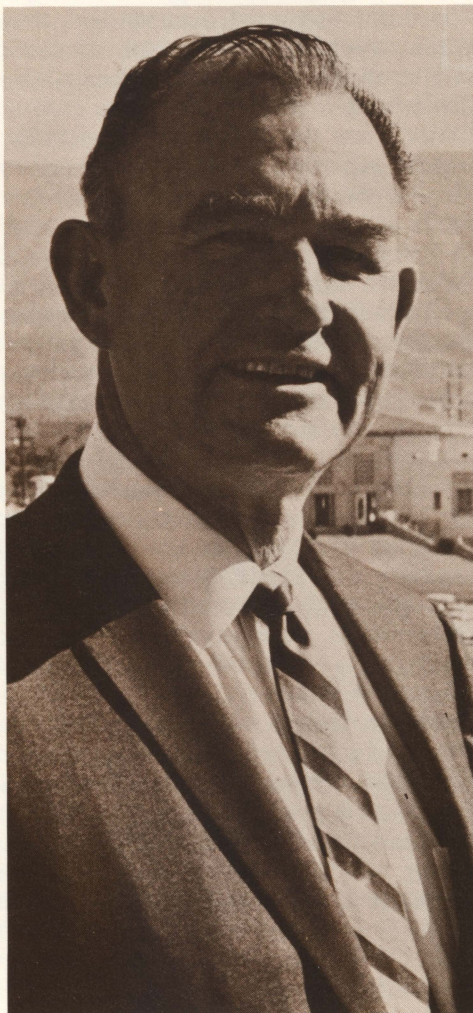
After receiving his B.A. in Education in 1933, Mr. Steele took a position as assistant to coach Clyde Wafer at Ysleta High School, where he also taught chemistry and general science. Continuing with his ambition to become a coach, he then became a coach at Austin High School for a year, following which he accepted the job of assistant to coach Mike Brumbelow in Lufkin, Texas in 1935.

In 1936, by this time having second thoughts about coaching as a life's profession, Mr. Steele became a dispatcher in the sales department of the Portland Cement Company, the first of what was to be a succession of positions with that firm. Later he was salesman, then oil field representative stationed in Midland. In 1942 he interrupted his civilian career to assume a new one. He entered the Navy as Lieutenant j.g.

After being separated from the service as Lt. Commander and having returned to the Portland Cement Company, Mr. Steele still retained his interest in sports, and continued to officiate at football games in West Texas.

A series of promotions from Assistant Sales Manager in 1946 to Sales Manager and Division Sales Manager culminated in his present position as Division Manager, to which he was promoted in 1963, over plants in El Paso, Odessa, and Amarillo.

The civic activities and organizations in which Mr. Steele has participated are so numerous and varied that one can say, without reservation, that his community spirit measures up to any other civic-minded citizen of El Paso. In addition, his never-flagging interest in the

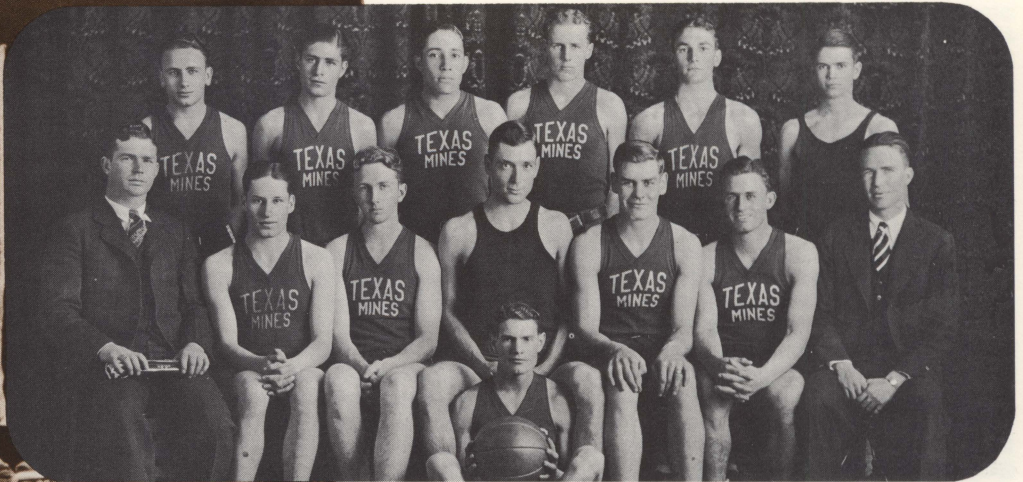


Thad Steele, 1968
(photo by Nedow)

*November 15-16, the classes of 1928, 1938, 1943, 1948 and 1958 will hold reunions during the 1968 Homecoming Activities.



Thad, in 1929, is second from right in the front row. Coach Mack Saxon is at far left; John Payne, Jr., first player in front row at left and Joe Friedkin, upper left.



University's academic and athletic programs has caused him to be active as an alumnus in the school's various organizations.

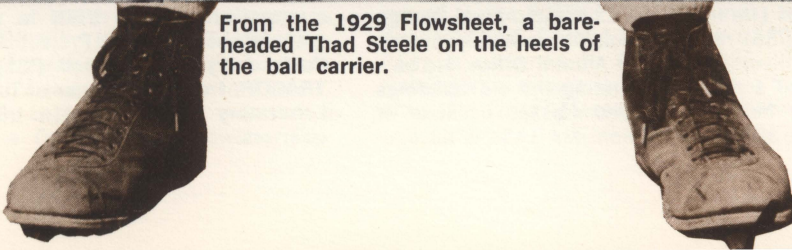
He has been president of the Ex-Students' Association of the University twice, also president of the Miner Ex-Lettermen for two terms. He helped organize the Touchdown Club, then served on the board, as an officer, and as a director of that organization. He is a past president of the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame and, in 1965, was presented with an Honorary Lifetime Membership in the El Paso Football Officials Association. He is a member of the Study and Advisory Committee of U.T. El Paso, and has served as chairman of the TWC Committee for ten years.

Mr. Steele was married in 1950 to Maxine Bray Yearwood, who at that time was TWC Dean of Women. They are the parents of two daughters and a son: Martha, (known as Tita) is teaching third grade at Bliss Elementary School; Dorothy is a sophomore at Coronado High School; and Thad, Jr. is in the eighth grade at Morehead School. The family resides at 4001 Las Vegas.

Voted the most valuable player of the College of Mines and Metallurgy more than three decades ago, it is only a natural culmination of events that Mr. Steele, in recognition of his continuing and sustaining interest in U.T. El Paso, should be named the University's Outstanding Ex-Student for 1968.



From the 1929 Flowsheet, a bare-headed Thad Steele on the heels of the ball carrier.



ALUM NOVA S

The most persevering member of the summer, 1968, graduating class (or possibly any other U.T. El Paso graduating class) is **Arthur Fitzwilliam Tait ('68)** who enrolled at U.T. El Paso 23 times during the past seven years in addition to five other enrollments at Harvard and Columbia. Born in Yonkers, N.Y., in 1905, Major Tait served in the Army 30 years and retired in 1960. He is a teacher at East Point Elementary School and his future plans include more enrollments at the University as a graduate student.

Freeman Harris (1931 etc.) was recently promoted to vice-president at the State National Bank. **W. W. Leonard ('35)** has been appointed product sales manager with corporation-wide duties by CF&I Steel Corp. in Denver. And, **Tom Abbott (1937 etc.)** is a chemical supervisor with Renolds Metals Co., Corpus Christi.

Mrs. William Fazar ('40), the former **Mildred Roden**, plus her daughter Nancy, and **Mrs. Edward H. Kahl ('40)**, paid a visit to the campus recently. Mrs. Kahl, from Arcadia, Calif., and the Fazars from Falls Church, Virginia, had arranged an El Paso reunion to allow Nancy to look over the campus. She will enroll in the fall of 1969. Mrs. Fazar discussed plans for the Washington, D.C. area Ex-Students' Association chapter. She and **Conrey Bryson ('54, MA '59)**, staff assistant to Congressman **Richard C. White ('40 etc.)** are organizing the group which will meet for the first time this fall.

Robert F. Echlin, a student at Mines from 1937-41, received a most unusual birthday card from his three children. They constructed, out of 3,500 facial tissues, a seven-foot square birthday card (designed and construction-supervised by house guest Donald McLane) and propped it up in the front yard of the Echlin home.

Harry L. Miller ('42) writes that he is now with Foote Mineral Co. in Kimballton, Va. And, **Andrew Jolly ('42)** was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and is serving as professor of English at the University of Liberia. **Dr. George Albert Reynolds ('43)** is an instructor at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and is on the staff of the VA hospital in Perry Point, Md. Another M.D., **Daniel M. Brown ('43)** is practicing in Gainesville, Texas, and **Dr. Frank Masten ('43)** teaches education and psychology at Western New Mexico University in Silver City, N. M. **Mrs. J. E. Lyon**, the former **Betty Jeanne West ('43)**, is now operating her late husband's business, the El Paso Hearing Aid Center, and **Miss Eddie Mae Duty ('43)** has a master's from San Diego State College and teaches school in that city.

Miss Dorothy Little ('45) was honored recently with a reception marking her retirement as director of the Houchen Community Center in South El Paso. She has served there since 1945. **Richard Gingery ('55)**, first executive director of Northeast El Paso Family YMCA, was honored during a testimonial dinner given by Y members and friends. His wife is a 1947 graduate of the University. **George B. McBride ('47)** writes that in addition to his duties as president of the Freeport Oil Co., a subsidiary of Freeport Sulphur, in New Orleans, he has now been placed in charge of the parent company's world-wide sulphur exploration.

Mrs. Thomas R. Duran, the former **Estela C. Acosta ('48)**, is the manager of the AAA Mexican Border Office. **Louis J. Vaughan ('48)** is Office and Credit Manager for Cummins Diesel of El Paso. His wife, **Helen Vaughan ('48)** is teaching at Edgemere School. And, **John Harrison Gray ('48)** is

chief geologist for Munoco Oil Company in El Dorado, Ark. He writes: "Unfortunately, there are not too many exes in this part of Arkansas but hardly a week goes by that our school doesn't make the headlines. I still remember the time the band could and did beat the football team."

James N. McClesky, Jr. ('48) is a vice-president of the El Paso Products Co., Odessa, Texas. **Charles Tom Wiseheart ('48)** is vice-president and general manager of a radio station in Galveston, Texas. **Albert A. Schiemenz, Jr. ('48)** is an independent oil operator in Midland, Texas. And, **Mrs. Fred Donald Smith**, the former **Ruth Pauline Hahn ('48)** lives in Ennis, Texas. Her husband practices dentistry there.

Erwin E. King ('48) is an electric log specialist for Sinclair Oil and Gas, in the mid-continent area near Tulsa, Oklahoma. **George L. (Jack) Richards ('48)** is manager of the Geological Department for Coastal States Gas Producing Co. in Corpus Christi, Texas. And, **Conrad Ramirez ('48)** was recently given the Prudential Service Award for his "unselfish contributions" to the community. **Mrs. Margie Springer Young ('48)** is senior research assistant in Limnology with the Institute of Marine Sciences at the University of Alaska. She is working on basic research in the geochemical aspects of lakes in the interior of Alaska.

John G. Sindorf ('49) is with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey's Seismological Observatory at Palmer, Alaska as Assistant Observer in Charge. His wife Marion also attended TWC 1946-49. He writes: "Enjoy NOVA very much—the items of current interest as well as the moldy fig items." (NOVA would appreciate it if Mr. Sindorf would send us the definition of a "moldy fig.")

Colonel Joe Hutto ('50) and his wife, the former **Nancy Allen ('52)** are stationed at Edwards Air Force base in California. And, **Mrs. R. M. Graves**, the former **Pat Roe ('51)** writes that she enjoys NOVA very much, holds fond memories of TWC and hopes to return to complete her master's degree sometime in the future. She, her husband and four children live in Los Alamos, N. M. **Mrs. Robert M. Booth ('51)** was recently installed chairman of the MacDowell Club. She holds a Bachelor of Music from the University, has taught vocal music in the public schools in El Paso and Brookline, Mass., and is an instructor of piano.

The **Rev. John Shryock ('51)**, missionary to Africa, is home on a year's furlough and will spend the next few months in his native El Paso. **Mrs. Sanford Cox (B.A. '51, M.A. '52)** is an art instructor at the YWCA. And, **Mrs. B. E. Schwarzbach ('55)** is currently teaching the 4-year-old class at Trinity Day School. **Sam Blackham ('53)**, El Paso attorney and county commissioner, is vice-chairman of the Metropolitan Division of the United Fund. **Jefferson Stone ('53)** has been promoted to sales manager of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company; he will be responsible for all tobacco sales activities of the company in the U.S. He and his family reside in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Dr. Lola B. Dawkins ('54), professor of business administration at U.T. El Paso, was recently named to the 11th edition of the American Men of Science (!), a distinguished directory which gives data on outstanding scientists including the social and behavioral fields. And, **Irving L. Herskowitz ('56)** has been named an assistant auditor in the general auditing department of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company. Also, **George Love ('56)** recently brought his family to visit the University and the Alumni Office. He said he had a hard time finding the old buildings where he had attended classes because of all the new construction. Mr. Love is an edu-

cational administrator with the U.S. Air Force in Peru, Ind.

Dora and Howard McCord (both '57) have been named Danforth Associates at Washington State University and attended a national conference at Mills College, Oakland, Calif. last August. Prof McCord's fifth book of poetry was recently published. And, **John W. Donohue, Jr. ('57)** has been elected a director in the 6,300 member Texas Association of Life Underwriters. Donohue is manager of the Life Insurance Department of Rogers and Belding Insurance Agency in El Paso and President of the Ex-Students' Association.

John B. Thompson, Jr. ('57) is NASA Assistant Chief of automation, check-out operations at Kennedy Space Center, Launch Vehicle Operations, Florida. His wife, the former **Elizabeth Terrell**, was a U.T. El Paso instructor in math and physics, 1954-56. **Thomas E. McLemore ('57)** has been appointed Chicago region manager of UARCO Incorporated. **Dr. and Mrs. Ronald D. Hensley (both '58)** are living in Glastonbury, Conn., where Dr. Hensley is a resident in psychiatry at the Institute of Living in Hartford, Conn. Mrs. Hensley is the former **June Rediker**.

Mrs. James E. Jordon, the former **Sara Cooney ('58)** is president of the American Association of University Women in Andrews, Texas, also working with Project Headstart. She was elected to the Outstanding Young Women of America, 1967. **Major and Mrs. Richard L. Fairall (both '58)** are residing in Leavenworth, Kansas where Major Fairall is attending the Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth. And, **Mrs. R. D. Harden**, the former **Francis Wilson ('58)**, does volunteer work several days a week at the State School for the Deaf in Austin, Texas.

Gilbert Rodriguez ('58) is chief engineer for American Zinc Co. in Shullsburg, Wisconsin. He and his wife, the former **Letitia Ornelas ('54-'58)** and their three sons live in Cuba City, Wisc. **Robert T. Prensky ('58)** is Media Director of Mithoff Advertising in El Paso. **Billy Ray Morgan ('58)** has moved to Fort Worth this fall where he will be first assistant head coach in football, and head track coach, at Arlington Heights High School. **Mrs. Butch Salazar**, the former **Lupe Salas ('58)**, teaches school at Roosevelt Elementary School.

Mrs. Russell J. Egan, the former **Patricia Joyce Vickers ('58)** is married to a patent attorney and resides in Silver Springs, Maryland. **Mrs. Arturo De La Torre**, the former **Maria R. Ramirez ('58)** teaches school at Travis Elementary. Her husband attended U.T. El Paso also, 1956-59. And, **Carlos Reyna, Jr. ('58)** is purchasing agent for United Airlines in San Francisco, Calif. **Enrique H. Pena ('58)** will be County Attorney in Jan. 1969 for El Paso. **Mrs. Ellen Jane Maris Miller ('58)** is assistant professor of voice and piano at Oklahoma City University and also teaches German and Italian diction classes.

Mrs. L. R. Clements, the former **Lupe Rascon ('58)** teaches the mentally retarded in the Scottsdale, Arizona school system. And, **Raul Portillo, Jr. ('58)** is applications analyst with Control Data Corp.; his duties include assisting the U.T. El Paso Computation Center. **Captain Ralph A. Miranda ('59)** is a lawyer in the U.S. Army, stationed in Germany. **Rollin H. Russell ('59)** has been appointed manager of New England Mutual Life Insurance Company's El Paso agency and has recently moved back to El Paso from Albuquerque. **Joe Rubio ('60)** is resigning as associate director of Project BRAVO in El Paso. **Jerry F. O'Donnell ('61)** has joined TRACOR, Inc. as manager of the Applications Laboratory at the Austin corporate headquarters.

L. A. "Skeet" McCulloch, Jr. ('59 etc.) has been appointed Director of the Division of Liquor Control of the state of New Mexico. He, **Jacob Young ('62)**, and **Marshall Meece ('63)** are going to reorganize the Ex-Student Association Chapter in Albuquerque this fall. Mrs. McCulloch, the former **Daphne Ann Green ('62)**; Mrs. Young, the former **Barbara Anne Wiggs ('61)**; and Mrs. Meece, the former **Sharon Street ('62)** are also U.T. El Paso graduates.

Clyde Posey ('63) is now an assistant professor of accounting at Fresno State College and a practicing C. P. A. **Mary Bernice Craik (B.A. '60; M.A. '63)** was awarded a Ph.D. in education from the University of Iowa in August. And, **Santiago J. Rodriguez ('62)** has joined the staff at Family Service of El Paso as a caseworker. **Dr. Leland Housman ('63)** has completed his internship at Methodist Hospital in Houston and was awarded a plaque as the Outstanding Intern, 1968. **Mrs. Gloria Cool Eyres ('63)** was appointed a housing intern with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Fort Worth.

William J. Casarez ('50 etc.) has been named the first director of admissions at the College of Santa Fe. **Nolan Richardson ('64)** is head basketball coach at Bowie High School, the first Negro head coach in the El Paso Public School System. And, **Arturo Bermea Castro ('64)** is employed by ASARCO MEXICANA in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, in charge of the Copper Converting Department. **Raymond K. Will ('64)** received the Silver Diploma for graduate work done at Colorado School of Mines during commencement ceremonies in June.

Ursula M. Niziol ('64) is counselor in the division of vocational rehabilitation at the Texas Education Agency. **James Andrew Burnett ('64)**, formerly with Mountain States Telephone Co. in Caspar, Wyoming, has accepted a transfer to the Bell Telephone Laboratories in New Jersey. And, **Roy Edward Becker ('64)** is an instructor in psychology and sociology at the University of Arizona, Tucson. **William Arthur Harrison ('64)** has been awarded a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree from Texas A & M. University and is serving a tour of duty with the U.S. Army at Ft. Detrick, Maryland.

Daniel Valencia (B.A. '57 M.A. '64), distributive education teacher at Bowie High School, was elected president of the Texas Association of Distributive Education Teachers. **Merrilyn Kay Vaughn ('60 etc.)** is librarian for the School of Education at Ahmadu Bello University, Zari, Nigeria. **Robert J. Benford ('65)** is manager of hospital sales for Eaton Laboratories, Division of the Norwich Pharmacal Company, in Norwich, N.Y. **Mrs. Edward C. Beard**, the former **Carol Anne Robinson ('66)** is returning with her husband to El Paso after being stationed two years at Ft. Hood, Texas.

Sharon Diane Clark ('65 etc.) is a stewardess with Frontier Airlines. **C. W. Buck ('66)** is an English and economics teacher at Estancia High School in Estancia, New Mexico. **Charles E. Alspaugh ('66)** was recently ordained in the Christian ministry in Ascension Lutheran Church. And, **Janey Brennand ('67)** teaches physical education in the El Paso Public Schools. **Erwin K. Palmer ('67)** is employed by Sandia Corporation as Systems Analyst, in Albuquerque, N.M. **Ronald Perryman ('59 etc.)** received a successful kidney transplant performed last February at the University of Utah Medical Center.

Alfred M. Guffy, Jr. ('62 etc.) is one of seven people in North America chosen to work in the Old Vic Theater in Bristol, England. **Anita Gutierrez ('64 etc.)** is a novitiate at Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters in Techny, Ill. **Minerva G. Lopez ('67)** was awarded a grant from the Opportunity Fellowship Pro-

gram of the John Hay Whitney Foundation for graduate and professional study. **Mrs. Genevieve D. Sewell (B.A. '49; M.A. '67)** teaches in the Ysleta Independent School District and is a team leader in the National Teacher Corps. And, **Vickie Simonetti ('66 etc.)** is a stewardess with Delta Airlines. **Hilda R. Green ('67 etc.)** graduated recently from a VISTA training program at the Menninger Clinic in Osawatimie, Kan.

John Chavez ('68) and his wife **Hilda Chavez ('67 etc.)** recently opened their new, Spanish Heraldic Art Shop in El Paso. **Lino Landy ('68)** is author of a novel, "Honrada Pero Decente", to be filmed in Mexico starring the famous comedian Cantinflas. **Robert C. Reeves (M.A. '68)** is principal of O'Donnell Elementary School in Fabens; it's been rated as one of the best schools in the state by Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. And, **Yvonne Dolores Valenzuela ('66 etc.)**, niece of Ambassador Raymond Telles, is a stewardess at American Airlines. Meantime, **Kenneth P. Thompson ('68)** is employed as a social worker for the State Department of Public Welfare.

In Military News—**Maj. Charles P. Crosby ('46 etc.)** has received his second award of the U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal at Stewart AFB, N.Y. **Major Alvin G. Whipple ('48 etc.)**, U.S. Air Force, was graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College at Norfolk, Va. **M.Sgt. Dagoberto Castillo** has received the U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal at Barksdale AFB, La. **Lt. Col. George R. Giles ('54)** has been assigned executive officer, Committee Group, U.S. Army Training Center, Infantry, Ft. Benning, Ga. **U.S. Army Major Karl A. Mielk, Jr. ('55)**, a missile research and development officer, recently received the U.S. Joint Service Commendation Medal for his meritorious service with Headquarters, North American Air Defense Command (NORAD).

Major Reynaldo Sanchez ('57) received the Army Commendation Medal while serving with the 4th Infantry Division near Pleiku, Vietnam, for meritorious service as operations officer of 2nd Battalion of the division's 9th Artillery. **Marine Lt. Joseph A. Cialone ('54 etc.)** is Assistant Selection Officer in the Dallas Selection Office. **Army Major Jerry V. Marshall ('59)** recently completed an Ordnance Officers Course at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. And, **Capt. Raymond L. Quillin ('56 etc.)** has been graduated from the Air University's Squadron Officer School at Maxwell AFB, Ala. **U.S. Air Force Capt. William R. Palafox ('58 etc.)** is a member of the Defense Systems Evaluation Squadron at Holloman AFB, N.M. which has earned the Aerospace Defense Command "A" Award.

Sgt. Bobby M. Fisher, who was on the Texas Western College ROTC staff 1966-67, was recently presented the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in ground act operations against Viet Cong forces. **S-Sgt. John H. Snow ('60 etc.)** is a member of the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing which received the first award of the annual Gen. Gabriel P. Disosway Trophy as the best tactical fighter wing in the U.S. Air Force. And **Miguel Rosales (att. '61)** was promoted to Army first lieutenant while assigned to the 506th Field Depot near Saigon, Vietnam.

Rudolfo Murillo ('62) has been assigned to the Air Force Technical Training Center at Lowry AFB, Colo. for schooling as munitions specialist. **Brainerd S. Parrish ('64)** was promoted to Army captain while assigned to the 506th Field Depot near Saigon, Vietnam. And, **Second Lt. Shelby L. Allen, III ('64)** is assigned to Chanute AFB, Ill., for training as a missile launch officer in the U.S. Army Air Force. **Marguerite A. Gonnell ('64)** was promoted to WAC captain during recent

ceremonies at Ft. George G. Meade, Md.

Spec. 5 A. H. Alaniz Jr. ('61 etc.) was recently promoted to his present rank at Camp Evans, Vietnam. **Richard B. Castle ('65)** was with the U.S. Army paratroopers in Vietnam until wounded, at which time he was evacuated back to the states. **Augustin Montes ('65)** is one of three brothers who are currently serving in the U.S. military. Augustin, a Navyman, is stationed at Guam as a radio-man. And, **Sp. 4 Joseph A. Baca** was recently awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in 1966 in Vietnam. **Sp. 4 Kenneth E. Tarr ('65-'66)** has been awarded the Bronze Star with "V" device for valor; he was cited for heroism in action in Vietnam.

Lance Cpl. Albert Miranda (att. '66) has been awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for heroic achievement while serving as a scout sniper with the 2nd Co., 26 Btln., 3rd Marine Division in Vietnam. **Second Lt. Aurelio Matamoros, Jr. ('67)** is assigned to Finley Air Force Station, N.D. for duty with the Aerospace Defense Command. And, **Second Lt. Clyde C. Chappell, USMCR ('67)** is attending Communications Officer School at Quantico after which he will be assigned to the Fleet Marine Force, Western Pacific, for duty in Vietnam. **Ensign John Hightower ('67)** is serving on the destroyer USS Callett in the Pacific area.

Second Lt. Raymond H. Coe ('67) is assigned to Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, for duty with the Air Force Systems Command. **Second Lt. Bertrand J. Schreiberstein ('68)** is assigned to the 2nd Armored Division at Ft. Gordon, Ga. **Second Lt. Luis C. Villalobos ('68)** is attending Officers Basic Course at Quantico, Va. **Dr. Robert Portillo ('58)** is a member of a unit which has earned the U.S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the 49th Tactical Fighter Wing which was cited for outstanding achievement in maintaining its combat readiness while converting from the use of the F-105 Thunderchief to the newer F-4 Phantom, at Spangdahlem AB, Germany.

DEATHS

NOVA only recently received word that **Dr. Joseph Robert Brown ('48)** died December, 1966, in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Mr. James Garnett Casner, a native El Pasoan who attended U.T. El Paso 1947-48, died July 20 in San Diego, California. Mr. Casner was a veteran of the Korean War and was awarded the Korean Service Medal, seven battle stars and a Unit Citation.

Mrs. Bill Tittle ('51), a resident of Sonora, Texas, died July 26 after a long illness. She was 41.

Col. Roy S. Gibson (M.A. '53) U.S. Army retired, of 4516 Trowbridge, died June 19. A veteran of both World Wars, and the Mexican Border service, he was buried at Fort Bliss National cemetery with full military honors. He was 77.

Mrs. Hazel R. Duron ('60) of 806 W. Yandell Dr., a teacher at Bowie High School, died August 29 in a local hospital.

Mr. Rex Bravo, Jr. of 3128 Van Buren, a pre-medical student at U.T. El Paso, died of a gunshot wound August 26.

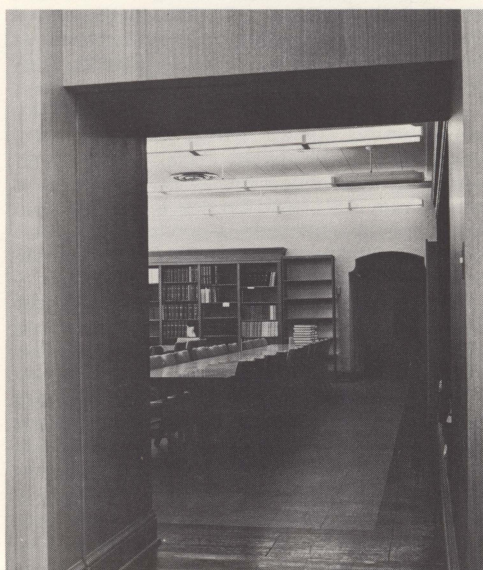
Mr. Russell E. Hoover of 5020 Joe Herrera Drive, died Sept. 8 from injuries sustained in a traffic accident. He was a student at U.T. El Paso.

THE LIBRARY OPENS



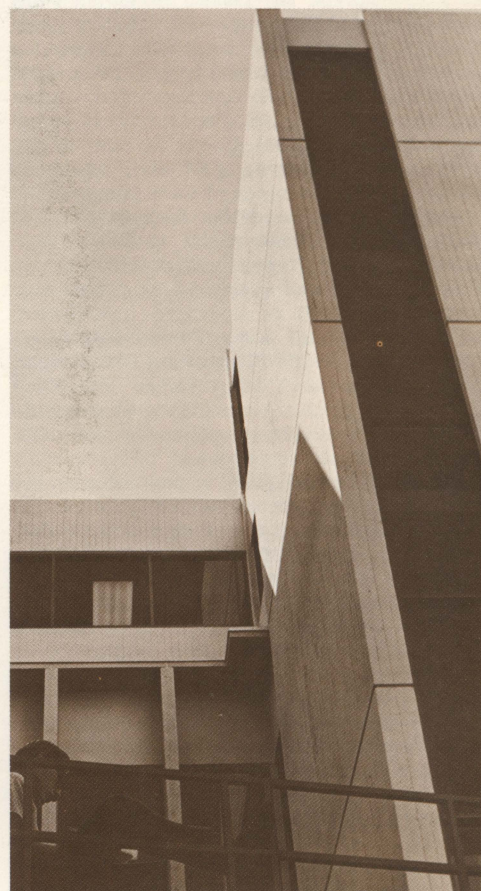
Striding briskly across the colorful University Seal in the foyer of the main entrance, sitting on the stone benches in the courtyard in the shadows of its tall pillar-like structures, kneeling in the stack areas, and moving through the doorways that separate the old rooms from the new, students of U.T. El Paso are getting to know the new library addition as if it had always been there. It hasn't, of course, having unofficially opened for business on September 16.

Officially and formally, the library will be opened and dedicated on November 16, 1968, as the Chancellor of The University of Texas System, Dr. Harry Ransom, will come to the campus to make the dedicatory address. On that day and on Sunday the 17th, several events will take place including a series of book displays, student tours and special exhibits. A public Open



House will be held on the 17th from 2-6 p.m.

Much of the talk about this building has been done by people who have seen only photographs of it. It will be talked about more (and more favorably, we think) when seen in person.



JIM BRENNAND HEADS EX'S NOMINEES



James L. Brennand

James L. Brennand, the nominee for president of the Ex-Students' Association for 1969, is a partner in the law firm of Edwards, Belk, Hunter and Kerr of El Paso. He is a 1953 graduate of Texas Western College and while a student was active in SAE and Alpha Psi Omega. He was a charter member of Sardonyx and was named to Men of Mines.

After graduation, Brennand spent four years in the Army and attended law school at U.T. Austin where he received his law degree in 1960.

He is past president of the Junior Bar Association of El Paso and is a member of the El Paso and Texas Bar Associations. He has also served as president of the board of trustees of the Festival Theatre and has served as a member of the board of directors of the Ex-Students' Association as well as in the post of first V-P of the association during 1968.

Brennand is married to the former Ruthie Kay Fulwiler. The family (the Brennands have three daughters) reside at 916 E. Blanchard.

Other nominees for 1969 officers are **Mr. David W. Tappan** ('40), first vice-president; **Mr. Cole Holderman** ('63), second V-P; **Dr. Rene Rosas** ('58), treasurer; and **Mrs. Paul T. Caruthers** (Marie Endlich, '57-'64), secretary. In addition, three positions on the board of directors of the association will be filled by election.

GOFF LYCEUM SERIES II

The Robert L. Goff Lyceum Series' second season, expanded now to ten performances, began Sept. 27 and will continue through April 18, 1969 with one of the most comprehensive educational-cultural programs ever to be seen in El Paso. Eight months in planning, the ten lecturers and fine arts performers are brought to U.T. El Paso through the auspices of the Student Services fee and bequest of the late Robert L. Goff. All performances are at Magoffin Auditorium.

Mr. William Buckley, appearing Sept. 27, is the wry, many-faceted writer, editor of The National Review, television personality, columnist and political commentator. He will speak on "The Politics of Beauty."

Dr. Nathan Wright, Jr., chairman of the 1967 and 1968 National Conference on Black Power, is author, educator and urban affairs expert. He will speak on the subject "Black Power—A Creative Force" on Oct. 18.

Les Danseurs Africains, is a 50-member dance troupe from Senegal who will perform at Magoffin Auditorium on its first North American transcontinental tour.

Dr. Hugh J. Schonfield, author of the controversial book on the Resurrection of Jesus, "The Passover Plot," will lecture on that subject November 22. He is an eminent Biblical scholar.

Mr. James Dick, the pianist who graduated

in 1963 with special honors in piano from The University of Texas at Austin and who has since won world recognition for his artistry, will perform on December 11.

Dr. George Wald, Nobel Prize Winner in 1967 for his contributions in biochemistry, is the first Goff lecturer of 1969 and will lecture on "The Origin of Death" on February 21.

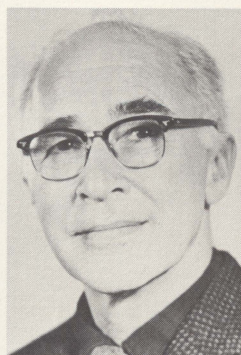
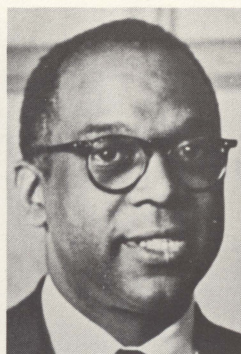
Mr. Leonard Baskin, on February 26, will speak on "On Being an Artist." He is a sculptor and graphic artist whose work is represented in the permanent collections of many major American museums and galleries.

Mr. Richard Wilbur, the American poet whose book "Things of This World" won a 1957 Pulitzer Prize, will present "An Evening of Personal Poetry" in the Goff Series on March 14, 1969.

Dr. Paul Goodman, the essayist, poet, social commentator and author of 30-odd books, will present a lecture on "Problems of Mass Education" on April 11.

And, **Dr. Joyce Brothers**, the beautiful and well-known television personality and psychologist, will lecture on "Are You A Real Expert on Love" to wind up the 1968-69 Goff Lyceum season on April 18.

Season subscriptions to the performances and individual tickets are available from the U.T. El Paso Student Activities Office.





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