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NOVA: The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine

The News and Information Service, University of Texas at El Paso

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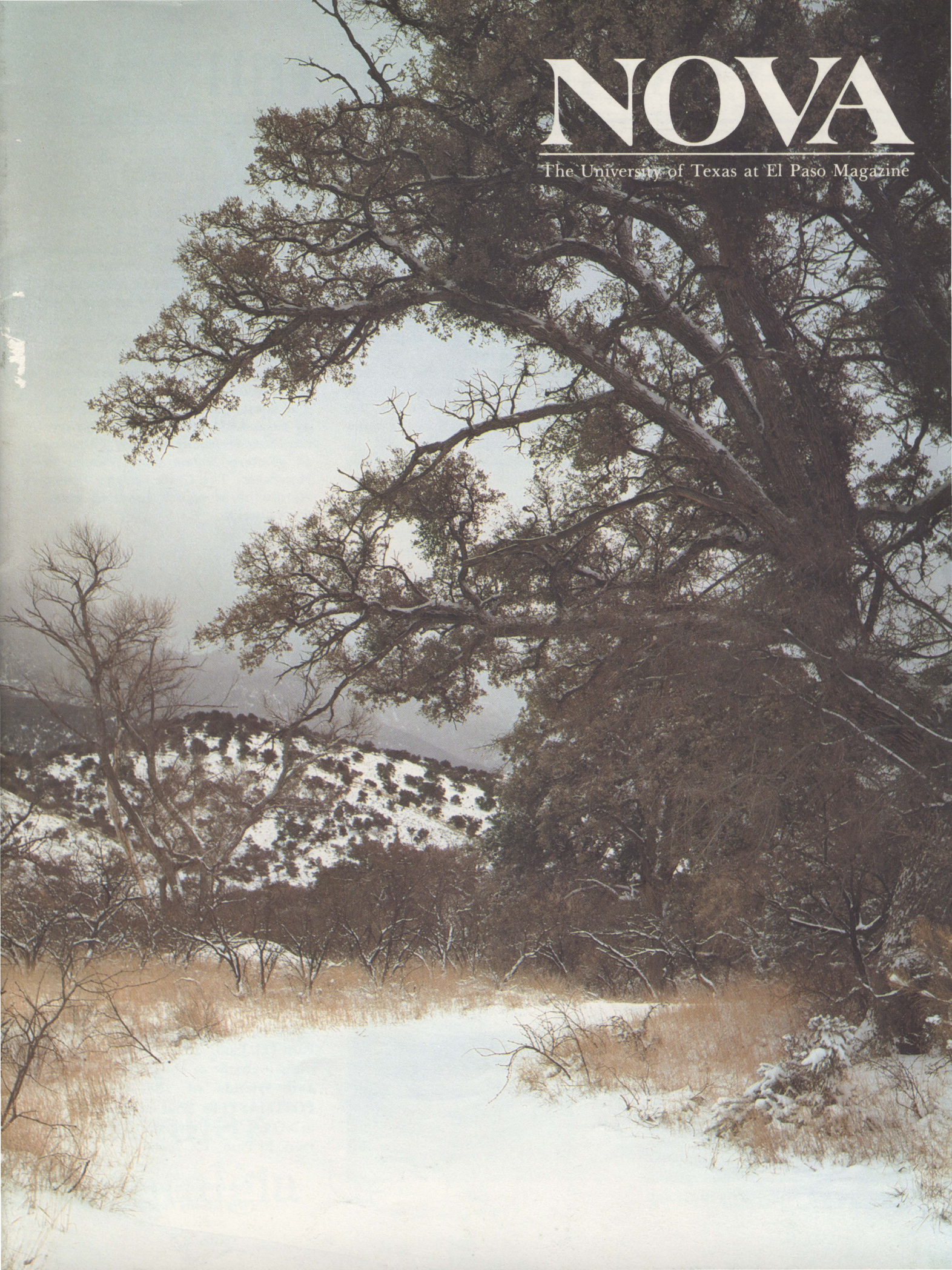
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NOVA

The University of Texas at El Paso Magazine



The View from the Hill

Somewhere in the sea of stats about NOVA found in this column last issue, we mentioned that the December number, beginning our 15th year of publication, would be somewhat different. "You will perhaps note a change," we said, referring to the obvious one, the new NOVA size (down from 9 x 12" to the universal 8½ x 11").

It turns out we are a lot more different than "somewhat," and more than even we thought we would be. With the size change, it seemed a good time to make some other alterations. As Russ Banks (who, with Kathy Rogers, is responsible for the design of NOVA) puts it: "It seemed a good time to make changes we felt would improve NOVA; we tried to re-evaluate everything, keeping what worked and changing what didn't."

The five essential changes are these:

- the size;
- the fact that for the first time, the magazine is being entirely produced on campus—printing by the University's Printing Division (Mr. Joe Hill & company);
- the nameplate on the cover has been changed to a typeface called

Americana, the smaller size in a smaller magazine giving us more flexibility in our cover designs;

- the standing heads ("View From the Hill," "AlumNotes," etc.) inside are also Americana to unify our type design a little;

- the body copy typeface is a return to something we used to employ, called Baskerville, a golden oldie that is very readable and a face that doesn't call attention to itself.

It is tempting to list the four-color cover as change No. 6 but we probably won't be making a habit of this. The idea behind the changes in the magazine, in particular the size and on-campus production, is to save money. But the winter photograph by Russ Banks was so beautiful and the occasion so commanding, we splurged a little. Also, the color cover gives you an idea of the quality of work that can be done by the campus Printshop.

El Paso will celebrate several important anniversaries in 1981, among them the centennial of the advent of the rail-

roads to the city (also the centennial of the State National Bank and the *El Paso Times*), and among UT El Paso's contributions to this signal year will be a new, expanded edition of C.L. Sonnichsen's *Pass of the North*. This perennial best-seller from Texas Western Press was originally published in 1968 and has gone through a couple of editions since then. Since retiring from UT El Paso in 1972, Doc Sonnichsen has continued to produce the steady flow of excellent books and articles that has earned him the gratitude of all Southwesterners. The latest Sonnichsen books, published by Texas A&M University Press this year are *From Hopalong to Hud: Thoughts on Western Fiction* and, released in November, *The Grave of John Wesley Hardin*, three superb essays on grass-roots history.

—Editor

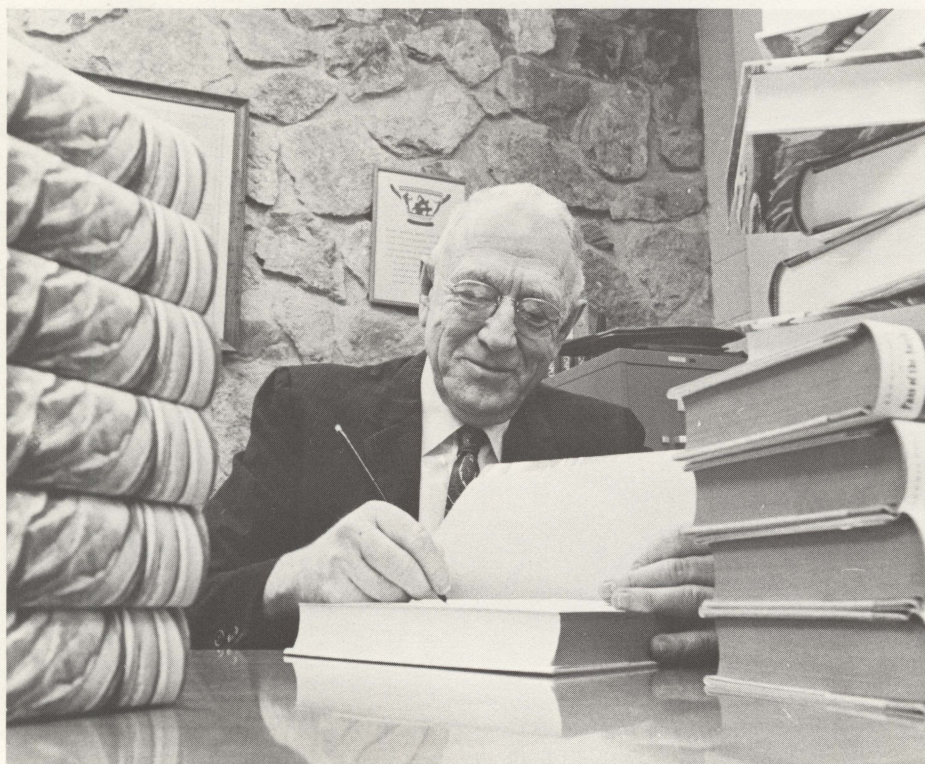
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Sonnichsen and *Pass of the North*

"I don't understand how the people think, but I love to visit their country."

You hear it time and again from UT El Paso faculty members who are beckoned by the nation the late Winston Churchill described (still aptly) as "a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma."

Foreigners, says Dr. Nicholas P. Hayes, are never aware of what Russia is really about. The assistant professor who specializes in Russian history, returned to the campus this fall after 10 months in Moscow under the International Research and Exchanges Program.

"I am interested in conservative na-

tionalism in Soviet political life and culture in the twenties and thirties," he says. With a book in progress on the subject, he applied for the program which annually sends about 40 to 50 Americans to the Soviet Union. The Americans, he says, tend to be humanists, social scientists and linguists, while the Soviets who come to the U.S. tend to be technicians and people in the hard sciences.

He was able to get a somewhat different perspective of the Soviet Union than many of his colleagues, since he took his wife, Marcia, and sons, Patrick, now 3, and Kevin, now 1, on the trip. The children provided a natural opening for conversations with Soviet citizens, and the Hayes went through the same procedures as Soviets in entering Patrick in nursery school.

"This is a unique program," he indicates, "in that we were among the few Americans who actually exist within the real Soviet world in a sense. Some restrictions were placed on us, but compared to diplomats, businessmen, and press corps members, who live in special apartments and have very little contact with society, we were very fortunate."

They resided in a dormitory at the University of Moscow, where westerners in the exchange program are regularly assigned. He conducted research in various archives under authorizations of the university faculty. While they were under constant surveillance, they became accustomed to it and adapted their conversations and lifestyle to that reality of Soviet life.

"Mainly the Soviets are interested in any foreigners becoming involved in selling things on the black market or in drawing out Soviet citizens on political questions," he points out.

When he is asked about problems of Soviet life, he says westerners tend to be struck by what they don't have. The Soviets, on the other hand, tell about what they have now that they didn't have before. They remember the starvation of only a generation ago.

"My general impression of the Soviets," he adds, "is that they are cautiously optimistic, engaged in a glacially steady movement toward improvement over a period of 10 to 20 years."

Dr. Jo Ann Bailey, assistant professor of modern languages, was in the same program in 1975-76. "I was the first single woman parent to go and took my son, Douglas, then 6. He loved living in Leningrad and picked up the language quickly in an excellent day care center.



A Peculiar Nostalgia

He didn't want to come home."

She was writing a doctoral dissertation on a Russian modernist writer, Aleksey Mikhailovich Remizov, and worked at the Pushkin House archive to which the author had given many of his papers.

Through an American friend, she met Vladimir and Elena Lifschitz, who had grown up in the Soviet Union and wanted to move to America. They became friends and, after the young couple came to the U.S. in 1976, their paths continued to cross. Dr. Lifschitz spent a year in a temporary position at Stanford University, then joined the faculty at the University of Utah where Dr. Bailey also taught. She moved to El Paso in 1978 and, at her suggestion, the Jewish Community Center last spring invited Dr. Lifschitz to speak. At that time he also gave a lecture for the UT El Paso Mathematical Sciences Department and, learning of a faculty position available, applied. He became a faculty member in the fall.

Unlike the Americans, who enjoy visiting the Soviet Union periodically, there is no going back for Dr. Lifschitz and his wife. "We expect to live in the United States permanently," he says emphatically.

For Paula Kiska of the English faculty, annual trips to the Soviet Union have become a way of life. Her first was on a fellowship to study in Moscow in 1965, and she returned as a tourist in 1967. In recent years she has taken student groups there five times—in 1974 (NOVA, March 1975), 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1979. Her most recent group of 10 students included two from UT El Paso and others from Texas, Colorado and Utah. They earn six hours' university credit for Russian language studies in classes which meet six days a week from 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Their professors specialize in teaching the language to foreigners.

Until this year, Professor Kiska had worn two hats since coming to UTEP in 1966, teaching in both the English and Modern Languages departments. She first worked with Dr. John Sharp, who had taught Russian for some years. Now Dr. Bailey teaches 60 students in the four classes in Russian and both women are interested in the students' Russian Club. Meanwhile, Dr. Kiska teaches English in El Paso three days a week and spends two days at New Mexico State teaching first and second year Russian while a professor is on leave.

"When I travel in Russia," she says, "I'm always very careful with my Rus-



sian friends and never get involved in illegal activity such as selling clothing on the black market, which some tourists do. I'm sure the Russians are suspicious of foreigners who speak their language well, and the phones are obviously tapped. Any professor who goes there knows he will be followed and hassled now and then, but students seldom are bothered unless they are fluent in the language."

Next summer she hopes to take part in a student program being relocated at the Black Sea because of the Olympics. "The countryside is very beautiful and there is no better way to travel than in one of these groups." Besides enjoying the hospitality accorded the student groups, she says they are very economical. While a tourist may pay \$120 per day to visit the Soviet Union, the last eight-week student trip she took cost \$2,300 including food and schooling. Of that period, two weeks were spent in Europe.

Despite John Erskine's observation that "America is the only country left where we teach languages so that no pupil can speak them," UT El Paso students are learning to speak Russian and to do it very well.

"Students in the border area have a knack for spoken Russian," observes Dr.

Bailey, "since all the main sounds of that language are found in English and Spanish. It is very easy for our bilingual students to pick up the correct sound of spoken Russian in a few weeks."

For those who continue to be interested in the language, Professor Kiska recommends combining it with some specialty such as science, technical writing, business, or government.

"On my last visit to the Soviet Union," she relates, "I talked to some American businessmen. By the end of the year some 200 American businesses are expected to have operations in the Soviet Union. While some will close after the Olympics, many will stay. This means a lot of job opportunities for people who can speak the language well. There is also considerable demand for translators in the sciences and technological fields."

A peculiar nostalgia grips these visitors to the Soviet Union. For Professor Kiska, it is her annual goal to return. Dr. Bailey calls it "endlessly fascinating, a completely different world." Dr. Hayes says he took Moscow "to be what Tolstoy took it to be: the real image of what Russia is like. It is difficult to leave there without a sense of respect and compassion for the Russians." □

Instant Research...

THE LIBRARY GOES ONLINE

by Nancy Hamilton

Far must thy researches go
Wouldst thou learn the world to know...
(Schiller, *Proverbs of Confucius*)

Far indeed must researches go to learn almost anything uncommon: Ask the person writing a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation or any scholar hoping to add something to the fund of knowledge. So far must researches go, there is even a mental picture of the old-time scholar, beard lengthening and spectacles thickening as he pores over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore.

Now, thanks to computerized search methods, researchers are getting some long-awaited help: bibliographic listings can be received in a matter of minutes and the system is operational at both UT El Paso's main and nursing libraries.

Not only are bibliographic printouts available, but in most cases a researcher can also request short summaries of the listings. And while watching the printout being made on a small electronic typewriter, the researcher can tell whether the listing is on target or whether the code words of the request need to be refined in order to make the information more specific.

In the years B.C. (Before Computers) a scholar would begin an information quest at the card catalogs and journal indexes, making up a list of references to a particular topic. The next step was to locate the various books and journals in order to extract the information needed. If some of them were not available locally, the library had to send away for them, a mailing process that could take many weeks to complete.

Now the bibliography can be obtained in an hour or less, and the sources for the printed materials also can be traced by computer. Publications not available locally can be located in libraries according to geographical area—saving not only time but postage, too.

"This is a librarian's dream," says Helen Bell, head of the Reference Department and one of several operators of the computer search equipment at the Main Library. "Actually we have been the middlemen in the search procedure for a long time, but now we have our own computer terminals and the service is much faster than when we had to wait for a printout to arrive in the mail."

The first step in the process is to make an appointment with one of the librarians who perform the computer searches, by calling the Reference Department. Depending on the complexity of the topic, the conference may take from a few minutes to an hour. Its purpose is to arrive at the most precise possible description of the information being sought. Listings from data bases are studied in order to match the request with the terminology of a particular service.

Data bases are prepared by numerous organizations, such as the Smithsonian Science Information Exchange, the American Psychological Association, the National Technical Information Service of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Central Abstracting Indexing Service of the American Petroleum Institute, and so on. Each such collection of indexed information may add hundreds of thousands of new entries each year to its listings of professional publications or new literature in a particular subject field.

Several vendors offer data base services. The University Library uses the search services of three sources. The College of Nursing Library has access to the files of the National Library of Medicine through the Medlars Service, in which librarian Esperanza Moreno has been trained as an operator. At the Main Library, data bases in a wide variety of subjects are available through



Joy Luna, graduate nursing student, takes up computerized research with Nursing Librarian Esperanza Moreno.

Bibliographic Retrieval Service (BRS), which specializes in research for educational institutions, and Lockheed (DIALOG), one of the pioneers in the field. Other sources will be added as the service develops.

The initial interview with the librarian is an important step in saving money for the patron, says Mrs. Bell. "The fee for computer service is based on direct costs for connect time, data base usage and a 15% service charge to cover indirect costs. We want the patron to have the most exact information available, not just something close to it."

Another money-saving aspect of the conference is that some subjects are

available on different vendors' data bases at different prices. The trained librarian can seek the source that will give the patron the information at the best price.

The average search costs the library patron from \$10 to \$15. (Two years ago a computerized reference search cost about \$30 per data base used.) A recent search involving two data bases came to just over \$6. If an extensive printout is required, the patron may save money by having it printed offline and mailed, rather than paying for the online time at the local terminal.

The computerized search service not only saves time in gathering information; it helps researchers locate the

materials they need and obtain those not in the University collection through Interlibrary Loan.

The UT El Paso Library is among more than 1,000 college and university libraries whose catalogs are available on computer through the OCLC whose total resources number about 2,000 libraries of various kinds nationwide.

If a patron requests a publication not held locally, it may be located through the OCLC service and a request for interlibrary loan may be made through the computer. Besides making requests, UT El Paso receives an increasing number as a result of the computer service, from libraries as far away as Great Britain, Canada and New Zealand.

The Library's Catalog Department, headed by Phil Raue, has been participating in the nationwide listing service since September 1974.

"The computer terminal in this department gives us instantaneous access to the OCLC data base," he said. Cataloging information on UT El Paso holdings is entered into the data base on an average of 100 titles a day, he says, with about 200,000 titles already entered and another 200,000 to go (as of late September). All new material acquired in the past four years has been entered.

Through the service, the University Library receives catalog cards printed on all items recorded in the data base. For items available only locally, such as master's theses, the library creates a standard record to be used in cataloging the item.

The OCLC data base originated in 1968 as a regional service for libraries in Ohio, explains Raue. Since it has become nationwide, the initials no longer stand for the original service. Various consortiums of libraries joined the network as it expanded, including AMIGOS, the group of libraries in the Southwest on whose board Fred Hanes, director of libraries for the University, serves.

OCLC also now serves part of Canada. The libraries of Mexico are exploring the possibility of becoming involved in the system, says Raue. "This would be wonderful for researchers, as there are fantastic collections in Mexico up to 400 years old," he notes.

Director Hanes and others of the Library staff are eager to show University and other researchers the pleasures of working with the computer system. It is not only, as Mrs. Bell describes it, "a librarian's dream" but a scholar's dream as well. □



Diana Twelves types a request for information at the Main Library Reference Department.

By Elroy Bode

Elroy Bode, whose work appears regularly in NOVA, is the winner of the 1979 C.L. Sonnichsen Award for his new book *To Be Alive*, released by Texas Western Press in November. Of this fifth Bode book published by TW Press, Texas writer (*Goodbye to a River*, *Hard Scrabble*) John Graves wrote: "The flat fact is that it is our privilege to have someone like Elroy Bode around, with his sharp eye and ear focused on the 'ordinary' people and scenes of our region (they are never ordinary to him, and hence not to us when we read him) and his lasting love affair with language and the things it can be made to do."

The following are excerpts from *To Be Alive*, a Christmas present and a joy forever.

—Editor

My Mother

As I watched a woman pass by the other day on her way to the corner bus stop, I began thinking of my mother—my mother who never learned how to drive, who regularly walked eight blocks to our feed store in the three o'clock sun: up Barnett Street past the school and the Red and White grocery store and the Ottingers' house; past the Fredericksburg highway crossing; past the Lutheran church; then, after making a turn left and a turn right across the railroad tracks, she would see it: Bode Feed and Hardware, the fading letters on the front barely visible down the wide clearing of the tracks.

Kerrville did not have taxis then, in the '30s and '40s. Thus when it was time for my mother to go to the store to pay bills, look through invoices, work on the books, she walked. I don't know if our neighbors looked out their windows, saw my mother leaving through the front yard gate, and proceeded to set their clocks—the way that German townspeople supposedly watched the methodical Immanuel Kant—but they might have. For it was a regular enough occurrence: my mother, a big woman, in her black shoes, starting out while the school kids were still in their last period classes, her purse held firmly across her brow to shade her eyes from the sun: moving down the sidewalk, moving in and out of the chinaberry and hackberry and sycamore shade until finally the first gray-enamel step creaked beneath her foot and she was there: once again in-



side the cool tin-and-lumber building where—after pushing aside my father's fried pie wrappers and half-chewed cigars—she would sit until closing time at the roll-top desk, getting things done.

She was there on Sunday afternoons when my father and I went fishing on the quiet Guadalupe River west of town: he standing in his Sunday hat, waiting out with equal patience the fish and the afternoon and his cigar; my mother encamped on a quilt—fused to her magazines and the shade of the tall cypress trees.

She was a different kind of mother in a way, despite all her monumental familiarity. She was, on Sunday, a Mother-in-Perspective, one who had voluntarily suspended herself from the father-and-son pleasures of the afternoon. She did not suppose herself to be a vital part of fishing or the river; she was a mother who was suddenly not using her motherness—who had yielded her special position in the family in order to fade into the background of the cypresses and the languid Guadalupe.

Yet whenever I returned to the car along the river bank trail—for any one of the many long-afternoon reasons—Mother would always look up from her reading and manage to indicate a portion of that approval which only she could give. It was not much in the way of words, but through a motion of her head—a slightly anticipatory, looking-up glance—or some change of

Journal

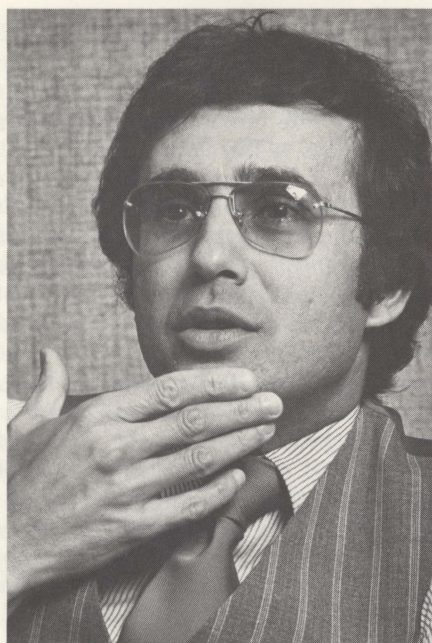
● I want words to be more than words can be. I want them to be what flames are, and music is. I am impatient with the traditional role of words. I want of them...almost a corporeality. Yes: word become flesh.

To use words is to be a lover wanting, out of immense desire, to possess his loved one—realizing all the while, of course, that such a total immersion of self is impossible. It is out of this inability to perceive, to penetrate, to know fully—and thus, finally, to reveal to others—that word users have always despaired.

● Little girls. I watch them at night when they come to the downtown library with their mothers—when the lights are bright over the room and people's heads are bent and there is a special library glory in the air.

They select their book and then come back with a delicate and exaggerated quietness toward their table—sometimes stopping along the way to make a serious production out of pulling up a sock and then carefully folding the top of it back down. At their table they first place their book down gently and silently flat; then, using both hands to bring in the back of their skirt, they sit in the exact center of the chair that is too big for them, their legs hanging as straight and still as the legs of puppets. Finally, after picking up the book and holding it firmly with both hands in front of them—with the weight of the book resting squarely on the surface of the table—they begin to read. □

expression she turned her attention away from her own private world in order to present herself fully to me not as a reader but as my mother. It was an expression indicating sheer willingness to see me once more, as if she were unashamedly glad for my being there in front of her, alive and well and able to walk up and down the river bank at will. Just in doing that—in looking up from her magazine—she revealed her sense of pride and affection and approval: she asserted with a genuine warmth which cut through all the Sunday blandness and tranquility that she was my mother and I was her son and that such a situation was a good thing all around. □



Introducing Joseph D. Olander:

SATURDAY NIGHT ON BAFFIN ISLAND

by Dale L. Walker

When Joe Olander was 18 and in the Air Force he was sent for a year's tour of duty to Baffin Island in the easternmost Arctic Archipelago, an immense fjord-notched and tundra-covered island little changed (other than the Air Force radar installation) since Martin Frobisher first visited there in 1576.

What does a young man do on Saturday night on Baffin Island? The same thing he does every night if he's concerned, as Joe Olander was, of being a "substantive illiterate if not a functional one"—he reads a lot.

"I had gone through school without ever learning to read," says Dr. Olander, new academic vice president at UT El Paso, reflecting on this turning-point in his life. "Being able to read and knowing how to read are two different things, and my problem then is no different from the problem we are still encountering in higher education. But a year on Baffin Island, living

underground, with the surface temperature warming up to 55 below—well, it gave me a chance to learn how to read."

The radar site library had a limited assortment of books, as might be expected, but in addition to a strange mix of titles (reflecting the owner's interests perhaps) on how to fix a Ford engine and how to appreciate Mesopotamian culture, some past denizen of the site left a nice science fiction collection behind, an assortment of books by Theodore Sturgeon, Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clarke, A.E. Van Vogt, Jack Williamson and others.

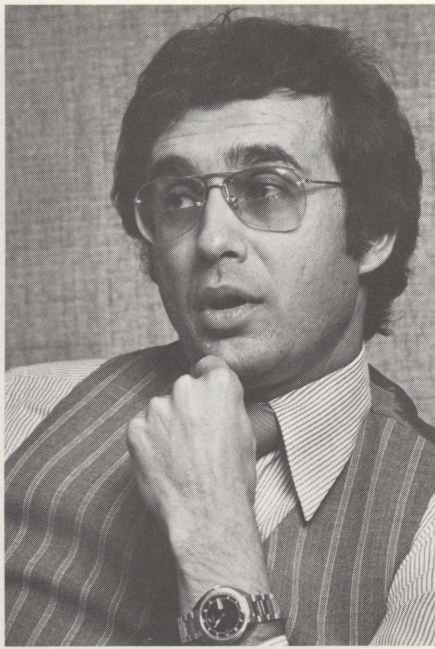
"It was the ideal way to be introduced to science fiction," Dr. Olander says. "I was living in a science fiction atmosphere—the planet Neptune and Baffin Island probably have a lot in common—very conducive to unfettering the imagination."

The little library of s-f hooked the young cryptographer from Hazelton, Pennsylvania, and he's been hooked

ever since: He is surely among the very few who have stepped up every rung of the science-fiction ladder from fan to writer, editor, teacher, critic and scholar, and is perhaps the only university administrator who is an active member of both the Science Fiction Writers of America and the Science Fiction Research Association.

It would have been convenient, but bad fiction, had Dr. Olander's discovery of science fiction on Baffin Island in 1957 so indelibly marked his life that his every professional step thereafter bore its imprint. Fortunately, life is not so structured and a good number of post-Baffin years would pass before he returned to s-f full force.

Joseph D. Olander, who became UT El Paso's V-P for Academic Affairs in September, earned his B.A. in English *summa cum laude* from the University of Maryland's Far Eastern Division (Japan), his M.A. in English at Rollins



College, Winter Park, Florida in 1966, and his Ph.D. in political science, Indiana University in 1968. Between these degrees, he studied law at Notre Dame for a year, held an NDEA fellowship to study Chinese at the University of Minnesota, and wrote a dissertation on "Black Americans and the Politics of Justice During Their Years of Travail."

He began his teaching career in an Orlando, Florida, high school in 1965, then moved to Rollins as an instructor and in 1969 to the University of Miami as an assistant professor of politics and public affairs. In 1971, with the campus, curriculum and student body still unborn, he became one of the original administrators (chairman, department of political science) of Florida International University in Miami. There he rose to the executive vice presidency of FIU before coming to UT El Paso.

"Political science," he says today, "although filled with works of science fiction, somehow didn't fulfill me. In about 1969 I began writing science fiction stories and while I have switched roles to concentrate on scholarly works and editing, I am still in the midst of it and wouldn't be anywhere else."

Those early stories, published in such magazines as *Galaxy*, *Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, and *Analog*, led to Dr. Olander's prolific number of scholarly s-f books, including an innovative series wedding societal concerns and s-f as reflected in titles like *American Government Through Science Fiction*, *Criminal Justice Through Science Fiction*, *The City 2000: Urban Life Through Science Fiction*, and *Population Through Science*

Fiction. He also conceived the "21st Century Author Series" published by Taplinger and has contributed such books as those on Arthur C. Clarke, Robert Heinlein and Isaac Asimov, with other titles in preparation: H.P. Lovecraft, Philip K. Dick, Ray Bradbury, Robert Silverberg, and Stanislaw Lem. Other works-in-progress include books on supernatural and horror literature, the disaster novel in science fiction, utopias and dystopias in modern science fiction, and a collection of "cataclysmic, apocalyptic, end-of-the-world works."

He is also author, editor or co-editor of such books as *The Book of John Jakes*, *Run to Starlight*—which the New York Times, in 1975, selected as an outstanding book of the year,—*Science Fiction Blowgun* (with Isaac Asimov), *Time of Passage*, *Tomorrow, Inc.*, *Car Sinister* (with Robert Silverberg), and *First Voyages* (with Damon Knight).

Perhaps not surprisingly, Dr. Olander tends to speak of any new venture in s-f terms and he sees UT El Paso no differently. His first visit here (in July when being interviewed as a candidate for the vice presidency) he says, was like "walking on another planet" in contrast to Miami. "Everything about the University and El Paso struck my sense of alternate universes. The physical dimensions of everything, the warmth and friendliness of El Pasoans, the general community spirit, the relative isolation of the city, the architecture of the campus. I kept thinking, 'I wonder

explored and enjoyed. But we do more exploring than enjoying."

He sees UT El Paso as a place of "shifting missions," where the 66-year institutional history is "inspiring." He contrasts his work at the undeveloped Florida International with his job at UT El Paso this way: "At FIU it was a matter of bringing together the raw materials to make a university from the ground up; here at UT El Paso, the raw materials have long been here, have been formed into a beautiful physical plant, an array of good programs, a dedicated faculty and staff and a loyal, motivated and exciting student body. Here is a chance to do the artwork, to improve on things, to make a better place out of an already very good place."

As to his impressions of the "state of the University" today, he says: "I haven't been here long enough to give a satisfactory answer to that. I will say that I am in total agreement with President Templeton that UT El Paso needs to better realize its mission, to have a clearer vision of where we are, where we think we are, and where we ought to be. The multiculturalism of this border suggests to me a limitless vista of potential: UT El Paso can be the fulcrum for all variety of trans-national work—in health, environmental studies, international finance, civil-industrial engineering, all the humanities, and so on. To me the potential is very exciting."

In January the new vice president will be teaching a course in the English department, not what you might ex-

"There is no place in the world with the stimulation of a university campus."

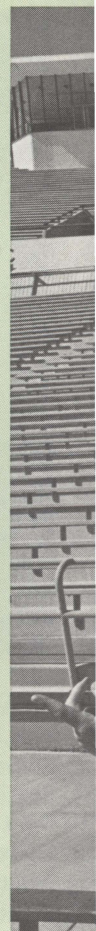
if El Paso knows just what they have here.' "

Dr. Olander's view on academic life, like all his views, he expresses with gusto, leaning toward his interviewer for eye-to-eye emphasis: "We ought to be having more fun at what we do. There is no place in the world with the stimulation of a university campus. I am proud that part of my heritage is responsible for the concept of the university as a place where it is assumed that the universe is something to be creatively

pect—a science fiction seminar. He will teach a section of English 3110, basic comp. "What I want to learn is the kinds of writing problems our freshmen students are having," Dr. Olander says. "I hope to get some insight into that and also on how we teach the basics. I remember the kinds of problems I had when I was 18."

That was back in the Baffin Island days, when reading wasn't a pastime on Saturday night but a blessing and a miracle. □

ROAD GAME



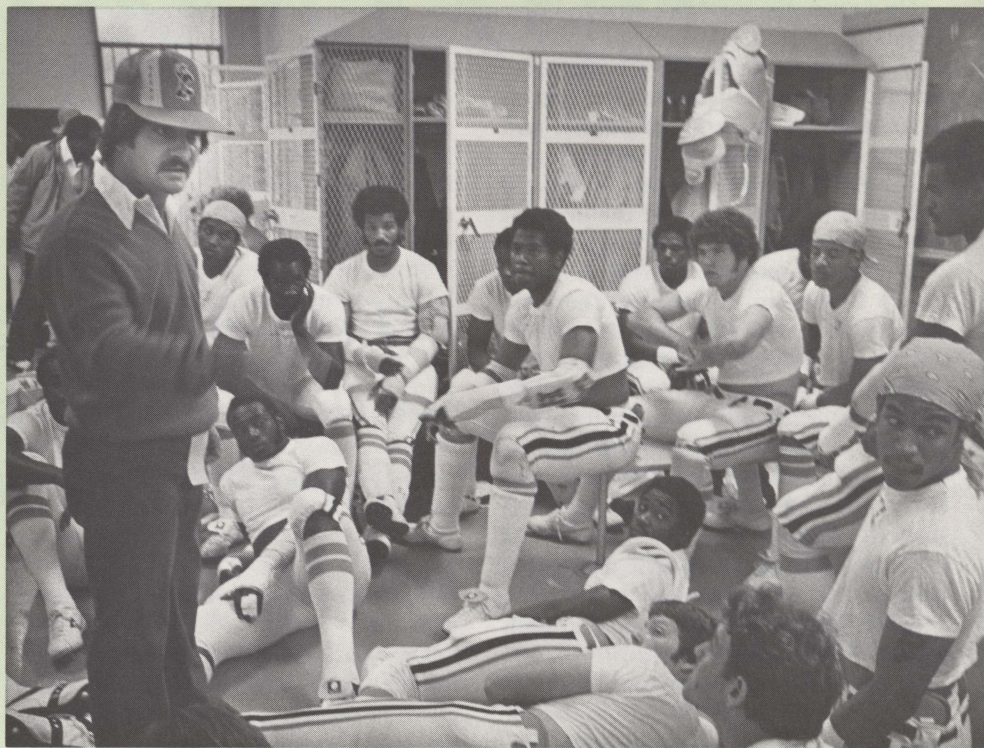
Road Game. Sounds like fun. You know: jetting over to some big town, getting the welcome mat treatment, eating good, dipping in the motel-side pool, eyeballing the girls; the exhilaration of playing on somebody else's turf, returning home triumphantly to a brass band and people waving pennants, reporters taking notes and photographers snapping pictures.

Not really.

What you do is you throw a few toilet items and a change of street clothes in a bag, you gobble some rolls and milk, you sleep on the plane to the drone of the engine outside your window, you check into the motel, have meetings—defensive line, offensive backs, linebackers—and you go to a movie, then to bed.

Your coach spends a lot of time not letting the logistical foul-ups psych you into playing bad. Forget that you had to wait 45 minutes jacking around the airport waiting for the bus; forget the shower that didn't work and the surly manager who didn't care.

You meet in a foreign locker room, foreign graffiti on the blackboard; your coaches test their radio communications system in a foreign pressbox, check the foreign turf.



You lose the ballgame, you take a shower, you go back to the motel and talk a little, study a little, sleep a little.

It is even too cold to take a swim.

You come home at one in the morning, your trainer leading the slow

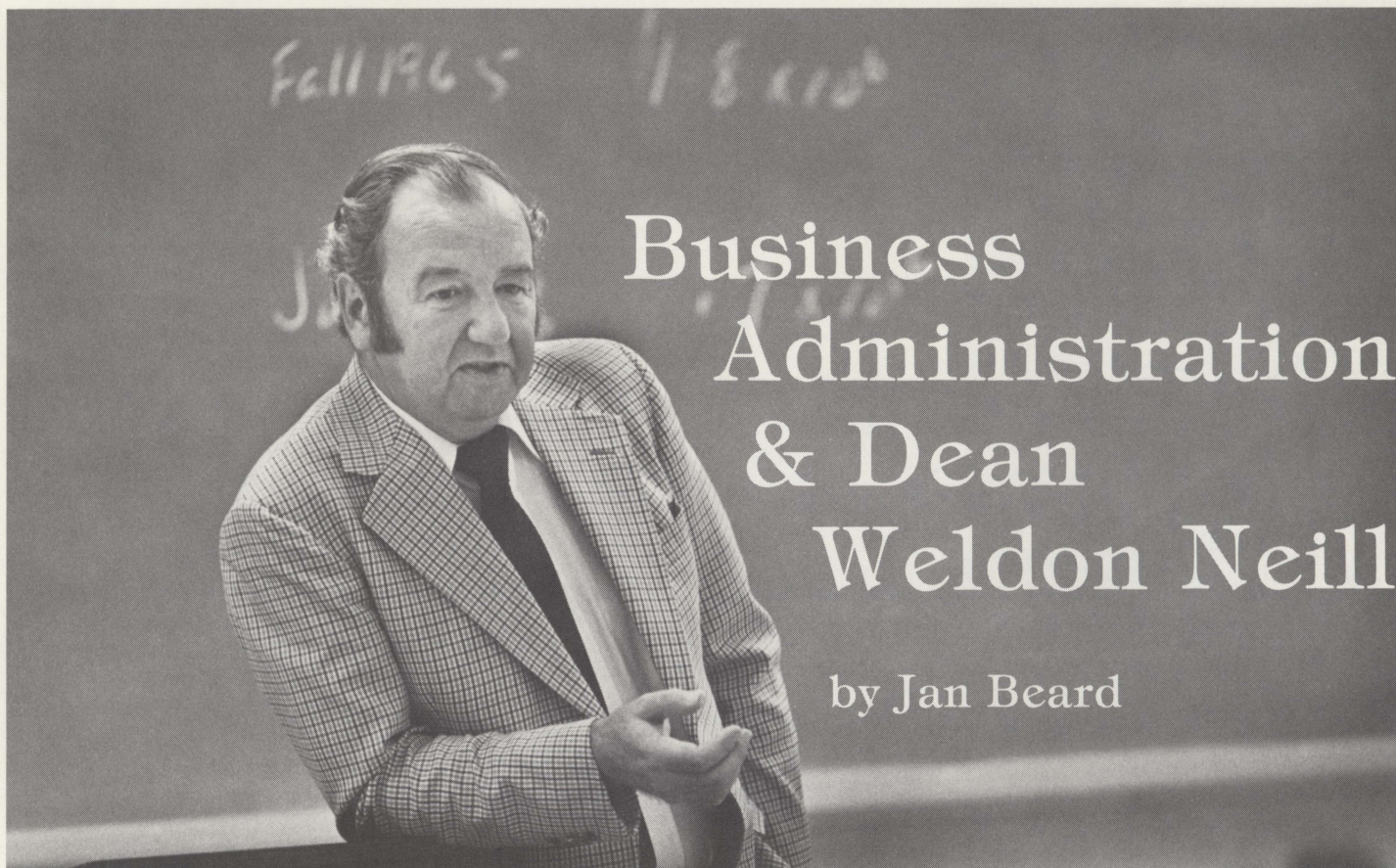
parade of rumpled, sleepy people, pushing one of your number with a twisted ankle.

Road game. Sound like fun? Well, sometimes it *is*, especially when you win. □



Photos by Russell Banks





Business Administration & Dean Weldon Neill

by Jan Beard

Can a small-town boy find happiness in the big city as the dean of a college of business administration at a large west Texas university?

If the man is Weldon C. Neill and the school is The University of Texas at El Paso, the answer to the question is "yes . . . eventually."

The road that led Dr. Neill here from his hometown of Yoakum, Texas—a quiet little place with a population of 7,000 located 100 miles south of Austin—was full of twists and turns.

He was raised in Austin and when he graduated from high school, he immediately joined the Army "because there was nothing else to do."

"They had an idea that the war was going to last a long time," he explains, "so they decided to train a lot of people in technical jobs. Then they needed more cannon fodder, so they cancelled the program and I wound up in the infantry."

After his stint in the Army, he studied mechanical engineering at UT Austin and worked in the field for a while.

"It was interesting enough," he recalls, "but there was something missing. I couldn't figure out exactly what it was, then I realized I wasn't dealing with people."

He returned to UT Austin and "went to the other extreme," earning a degree

in philosophy. "It was definitely about people," the Dean laughs, "dealing with such questions as 'What does it all mean?'"

Finally, he bounced into business which he found to be the "perfect blend of people, things, questions and answers." He earned his Master's in economics at UT Austin and worked there for a year as an instructor, then to Dallas and three years as a research economist for the Federal Reserve Bank.

It was in this capacity that he hired a research assistant by the name of Maxine Varisco—the future Mrs. Neill. They worked together for three months before she left for California to study. Six months later, she was back at the Federal Reserve Bank working in another office.

"It wasn't long before I gladly threw in the towel of bachelorhood," Dr. Neill smiles, "and began to lead a much more meaningful life."

It was in September of 1966 that the Neills first arrived on the UT El Paso campus. He had been hired as an assistant professor of economics and finance.

"They had made it very clear that it was to be for only one year," he recalls. "Somebody had taken a leave of absence and I was just filling in."

Sure enough, when the year was over, the Neills left El Paso for Austin.

"We missed the openness of the Southwest," he explains. "We loved being able to see for 50 miles. Of course, today the smog cuts it down to 20 miles, but it's still very special here."

When the chance to return presented itself, they jumped at it and both he and Maxine have been active on the campus since 1969, except for a short time when he took a leave of absence to return once more to UT Austin to complete work on his Ph.D. in economics.

Since then, the dean has not been alone in his commitment to UT El Paso. When they first arrived on campus, Maxine became secretary of the Department of Business. Later she taught typing, shorthand and business communications.

"I've taken classes at the University, too, so I've seen it from both sides of the desk," she explains, "and I'm impressed."

It was in August of 1972 that she began working as office manager of the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs.

"My love for the University happened gradually," Mrs. Neill admits. "The alumni did it. The University always seemed to have such a special place in their hearts. I saw it through them, and

now I love it like they do."

According to Mrs. Neill, her husband "used to tag along" when she was involved in Homecoming activities or other functions the office dealt with.

"The more he got to know people," she explains, "the more he liked it. Now we're both hooked."

When Maxine left the Development Office, it was as assistant director. This month she will complete a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association. She is also involved in the Women's Auxiliary, where she is chairman of the Lawrence Welk Concert scheduled for February 29.

Dr. Neill's tenure as dean of the College of Business Administration began in August, 1977, when he took over the interim position. On March 1, 1978, the job officially became his.

Weldon Neill, in popular parlance, is "laid back"—a thoroughly relaxed, unruffled, knows-no-strangers type of man who clearly loves his job.

His eyes light up at the mention of "that project we call the College of Business Administration"—a "project" which includes construction of a new \$6.8 million building, an expanding curriculum, and an increasing enrollment.

Consistent growth has marked Business Administration since it earned distinct "College" status in 1967. In 1974, the offices were moved to Bell Hall—facilities which were soon outgrown. Classes are currently being held in buildings all over the campus, wherever space is available. The dean cites this as the primary reason why students and faculty members sometimes find it difficult to develop a sense of identity with the College of Business Administration.

"The new building will take care of that in short order," Dr. Neill predicts. "And, it will be the prettiest building on campus."

The tri-level complex should be ready for occupancy by the summer of 1982.

He credits UT El Paso President Arleigh B. Templeton fully with acquiring the new building.

"He's a master at getting important things done," Dr. Neill points out. "he has stood behind us all the way—through some pretty hard times. When I first took over, Dr. Templeton told me that if we knew where we wanted to go with the College of Business Administration, he'd help us get there. He's backed up those words with some pretty impressive action."

Dr. Neill feels that the College is

"really rolling now"—down a road marked by fewer and fewer potholes.

"It hasn't always been this way," he recalls, and during his years with the University he has watched the program grow.

"When I took over, morale among the faculty and staff needed improving," he says. "We had a long period of severe workloads, little relief, difficulty in getting permission to hire, and a thin budget."

All across the country, enrollment in business schools was on the rise and UT El Paso was no exception.

"We simply couldn't keep up with the increase in students," he explains. And it was Dr. Templeton to the rescue.

"He was aware of the problems we faced," the dean recalls. "We began to hire to enlarge the faculty to deal with our expanded enrollment. We brought in fresh people and attitudes. We learned from these new people; they could see things from a different perspective."

Today, Dr. Neill describes the College as "a different world."

Credit-hour production ranks the College third in the University behind Liberal Arts and Science. The faculty, he says, has "developed a sense of commitment to our own College."

"The theme of the College of Business Administration," he explains, "is that it is a good College now, but it's getting even better."

Any good businessman will surround himself with the best possible personnel, and Dr. Neill has learned that lesson well. He gives a great deal of credit for the success of the College to Dr. Gertrude W. Dawson, assistant dean. He also relies heavily on Dr. Robert Tollen, acting chairman of the Economics and Finance Department; Dr. Robert Foster, chairman of the Business Department, and Prof. Sharon Hoffmanns, chairman of the Accounting Department. Another important member of the "management team" is Sue Coulter, Dr. Neill's administrative assistant.

"Many of the things that go on here and make me look good are actually done by these people," he explains.

New problems are always in the works, the dean says. Real Estate, Computer Science, and Commercial Banking are some of the most recent additions to the curriculum. An international business program with emphasis on Latin America, and an insurance program, are on the drawing boards.

"We are in a continuing process of change. We must continually stay up

with changes in the business world. We constantly adjust our curriculum."

So it is that the College of Business Administration is currently involved in a process of boosting the quality of existing programs. Dr. Neill hopes to make students more aware of the social responsibilities of the business firm beyond the corporate charter, offering them exposure to ethics as imposed by the firm rather than by the government.

However, he admits, "whether business likes it or not, the government is a partner in the decision-making process. Consider pension laws, tax structure, rules on environmental impact, discrimination, and many other areas."

Interaction between the College and the El Paso business community has been on an up-swing in recent years, thanks to several programs operated out of UT El Paso.

The Bureau of Business and Economic Research brings UT El Paso faculty members and local businessmen together in an exchange of ideas which benefits both groups. Under the direction of Dr. Edward Y. George, it has conducted several studies on problems and phenomena unique within the Southwest economy. The Bureau works closely with the Chamber of Commerce, West Texas Council of Governments, and other governmental agencies, often in an advisory capacity. In addition, it publishes a quarterly journal.

There is also the Center for Continuing Education which allows faculty members to participate in programs designed to benefit the community such as the CPA Review—a non-credit course developed to help prepare local accountants for the certification exam.

"We look at the needs of the community," Dr. Neill explains, "and then we try to develop courses which will be useful. For example, we might design a program for retail stores on shoplifting prevention or maybe executive training."

"Our faculty members are also hired by local firms on an individual basis as consultants, so you can see we are very active in El Paso business affairs."

Another project in which the College is involved is the Wade Hartrick Alumni Endowment Fund. Local businessman Don Henderson is chairman of the committee.

"Our College started as a small department within the School of Liberal Arts many years ago," Dr. Neill says. "What we have now is a long, long way from that beginning, but from my point of view, every year of progress is only a new beginning." □

TOP OF STORY

A Bad Case of the VDT's

By EDNA GUNDERSEN
 Times Staff Writer

Fires. Murders. Car Wrecks. Suicides.

Newspaper people, daily immersed in such catastrophes, learn to accept unsettling news and dramatic change with unflinching calm. Life's calamities simply become routine events that may raise the reporter's eyebrow, but only the most insidious and sensational happenings unleash the flurry of emotions normally controlled by journalistic common sense.

It was surprising, then, that the world's least momentous revolution would give the entire El Paso Times staff a debilitating case of manic-depression. Today, most are recovered although sudden relapses are common. Some, like myself, still suffer the symptoms of anxiety, resentment and uncontrollable urges to swear loudly and throw chairs at anyone even remotely connected with electronics.

The malady? Computer blues.

It struck in mid-March, when The Times forked over \$1.2 million for an electronic "front-end" system that thrust our outmoded typewriter-and-paper methods into the Flintstones era.

But the adjustment was not as comfortable and rewarding as the switch from bonfires to microwave ovens. The truth is, when Progress walked in the newsroom, Tranquility jumped out the window. Old problems, like struggling for a lead, mourning the amputation of a good paragraph here and there, finding the elusive informed source, disappeared. Instead we became tangled in a century-old tug of war: Man vs. Machine.

The computer was christened after the Athenian politician, Alcibiades. The name fit. Alcibiades possessed all

the mind-changing, goobledygook-spewing, cobra-hearted charm of a gubernatorial candidate's publicity agent. And the machine's every utterance was Greek to me.

The computer's chief henchmen, managing editor Larry Sanders and news editor Stan Russell, promised the new system would offer greater efficiency, endless access to all sources of incoming news, conveniences galore, luxurious working conditions, and simplicity.

While staffers chewed that anesthetizing bait, Sanders and Russell seized several typewriters ("You won't be needing these," they assured us), and began hammering and drilling and plastering and painting and generally turning the place upside down to make way for Alcibiades.

When the first pale green (gaudily contrasting the freshly painted orange walls) video display terminals were plopped before us, we abandoned our bitterness and studied the installation with a mixture of pride and awe.

When the training sessions began, curiosity dissipated into frustration when we were pressured by Sanders and Russell to actually learn and forever remember countless functions. Like first graders accidentally channeled into high school, we looked at our instructor blankly, our perplexed brains whirring in neutral.

Though seemingly complex technically, Alcibiades operated in a sensible, even comprehensible, fashion. In layman terms, here's how the system works:

A reporter types a story into the video display terminal, or VDT, which looks somewhat like a typewriter attached to a

television set. The typed input appears on the screen. There are buttons that erase, insert and rearrange copy, functions accomplished in the old days with red pens and rubber cement.

The copy is then stored in a computer compartment, or "desk." Each reporter has access to a personal desk and several other desks that coincide with his beat.

A three-digit, three-letter "sign-on" code is assigned to each reporter and editor. The code, which must be punched in before the computer responds to commands, determines the individual's access realm. Reporters have limited access. Copy editors, who shift copy to several desks to be typeset, have more access. And management folks, who like to know what's going on in the lower ranks, have broad access.

Bins are secret storage areas. Each sign-on code houses 36 bins, which are inaccessible by any other sign-on code. It is in these bins that reporters hoard notes, stories that demand leak-free protection and nasty comments about computer operators.

By communicating the story to the computer, the reporter impresses that story in the computer's memory. An editor then retrieves the story on his VDT screen, edits it, determines its length by telling the computer a type and column width size and commanding an H&J (hyphenate and justify) function, writes a headline, and sends the story to the computer typesetter, which prints the copy on black and white film. The type then is taken to the composing room and placed on a page. Until the story is typeset, it exists only as an electronic impulse, subject to the whims of the system.

The system was introduced to both

the El Paso Herald-Post and The Times, so the two staffs were undergoing training sessions simultaneously. Before individual sign-on codes and access limits were established, one code, RAR123, was used by all and offered access to all desks.

When we realized the powers at hand, we incited a battle between the Times and Herald-Post that made former competitive spirits seem as petty as a friendly game of gin rummy. By summoning a desk that listed the codes for all the desks in the system, we were able to send anonymous messages to anyone. Herald-Post editors suddenly were inundated by mysterious jibes and poems, like this little ditty to editor Pete Lee:

Pete, Pete, ain't this neat,
We're pen pals by computer.

Since I'm unseen, I'll suggest this scheme:

Your writers need a tutor!

Our shenanigans ended when the access codes were programmed and the computer was officially in business. From that day forward, all newsroom operations were to be carried out through VDT transmissions.

It wasn't long before we realized the shortage of terminals would turn us all into back-stabbing, lie-telling vultures. As soon as one reporter finished work on a VDT, three others were ready to pounce on the machine. We resorted to

devious means to gain time on a terminal. For instance, one reporter would summon another reporter to answer a telephone on the other side of the newsroom. By the time the second reporter realized the call was merely a distracting tactic, he had lost his spot at the terminal to his cunning, snickering cohort.

Reporters learned to tell extraordinary fibs to keep from being bumped off a VDT.

"What are you working on?" an anxiously pacing reporter would inquire.

"Oh, a big, big story," I would say, typing furiously and staring intently at the lighted screen.

"Oh, yeah? Well, I've got a big story, too," the reporter would shoot back. "One of the concilmen was just shot in the back!"

"Well," I would retort, "I have a story about a guy who just discovered how to convert desert sand into fuel."

"That's nothing. This councilman was shot while shoplifting Playtex bras from a Goodwill store!"

"The sand gets 100 miles to the gallon."

"The councilman wears falsies."

"The sand cures cancer."

"Hmmpf!" the reporter would grunt, turning on his heels.

But it was Alcibiades himself who caused the greatest turmoil. His unpredictable quirks were maddening.

Much of the computer's strange behavior was totally baffling, even to the stern-looking wizards who busied themselves tampering with terminals and redesigning computer programs to confuse us even more. Whenever a terminal pulled an unexplainable goof, they shrugged and attributed the foul-up to "some sort of human error."

One day, as a Times court reporter was frantically pounding out an account of the day's proceedings, Alcibiades went into overdrive. Without warning, the cursor — a little green blip of light that acts as the pencil point and moves across the screen as each word is typed—suddenly moved to the top of the copy and began gobbling, letter by letter, the entire story. The helpless reporter watched in horror as her story slowly disintegrated.

"What's this?" she wailed. "Automatic editing?"

Editors and supposed computer pundits gathered around to witness the feat. They punched buttons and poked at the terminal's innards, but Alcibiades would tolerate no interference. He ate the whole thing. The reporter glumly searched for a less avaricious VDT.

Once, during an otherwise peaceful day, the cry sounded, "I think I've been fired!" All attention was focused on the forlorn reporter, who was quizzically eyeing his screen. He tried to send his story to the city news desk, but Alcibiades refused with the cryptic warning, "ABNORMAL JOB TERMINATION. SIGN OFF." To his relief, he learned the message merely meant that the story had been accidentally killed by the computer.

It seemed that the computer's bizarre conduct erupted only during the most critical minutes before deadlines. A news features writer, who was busily typing a theater review with just moments to spare before the 11 p.m. deadline, was suddenly surprised by the jumbled mass of symbols that replaced her story during a routine transmission. Could Alcibiades be translating the local stories for a Russian wire service? After a few minutes of experimenting with various corrective functions, all fruitless, the reporter deciphered the mishap. The review had been somehow mirror-reversed, so that every word, every letter, was backward. The wizards were summoned. They too were mystified. "Some sort of human error," they surmised.

Worse than the computer's pesky eccentricities was its unflinching habit of



Edna Gundersen at the VDT (Carol Viescas kibbitzing).

Books/South by Southwest

MEXICAN EXILES IN THE BORDERLANDS, 1910-13

by Peter V.N. Henderson
El Paso: Texas Western Press, \$3
(Southwestern Studies Monograph No. 58)

The borderlands of the United States, especially the cities of San Antonio and El Paso, were interim havens for many Mexican revolutionary leaders. Dr. Henderson examines this phenomenon in his study that centers on the Madero period.

Francisco I. Madero escaped from San Luis Potosi to San Antonio, where he outlined the aims of his 1910 revolution. Supplies for his army were smuggled through El Paso, as was Madero himself after the U.S. issued a warrant for his detention. By spring of 1911, he had succeeded in ousting Porfirio Diaz and assuming the presidency.

The next exiled plotters also operated from San Antonio. They were Bernardo Reyes, longtime associate of the Diaz government, and Emilio Vasquez Gomez, both opponents of Madero. After Vasquez Gomez' followers captured Juarez briefly, Pascual Orozco talked them into supporting Madero's government. Then Orozco, discontented with the progress of social reform, turned against Madero in a revolt that, says Henderson, "marked the principal challenge from the borderlands to the Madero government, and in 1912 the exiles nearly succeeded in duplicating Madero's model for revolution." When President Taft declared an arms embargo, revolutionary sympathizers along the border smuggled arms into Mexico. Despite continuing activity on the part of various exile groups, none was able to move with the same degree of success as Madero and by 1913 his government was enjoying increasing popularity.

The last portion of the monograph deals with the role of the United States in influencing the direction of the revolution.

Dr. Henderson, who teaches at Nasson College in Springvale, Maine, is a specialist in Mexican and Latin American studies and has taught at UT-Permian Basin. His study centers on interesting episodes that are of special interest to persons in the border area where many memories of revolutionary days are still fresh. □



Gen. Marshall, about 1968 at his typewriter in Vietnam.

BRINGING UP THE REAR: A MEMOIR

by S.L.A. Marshall
Edited by Cate Finnerty Marshall
San Rafael, Calif.: Presidio Press, 1979
(\$12.95)

"I would like to be rated not by what I wrote but by how I lived," was Sam Marshall's hope, but he was surely aware that it would be impossible to separate his life from his work. If there was ever a man who lived like he wrote, it was Marshall: tough, direct, fearless, funny, eloquent, brilliant. And this book, written in 1969 in a bigger-than-life manuscript of 280,000 words on 771 legal-sized sheets of paper and distilled to publishable size by his widow Cate—this book is ample proof that Marshall needed have no fear of being judged by his work: military memoir is not everybody's dish of tea, but here is a military autobiography anybody can read and all will appreciate.

Sam Marshall probably became a military historian at age 14 when, with the world teetering on the brink of its first Great War, he heard a speech by the eminent educator and pacifist David Starr Jordan. Jordan exhorted his audience: "If you want war, prepare for war! If you want peace, prepare for peace!" Such drivelt failed to move impressionable young Sam and he began reading up on what was happening in Europe. When he was 17, he helped fight the war—the youngest 2Lt. in Pershing's AEF.

The trenches of France were Sam's classroom, the Army his university and through two World Wars, plus Korea and Vietnam (in all of which he was a combat participant and in the last three of which he was also chronicler), together with a host of minor eruptions (Spain, Lebanon, Congo, Israel—even Mexico in De la Huerta days), he developed a method of writing about battle unduplicated even today.

People like John Toland, Cornelius Ryan, Carl Sandburg, J.F.C. Fuller, Sir Basil Liddell-Hart, and many others have remarked on Marshall's peculiar, undefinable genius. Most agree that the source of his greatness is his uncanny ability to see the bigger picture while busy helping enact the smaller one; and his unfailing empathy with the frontline combat soldier. Proof of these abilities may be found in such Marshall books as his *American Heritage—History of World War I*, his *Pork Chop Hill*, *Battles in the Monsoon*, *Men Against Fire*, and in such specialized works, done for the Army rather than for a national audience, as *The Armed Forces Officer* and *The Soldier's Load*.

In *Bringing Up the Rear* the reader gets a grasp, sometimes only a glimpse, of Sam Marshall in his several roles: the husband and father, the soldier, the author, the thinker, the innovator, the brass-weary civilian and the medal-bedecked brigadier general.

It is no small thing that he managed to write so engaging a book about so tumultuous a life as his own. □

Alumnotes

by Sue Wimberly

1920-1949

Fred W. Bailey (B.S. '20), Outstanding-Ex of 1960, has retired from mining in Zacatecas, Mexico, and lives in El Paso.

Berte R. Haigh (B.S. '25), Outstanding-Ex of 1955, mining engineer and geologist in Midland, has compiled a history of the University of Texas lands which will be published by Texas Western Press in the near future.

Jose C. Loustaunau (B.S. '29), a consultant in mining and extractive metallurgy, lives in San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

Thad A. Steele (B.A. '33), Outstanding-Ex of 1968, has retired as vice president and general manager of Southwestern Portland Cement Company in El Paso.

Harry L. Montague (B.S. '39), student council president in 1939, recently retired after more than 40 years service with American Smelting and Refining Company. He lives in Kerrville.

Louise Yates Black (B.A. '40) lives in El Paso where she taught in the El Paso schools for 33 years before her retirement. Her son, **Gordon L. Black, M.D.**, (B.S. 1940), was Outstanding-Ex in 1972.

David L. Carrasco (B.S. '42) is director of the El Paso Job Corps Center and recently participated in Vice President Mondale's Task Force on Youth Problems in Baltimore.

Roberta Walker (M.A. '54) is an assistant professor of English at the University.

John R. Mitchell (B.B.A. '47) has been appointed director of budgets and purchasing at New England College, New Hampshire.

Lee Rosch (B.A. '48) and **Stella Hesler Rosch** (B.A. '49) live in Costa Mesa, California. Lee is co-author of a civics textbook published by Follett. Stella is a field director for Girl Scouts of America.

W.J. Van Hoff (B.S. '49) is a geologist with Marathon Oil Company in Midland.

Chester F. Berryhill (B.S. '49), who lives in Ft. Worth, is a civil engineer with the Corps of Engineers in Dallas.

1950-1955

Murray R. Yaeger, Ph.D., (B.S. '50; M.S. '53), professor of broadcasting and film, School of Public Communication at Boston University, was honored there at commencement as recipient of the Metcalf Award for significant contributions in the field of public communications. He was a Fulbright scholar in England in 1954.

Billy H. Spoon (B.S. '51) has been appointed works manager of the El Paso refinery of Phelps Dodge Refining Corporation.

Mary Margaret Webb Davis (B.A. '52) is women's news editor of the El Paso Times and writes a daily column.

Saul Gonzalez, M.D., (B.A. '54) and his wife, the former **Celia Nunez** (B.A. '54; M.Ed. '56) live in El Paso, where he is in private practice in orthopaedics.

Joe Goulding, M.D., (B.A. '54) has a family practice in Pasadena, Texas.

Carol Conklin Gordon (B.A. '54) is a C.P.A. and auditor in Corpus Christi.

William R. Plumbley (B.S. '54; M.A. '62) is minister of the First Christian Church and principal of the elementary school in Marfa.

Leona Starr Baker (B.A. '55; M.A. '68) is in counseling and guidance in the El Paso public schools.

1956-1959

Charles A. Casey (B.A. '56) received the degree of Doctor of Ministries from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary last May and is pastor of the Valley Baptist Church in Lutherville, Maryland. He and his wife **Jeanette A. Casey** (B.A. '55) make their home in Cockeysville.

Rodger D. Collons, Ph.D., (B.S. '57) has been named Bingay Visiting Professor of Creative Leadership at the American College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. He received his M.B.A. and Doctor of Business Administration at Georgia State University and a Juris Doctor degree from George Washington University.

Octavio G. Eschavarria (B.S. '58 and '59) is acting general manager for the Rosario Resources Corporation in Honduras. He received degrees in both metallurgical and mining engineering.

Richard F. Juba (B.B.A. '59) is president of Fiber Seal of Oklahoma Inc. and a stockholder with Rauscher Pierce Refsins Inc. in Dallas.

1960-1965

James F. Malone (B.A. '60; M.A. '62) is employed by the Housing & Urban Development office in Washington, D.C. He lives in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Robert E. Jones, LTC/USA, (B.A. '60) and his wife **Sally Woodley Jones** (B.A. '61) are now stationed at Taegu, Korea, after six years at Fort Sill. They are parents of two sons.

Joe S. Jacques (B.A. '61; M.Ed. '70) and his wife, the former **Cecilia Duarte** (B.S. '66; M.Ed. '75), live in El Paso. He has been a teacher in the El Paso Independent School District for the past 19 years and was named Teacher of the Year for 1979-80.

Henry P. Walker (M.A. '61) is co-author of the *Historical Atlas of Arizona*, published recently by the University of Oklahoma Press. A former assistant editor of *Arizona and the West*, Walker prepared the atlas with Don Bufkin, assistant director of the Arizona Historical Society and a cartographer specializing in western history.

Ronald B. Martin (B.S. '62) has been promoted to district exploration manager of Union Texas Petroleum Division, Allied Chemical in Oklahoma City. He will be responsible for exploration activities in Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas and the Texas Panhandle.

William E. Silver (B.S. '62) is a mechanical engineer with Northwest Pipeline Corporation in Salt Lake City.

Bob Thies (B.S. '64) has been in Cernay, France, the past year where he is DuPont Field Product manager responsible for the design, construction and start-up of an agriculture product plant. He recently spent a week in Russia and has traveled extensively in Europe.

Dorothy Aiken Fanning (B.S. '64) and her husband **Harry Fanning** are living in Gig Harbor, Washington, where she teaches children with language disabilities. He is employed at the Trident Nuclear Naval Base.

Steven Tredennick (B.A. '65) is an attorney with Mayfield, Broaddus & Perrenot in El Paso. He is married to the former **Diane French** (B.S. '65), an elementary school teacher with the El Paso Independent School District.

Eddie Raynord Hadden (B.A. '65) was recently awarded a doctor of laws degree by Hofstra University School of Law, Hempstead, New York. He has been with Eastern Airlines as a commercial airline pilot since 1972 and was an organizer of Afro Airlines, jet charter and air cargo carrier operating out of Lagos, Nigeria. He was vice president and director of the Washington, D.C., office of the John F. Small advertising agency in New York City while on leave from Eastern in 1973-74.

1966-1969

Francis S. Hoy (B.B.A. '67) received his Ph.D. in management at Texas A&M in May 1979. He completed his M.B.A. in 1970 from West Texas University.

Terri Estavillo Velarde (B.S. '65) is a teacher with the El Paso Independent School District. She was awarded a Master's in deaf education from UT Austin and has served on the State Committee for the Deaf (1976-78), the National Advisory Committee on the Deaf (1972-74) and the National Advisory Committee for the handicapped (1974-77).

Minera Caples (B.A. '67; M.A. '70) and her husband **Ronald W. Caples-Osorio** (B.A. '69) were awarded doctor of education degrees from Texas A&I in August.

Ronald B. Seegar, Major/USA, (B.A. '67) graduated in June from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, and is now commander of the U.S. Army Communications Command Satellite Station at Lakehurst, New Jersey.

Lawrence E. Burciaga, Ph.D., (B.A. '68; M.A. '73) is director of Mental Retardation Services at the El Paso State Center for Human Development.

Carlos A. Rosales, M.D., (B.A. '69) is an obstetrician-gynecologist with a practice in the Los Angeles area. He received his M.D. from Stanford in 1974, his internship and residency at Los Angeles County Harbor General, UCLA Medical Center. His wife **Teresa Olavarri Rosales, M.D.**, is chief resident in ophthalmology at Harbor General. They make their home in Rancho Palos Verdes.

Joseph J. Balough (M.Ed. '69) is a teacher in El Paso. He and his wife **Dorothy Balough** have completed a new U.S. catalog of philatelic reference. He is state president of the New Mexico Philatelic Association.

Andrew A. Chitwood (B.A. '69; M.A. '73) is assistant director of the computation center, Baylor University.

Jacqueline Fairchild Jackson (B.A. '69) and her husband **Gregory Jackson, M.D.**, live in Denton where he is a pediatrician. A staff member of the News Service during her student days, she

writes, "I helped mail the very first NOVA and feel a special pride in it each time I receive it."

Henry Romero (B.S. '69) and his wife, the former **Alice Gonzales** (1968 etc.), reside in San Diego where he is wage and salary administrator in industrial relations with the U.S. Navy on North Island. Alice is completing her studies at San Diego State University.

1970-1975

Garry W. Warren (B.S. '70; M.S. '73) is an assistant professor in the Department of Metallurgy and Materials Science at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh. His specialty is in chemical and extractive metallurgy.

John H. Dixon Jr. (B.A. '71) is serving as associate minister at All Saints' Episcopal Church, El Paso. He is a graduate of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois.

Felipe Peralta (B.S. '71), a member of the social work department of the University, has been

named a National Urban Fellow to Bucknell University, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Mark Jacob Adler (B.B.A. '71) is a systems engineer for ITTEL in White Plains, New York.

James Haley (B.A. '71) is president of Haley Building Corporation in Canton, Texas. His wife is the former **Perry Kay Schulte** (1969 etc.)

Rose M. Payan, Ph.D., (B.A. '71), who received her doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the University of Colorado, is presently employed at Educational Testing Services in Berkeley.

John Berry McDonald (B.A. '71) has been awarded an M.A. degree by Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. He studied for his degree in the Ball State/Air Force sponsored graduate studies program and took his classes at the Air Force Base in Rhein Main, Germany.

Jeanne Bozzell McCarty (B.A. '73; M.A. '78), an assistant instructor of history at UT El Paso, was the 1979 recipient of the Department of History Award for Distinguished Achievement in Graduate Studies.

Robert Swinborne-Sheldrake (M.S. '74) received his Master's from the Krannert Graduate School of Industrial Administration of Purdue University, completing the requirements in eight months, a record for the school. He also holds a Master's in chemical education from Purdue, granted in 1978. His wife Kate is a medical student and will receive her M.D. in 1981. They live in Indianapolis.

Tony Mixer (M.Ed. '74) is the director of the city energy conservation office for the City of El Paso. He received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of New Mexico in 1965.

James S. Wilkins (B.B.A. '74), an attorney in San Antonio, is the legal representative for Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. He received his Doctor of Jurisprudence at Texas Tech in 1977.

Michael P. Hand (B.A. '74; M.A. '74) is working toward a Ph.D. in counseling and educational psychology at New Mexico State University. He is director of planning for the West Texas Health Systems Agency.

Deaths

Lydia Ruiz Hernandez (B.S. 1976), in El Paso, April 12. Survivors include her husband Enrique Hernandez of the University Physical Plant and son Enrique Jr.

Lloyd A. Summers (B.S. 1924), in Houston, April 28. He was a successful mining engineer in Venezuela for many years. Survivors include his wife and a daughter.

Conrad F. Fiftal (B.S. 1965), July 5, 1978, in Colorado. He earned his Master's in metallurgical engineering in 1967 and Ph.D. in materials science in 1974 from the Colorado School of Mines, and was employed as a staff engineer with the Martin Marietta Company in Denver. Survivors include his wife Jean Avonovich Fiftal and three children.

Ollie Valtr, friend of the University, in El Paso, July 18. In 1971 she and her husband, Robert Valtr, began a memorial scholarship for advanced ROTC students in the Military Science Department in memory of their son, Capt. James R. Valtr who was killed in Vietnam. She is survived by her husband, and a daughter Judith.

John J. Romaka, SGM/USA ret., (B.S. 1978), July 19, in El Paso. He is survived by his wife Florence, four sons and a daughter.

Douglas A. Nelson, Capt./USA ret., (B.A. 1975; M.B.A. 1976), in El Paso. He is survived by his wife Eulalia, two daughters and a son.

Jerry V. Marshall, LTC/USA ret., (B.S. 1959), in El Paso July 27. While attending the University, he served as a research assistant at the Schellenger Laboratory. He served with the U.S. Army from 1959 until his retirement in 1976, and received his M.S. in engineering from Purdue in 1964. He was an instructor at West Point for two years, and was the recipient of numerous medals of commendation during his years of military service. At the time of his death he was an audio system design engineer with Howell Electronics. He is survived by his wife Carol, two sons and a daughter.

Floyd E. Farquhar, Ph.D., professor emeritus and former chairman of the Education Department, July 31, in El Paso. He held degrees from Miami University, Ohio, the University of Chicago and the University of Mississippi, where he was on

the faculty for 21 years before coming to UT El Paso in 1942. He retired in 1963. Survivors include his wife Lucile Jamieson Farquhar, a daughter and three sons.

Virgil E. Neugebauer (1928 etc.), in El Paso, August 14. He was the founder and owner of Neugebauer Insurance Agency. An active supporter of the University, he was a member of the Alumni Association. A veteran of World War II, he was the recipient of the Croix de Guerre and other decorations. Survivors include his wife Bessie Orgain Neugebauer and one son, Joe.

Frances Stevens, who served as administrative assistant and secretary to the first 10 presidents of the College of Mines and Texas Western College, in Houston, August 27. She was 83. She retired in 1961. Her survivors include a sister, a brother and several nieces and nephews.

August "Bud" Hart, Maj./USA ret., (B.S. 1977), in El Paso, September 4. He is survived by his wife Virginia, a son and a daughter.

Robert Paul Stevenson Jr. (B.A. 1969), in El Paso, September 7. Survivors include his wife Bonnie Lee, a son and daughter.

Roberto R. Hernandez (B.S. 1971), September 10, in El Paso. He was a teacher at San Elizario Elementary School. He is survived by his wife Yolanda and three sons.

Sherry Lynn Maros (1972 etc.), September 13, in Houston. She was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority. She is survived by her husband Michael A. Maros, M.D., (B.S. 1971) and her parents.

Charles W. Matthews, LTC/USA ret., September 24. He is survived by his wife Pansey and three sons.

Thomas J. O'Donnell (B.A. 1937), in El Paso, September 25. He was retired after 36 years as safety director for the El Paso Natural Gas Company. Survivors are his wife Kathryn and three sons.

Isabel Jimenez (B.S. 1978), in El Paso, September 26. While at the University she was a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority, Little Sisters of the Laurel (Phi Kappa Tau), Spurs and Mortar Board. She is survived by her parents, two brothers and a sister.

Paul S. Dickerson, LTC/USA ret., (B.S. 1969), in El Paso, on September 30. He is survived by his wife Violet and one daughter.

Maurice E. Webb (B.B.A. 1966), in Corpus Christi, October 1. Survivors include his wife Sherli, a son and daughter, and his parents.

Charles W. Scarritt, who taught journalism at the College of Mines in the early 1940s, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, October 4. He was an associate professor emeritus at the University of Alabama, where he had taught in the School of Communication for 24 years. He received both his bachelor's and Master's degrees at the University of Missouri and also taught at the University of Georgia, Auburn University, and Stevens College. He worked as a writer and columnist for the *Kansas City Star*, *The Independence (Missouri) Examiner*, *The Huntsville Times* and *The Tuscaloosa News*. He is survived by two sons.

James L. Foster (B.A. 1949; M.A. 1951), in El Paso, October 13. A retired colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, he was employed by the Department of the Army at Fort Bliss, and was a former teacher at Jefferson High School. While a student at UT El Paso he was a founder and charter member of Gamma Gamma Chapter, Tau Kappa Epsilon, and was mayor of Vet Village. Survivors are his wife Marie and one daughter.

Joaquin A. Boadella (B.S. 1969; M.S. 1971), in Deming, New Mexico, October 6. As a scientist he was involved in research, teaching, and industrial pursuits. He spent several years in Mexico City where he was employed by Buckman Laboratories, Investigaciones Agronomicas, S.A., and as assistant director of laboratories for Henkel Internacional. From 1972-74 he taught physical chemistry at the Instituto Politecnico Nacional. In 1974 he moved to Matamoros to become a chemist at Retzlöff Chemical Company and professor of vocational instruction for the Secretaria Educacion Publica, and in 1976 became process engineer for Allen Bradley Electronics in Juarez. The Joaquin A. Boadella Memorial Loan Fund has been established at UT El Paso by his family, friends and fellow alumni. He is survived by his wife Rosa Maria, three sons and his parents of El Paso, and two sisters.

Alumnates—continued

Sharron Dye Hoffmans (M.B.A. '75) is chairman of the UT El Paso Department of Accounting, College of Business Administration.

1976-1979

Luis Loweree (B.S. '76) and his wife **Ceci Felix Loweree** (B.S. '77) were visitors to NOVA's office. Luis is attending dental school at Indiana University, expecting to receive his degree in May, 1980. Ceci, an enthusiast and instructor of aerobic dancing at IU, was featured in a recent issue of the *Free University Press*, a publication of the Indianapolis Experimental Education Foundation. She was an athletic director for the YWCA summer camp.

Stuart Leeds (B.S. '76) received his juris doctorate at UT Austin in May and completed his bar exams in July in Austin. He is now associated with the Hill law office in El Paso.

Julian J. Padilla (B.B.A. '78) is an accountant and auditor with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in El Paso.

Erle S. Gooding (B.A. '78) is federal residential counselor for Opportunity House in Nashville, Tennessee. He is interested in contacting other UT El Paso graduates in the Nashville area.

Luis A. Bustamante (B.B.A. '78) is sales contracts administrator for Motorola Semiconductor, Headquarter Marketing Division, in Phoenix.

J.A. Torres II (B.A. '78) is director of public affairs for the American Red Cross in El Paso.

Judith John Lopez (M.A. '78), who was named to Outstanding Young Women in America in

1973, is a special education teacher with the Ysleta Independent School District.

Michael Adams, Ens./USN, (B.A. '78), stationed at the Naval Air Base, Coronado Island, is attached to the *USS Fort Fisher*.

Antonio C. (Tony) Zuniga (B.A. '78), is an international track coach with the United States Sports Academy. While at UT El Paso he was All-American in cross country and track, also an assistant track coach.

Mark D. Whitmore (B.S. '79) is a graduate student at Ohio State University in the doctoral pro-

gram in industrial psychology.

Zigmond G. Dondelski (B.S. '79) is a petroleum engineer with Phillips Petroleum in Cut Bank, Montana. His wife, the former **Cathy Heath** (B.A. '78), is with the *Pioneer Press*.

Ernesto Valenzuela Jr. (B.A. '79) is a fireman with the U.S. Coast Guard, having completed his training at the Coast Guard Training Center, Cape May, N.J.

Robert Nava (B.S. '79) has begun a program leading to a juris doctor degree at Western State University College of Law, Fullerton, California.

New Address?New AddressOld AddressNameNumber & StreetApt. NumberNumber & StreetApt. NumberCityStateZipCityStateZipYear Graduated, attendedMail to: Development Office, UT El Paso, El Paso, Texas 79968

VDT's—from page 13

"crashing." There are three types of crashes. The mildest is one controlled by the wizards. A message blinks on the screen, "COMPUTER GOING DOWN IN 5 MINUTES," giving reporters ample time to store copy and sign off. The second is an "unplanned malfunction." This is when the computer quits working altogether without warning. All material on the screen that has not yet been stored safely in a desk is wiped out forever. Often other material, assumed safe, is destroyed as well.

The third type of crash is a ghost crash. The computer functions beautifully, but absolutely nothing sent to the system is stored in the memory. After a hard day's labor at the keyboard, a reporter may learn his meticulous work was nothing more than physical therapy for weary fingertips.

A few days before the release of a sensitive religious series, the system crashed and all notes pertaining to the series disappeared — from the reporter's sacred bins, no less, where copy is supposed to be immune from all Alcibiades' tantrums.

At the same time, several segments of a long-toiled-over series about a South El Paso community disappeared.

"Don't worry," the wizards said.

"We'll get it back. Things like this are routine. Some sort of human error."

That night, a television news show reported the problems the Federal Bureau of Investigation was having with its 12-year-old computer system. It seems the mechanism was crashing faithfully about twice a day.

"New computers," the anchorman commented, "do not crash more than once a year."

Ah ha! My mind conjured visions of Watergate, IBM-style. Could our glorified electric typewriters, those kink-ridden green hulks, be ancient, repainted rejects from some other government agency? I was tempted to call Jack Anderson but someone beat me to it.

A former El Paso Times reporter, who was accepted into the prestigious Jack Anderson training program for investigative reporters, got his revenge against Alcibiades after he left the newspaper. He called the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and reported that The Times was operating dangerous, radiation-emitting equipment. An OSHA representative flew to El Paso and examined the machines with an impressive looking gizmo designed to detect harmful radioactivity. We snickered with

delight, imagining how Alcibiades must be shivering in his magnetic disks with the fear of being dumped in some electronic graveyard with senile Xerox machines and rusted NASA playthings.

But no evil rays were found. Shucks.

Actually, I don't mean to be so hard on poor Alcibiades, whose only misfortune is that his every move is determined by humans who are hard-pressed enough to make sense of their own actions.

And besides, working with a machine has its advantages. It doesn't talk back much (except with nonsensical responses like "FATAL HEAD FIT ERROR," which sounds worse than it is) and it never requires new ribbons or lube jobs.

Anyway it had to happen sooner or later. Keeping up with the times and all that. I noticed even the Tribune staff on "The Lou Grant Show" converted to electronics this season. While faceless editors tinkered in the background with bright, new toys, Billie Newman and Joe Rossi were chasing fires and floods with that familiar calm demeanor. Just wait, I thought, just wait till they sit down to formulate their stories. Now that would make an interesting script.

Maybe Alcibiades could write it? □



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