NOVA: University of Texas at El Paso TWC Magazine

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

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The Winter NOVA cover is by Staff Photographer John Trollinger.

NUGGETS WANTED

Remember the NUGGET? It was the predecessor of NOVA and the REPORT; a bi-monthly, then quarterly, magazine for ex-students edited by students in the years 1950-60 or thereabouts. The Ex-Students Office would like very much to locate a complete set of NUGGETs, one issue at a time if necessary. If you have one or more that you'd be willing to donate (like Pollard "Barstow" Rodgers, '41, exes president in 1950-51, who is contributing some), send them to NOVA and we'll take good care of them.

Even rarer are the NUGGET's predecessors, TEX-MINES-EX, an exes newsletter that circulated in about 1939; TWX-NEWS, a four pager of about vintage, and between these two, in post-WW2 days, a publication succinctly titled TEXAS COLLEGE OF MINES EX-STUDENT ASSOCIATION NEWS. If any of these turn up, turn them over to NOVA and start your spring house-cleaning early.

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Eugene Thomas Retires

"THIS REMARKABLE MAN"

"Professor Eugene M. Thomas has been intimately associated with this institution for almost forty-five years; in fact, he has become very much a part of it. He 'came of age' as a student at 'Mines', then spent virtually his entire professional career here as teacher, dean and College president. In the short time that I have known Professor Thomas, two facts about him have become quite evident: first, he is a man of exceptional character and integrity; second, he is completely dedicated to this institution and its students. I consider it a great privilege to have known and worked with this remarkable man and I certainly hope I can continue the great tradition he has established."

The words are those of Dr. L. L. Abernethy, dean of the UTEP school of engineering. The occasion was the retirement from the faculty of the College of Professor Thomas on February 1, 1967.

A chronicle of the career of Eugene Thomas is virtually a history of the College. When he began as a student at Mines in 1922, the city actually had two colleges: El Paso Junior College and the School of Mines. The first president of the latter institution, Steven H. Worrell, was still in office, enrollment had just edged past the 100 mark and a 64-page booklet named "The Flow-sheet" had just been issued for the first time. As a student, Thomas lived in Kelly Hall where, a few years later, the campus library would be located (with an outside staircase to cut down on the noise). In 1926 he graduated and soon after became associated with the Chisos Mining Company in Terlingua, Texas, in the Big Bend country.

In 1930 he returned to the College as a member of its faculty—adjunct professor of Mining and Metallurgy—and here, except for a brief period when he took his M.S. degree (1939) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he remained. In 1940 he received his second master's degree in mining from his original alma mater.

In 1931, Professor Thomas became sponsor of Alpha Phi Omega, then a fledgling fraternity only two years old. He was, at that period, assistant professor of Mining and Metallurgy. From 1939 to 1942 his title was associate professor and from 1942 until 1948 it was Dean of Engineering. In 1948 when Dr. D. M. Wiggins, president of the College, resigned, Thomas served as interim president until Dr. Wilson H. Elkins was installed. It was a period of notable change at the College of Mines for in June, 1949, the State legislature approved the new designation — Texas Western College.

From January, 1949 until June, 1963, Professor Thomas was Dean of Mines and Engineering at Texas Western. Retiring from the administrative post, he resumed full-time teaching and saw the College undergo a third name change, to The University of Texas at El Paso.

On November 11, 1961, at the dedication of the John W. Kidd Memorial Seismic Observatory, Professor Thomas, who was co-chairman of the foundation board of governors, said: "Many schools have their Mr. Chips, some individual who devotes his life to the institution and becomes a tradition because he constantly works for the institution and the students. Such a man was Dean John W. Kidd."

Similarly, at the end of 1966, when Professor Thomas announced his retirement, UTEP President Joseph M. Ray said: "He has devoted his entire life to this institution and his service has been extraordinary. He is known, respected, and loved by more graduates of this College than any other person I can name. We will miss him greatly."
NEW HAUPTMAN DEATH DATE
SET FOR WEEK OF MARCH 3

The Thirty Years of the Centennial

EL PASO CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL ARTS BUILDING

Proposed El Paso Centennial Memorial Arts Building

Here is a rendering of the Memorial Arts Building which will be built at the College of Mines with a $25,000 State Centennial grant. The plan has been approved by the local Centennial Building Committee and will be submitted to the Centennial Department of the State Board of Control. Percy McMay is the architect.

LETTER GRADE PLAN ADOPTED

New Arts Building Plans Drawn

ARTS BUILDING PLANS DRAWN

The Thirty Years of the Centennial

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A significant year in the history of Texas and especially for El Paso and the College of Mines was 1936. It was the year marking the 100th anniversary of Texas Independence and the Centennial was to be observed in a number of important ways. Perhaps most important for the city and the College was the award, made by the Texas Centennial Department of the State Board of Control, of $50,000 for the construction of a new building on the Mines campus—specifically for a museum.

The El Paso Centennial Museum, said the directive accompanying the grant, "shall at all times be conducted, maintained and operated for the equal and joint use of the faculty and students of said College of Mines and of the general public." With the belief that the preservation of historical articles during the present will provide a lasting knowledge of our times to future generations, the museum was to collect, house and display the historical, anthropological, geological and natural history treasures of the area and provide a research atmosphere for their study.

The proposals for the building were drawn up by a committee which, on February 19, 1936, designated that the new structure—then called "The El Paso Centennial Memorial Arts Building"—was to be built on city-donated land adjacent to the College. The El Paso Herald-Post that day featured a four-column line drawing on its front page (just beneath the banner headline announcing that Bruno Richard Hauptmann was to be executed March 30 for the kidnap-slaying of the Lindbergh baby) of the proposed building—a remarkably accurate one, as things turned out. The Herald-Post story said, "The building will be in a U shape and will face the northwest, conforming to the style of architecture of the other Mines buildings. It will have a main floor and a basement. There will be nine display rooms, four on the first floor. Entrance into the lobby is from a terrace with a fountain ... A stone frieze of carved limestone over the main entrance of the building will depict Cabeza de Vaca, first white man to come to the Southwest, and his three companions. The frieze will commemorate Cabeza de Vaca's advent here in 1536."

The proposal, which included a second floor that the newspaper failed to mention, was accepted and, during the spring and summer of 1936, construction progressed at a rapid rate despite exceptionally miserable hot weather. By November 9, the new museum was presented to the building committee and was promptly accepted. January 1 was given as the date of the grand opening but many delays, shortage of personnel, and the need to complete certain displays caused a postponement until April.

On Friday, April 23, 1937, the museum formally opened its doors with 250 El Pasoans passing under the Cabeza de Vaca sculpture to attend the ceremony. Flags bedecked the rooms and tours through the museum were accompanied by fiddle-playing and speech-giving. On display were enough assorted geological, zoological and archaeological material to partially fill five rooms. One of the finest donations was a gift of a fine collection of Casas Grandes pottery from Chihuahua presented by the College Women's Auxiliary.

In the speech-making, Dr. Dossie M. Wiggins, president of the College, was
keynoter. He said the College of Mines, as caretakers of the museum, was responsible for maintaining an air of progress in keeping with the growth of the community and the institution. Educators as well as the citizenry were urged to support their museum for, it was said, a good museum is as important to the prestige and education of a community as are its schools, colleges and libraries.

Thus, 30 years ago, the El Paso Centennial Museum came to life, charged with a responsibility to the city and the College and its students.

The Centennial Museum has today, as it had in 1937 when its doors opened for the first time, a distinguishing characteristic possessed by no other organization in El Paso: it serves not only a city but a College for purposes of education and research. By exhibits of significant collections, it demonstrates the individuality of the community it serves such as no other museum in another city—no matter how large—can do. The Centennial Museum is concerned with its own region and is in a position, literally, to tell that story best. This distinctive feature stimulates the interest of students and citizens of El Paso alike in the museum and aids visitors in understanding our community better. To fulfill its dual service responsibility, the majority of collections at the UTEP museum are directly related to the history, anthropology, geology, geography, the natural environment and other resources of our area. It all begins with the collecting.

The museum is a collecting house for two major reasons. One, to gather objects which must be preserved because of their intrinsic historical or scientific value; two, to act as a library for materials which have a certain educational value and purpose. Ideally, in order to ascertain the value of specimens and for accurate identification of them, a staff of experts is needed. But, since the Centennial Museum is not large enough physically or financially to manage this, experts from within the faculty of the College come to lend a hand. Among those who are currently studying museum specimens are Dr. William S. Strain, professor of geology, who is preparing a monograph on Ice Age horse and zebra fossils; Dr. Roy Johnson, professor of biology, who is examining an ornithology collection; and Dr. Arthur H. Harris, professor of biology, who is working on a collection of mammal bones. A list of those who have similarly served the museum in the past would include perhaps one-third of the faculty.

This reliance on the College faculty experts for aid in identification and study cannot be overstressed. It allows the museum to obey its primary command: to be a place for the Muses, those nine Greek goddesses of learning, and for those who come to learn.

The physical characteristics of the Centennial Museum, ranging through a variety of exhibits, collections, reconstructed fossil remains and so on, are the result of work that is invisible to the eye of the visitor. Behind the scenes, months of work in the archeological field, in libraries, private collections and the laboratory goes on in preparation for the eventual display. Basic study of paleontology specimens, for example, was started more than 20 years ago by Dr. William S. Strain and continues today in the museum laboratory. At the present, the UTEP museum's paleontological work is concern-
Archeology student Wyedette Dufton assists in pottery assemblage.

ed with the preserving of fossilized bone specimens and classifying them. Ultimately, the work is seen in the museum's exhibit halls, some as temporary displays and others as permanent ones. Among the latter, hundreds of grade school, high school and college students continue to visit the bird and animal rooms during their study courses in biology. The ornithological collection has been, for the most part, provided by the College's biology faculty and by local citizens.

Similarly has the museum's mineralogy collection grown to great proportions, a reminder of the deep roots of the College of Mines in its study of Minerals and their exploitation.

Even such a popular attraction as the Planetarium has its behind-the-scenes story: it was built by Director Rex Gerald and the museum staff, equipped to handle 30 visitors at a time, and has become an enormously valuable educational adjunct to the museum. Many of the 25,000 annual visitors to the Centennial Museum get their first educated glimpse of the universe through its instruction.

A museum, as has often been supposed, is not just a place to store antiques, stuffed animals and dinosaur bones. Exhibits at the Centennial Museum are periodically replaced to tell new stories or to tell old stories more effectively. The College museum is responsible for illustrating the history of El Paso from prehistoric times to the present (and even, on occasion, to project the future.) A museum is a place of visual history with emphasis on that added dimension, "visual."

The director of the Centennial Museum is Rex E. Gerald, an anthropologist who teaches in the UTEP Department of Sociology. Mr. Gerald has been an ardent promoter of the museum for many years and, through careful management of the facility's slender budget, has accomplished remodelling and refinishing work in the building as well as adding to its resources of displays and collections. In addition to his duties as director and teacher, he finds time to continue his field work, especially in the complex culture of the Casas Grandes area, and is writing his doctoral dissertation on two late prehistoric Salado pueblos (about 1250-1350 A.D.) near Tucson.

Jerry A. Griffin, the second member of the museum staff, comes from Wichita, Kansas, with a master's degree from Wichita State University. His function is to prepare exhibits and do research in the field laboratory. In addition, he teaches classes in archeology and ethnology in the Department of Sociology.

Other members of the staff include Walter Johnson, assistant preparator; Miss Dorothy Groff, secretary; Mrs. Shirley Watson, librarian; and Mrs. Alethea Glimp, volunteer. At present, the museum has no full time paid employees.

A visit to the El Paso Centennial Museum (or any museum) should be an adventure. For the wide-eyed youngster, it should be an adventure in learning through seeing the tangible traces of history; for the adult, it should be an adventure in adding to the store of knowledge, and in the stimulating of his interest and curiosity. A museum visitor, in the last analysis, is looking for something — perhaps unconsciously — and it is a major obligation of the Centennial Museum to see that he finds it.

—Jerry A. Griffin
President Ray who expressed much interest in it and gave the project his full support."

The first five Southwestern Studies were the work of faculty members at the College. The sixth, "Bucks Skin Frank Leslie," was the work of a British journalist who had never visited this country, Colin Rickards. His "singular objectivity and insight" would again be noted in No. 16, "Charles Littlepage Ballard, Southwesterner."

Dr. Myres explains the procedure of accepting a manuscript for publication: "The procedure is necessarily somewhat complicated. The Editorial Board meets about once a month and first decides if the manuscript fits into our designated Southwestern area - West Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Northern Mexico and Southwestern Oklahoma. If the piece looks promising, a board member reads it thoroughly as well as at least one other outside and objective critic. The findings of the reader are reported to the board which, in turn, decides whether or not to schedule it for publication. If so, the manuscript is subjected to detailed criticism which often involves contacting the author on debatable points. The piece is marked to conform to our TW Press style and all facts are carefully checked. We strive for an accurate and clear statement and seek to eliminate vagueness, cliches and redundancy of language. After this process, the typescript is turned over to Carl Hertzog for his work on design, typography, photographs, printing and distribution and the business end of the project."

The finished monograph is a handsome, uniform booklet, well-documented and illustrated and representing new and authoritative study in fields of Southwestern culture. Besides being used as reference material by other scholars and writers, the Southwestern Studies series, as Mr. Hertzog points out, "advertises El Paso and the College as well as adding to the lore of the Southwest in important libraries and reference centers around the world."

There is great variety in the Studies too, ranging from personalities (Albert B. Fall, Pancho Villa, C. L. Ballard), to little-explored areas of Southwestern history ("The Governors of Mexico," "The Theatre in Early El Paso"). And, despite the fact that the Texas Western Press prints 1,500 to 2,000 copies of each issue, several of the 16 Studies have already gone into second printings.

Number 17 of the series, due for publication this spring, is, according to Dr. Myres, is a significant addition to the literature of the West's most famous badman, Billy the Kid. The monograph will be entitled "Billy the Kid: The Earlier Years" and was written by R. M. Mullin of South Laguna, California. Mr. Mullin's study will include a gallery of photographs of the young Billy and his environs, many never before published.

A selection of letters from the files of Mr. Hertzog and Dr. Myres reveal a fascinating cross section of people and places who have commented on Southwestern Studies:

Texas State Senator Dorsey B. Hardeman: "... These publications are most interesting and valued additions to my
W. G. Miller, chairman, Montreal Locomotive Works, Ltd., Montreal, Canada: "'The Railway of Mexico' is an interestingly written and fascinating story which I thoroughly enjoyed reading."

Robert E. Hunter, Chairman, Political Science Department of Trinity University: "I believe all of these Studies have been very well done ... you are to be congratulated for the timeliness and usefulness of the topics chosen."

Gunther Barth, department of history, University of California, Berkeley: "... a valuable contribution to our understanding of the Southwest."

Other comments and subscriptions in the file include those of the Library, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada; Dr. Ludwig Hantzschel, book importer and exporter, Gottingen, Germany; Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio; Chief Librarian, Netherlands School of Economics, Rotterdam; the Universities of Nuevo Leon and Durango; and many other foreign and American institutions and individuals.

An accurate and clear statement ... originality ... importance ... research ... contribution to understanding of the Southwest ... These are the hallmarks of a significant publication, Southwestern Studies.
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Listed here are the names of 828 contributors to the advancement of the College in 1966. Most of them are donors to the Alumni Fund for Excellence, which reached a new height under the chairmanship of James D. Agee with gifts totalling $14,654. Some gave to the College through other routes such as the Lloyd A. Nelson Memorial Professorship. A few are not former students; they demonstrated their interest in the academic progress of the College by contributing through the Alumni Fund.

The University of Texas at El Paso is deeply grateful to all of them. Their gifts have been carefully applied to the Excellence Program.

Gifts received after January 10 will be included in the 1967 Alumni Fund list.

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Michael L. Finerty
Marshall T. Field
Bradley E. Fisk
Mrs. Dorothy W. Fitzpatrick
Mrs. Helen Fitzpatrick
John E. Floodbrook
Robert Ray Florence
Louis A. Flores, Jr.
Dr. Marvin L. Flosi
Louis W. Fournier
James R. Fox
Dan R. Frantzen
Karl M. Friedman
Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Fruithandler
Fernando Fuentes
Mr. and Mrs. William M. Furman
Dr. Glen E. Furr
Thor G. Gade
Dr. Joe S. Galatzan
Morris A. Galatzan
Francis X. Gallant
Louis M. Gamez
Daniel Y. Garberm
Mrs. Aurora Trejo Garcia
Rafael A. Garcia
Mrs. H. D. Garrett
Mrs. J. W. Gatlin
Robert B. Gavette
Leonard D. Genson
Robert J. Gilbert
Mrs. Elizabeth E. Gillett
Thomas J. Gilley
James S. Given
Mrs. Jay Gladstein
Dr. L. A. Gladstone
Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Gleason
Dr. Irvin J. Goldfarb
Mrs. Carmen D. Gonzalez
Miss Anna Ruth Goodenough
Leonard A. Goodman, Jr.
Mrs. Alta Jean Goodnight
Thomas M. Grady
Miss Cecilia Grajeda
Mrs. Charles Grant, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Graves
Hicks F. Gray
Peter G. Gray
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Green, Jr.
James H. Grissom
J. Verl Groce
Mrs. Patricia A. Groves
Mrs. Sergio Guerrero
Mr. and Mrs. Rosendo Gutierrez
Miss Octilia D. Haag
Miss Joan Haggard
Berte R. Haigh
Mrs. Eleanor G. Hall
Lloyd C. Hamilton
Thomas R. Hancock
Mrs. Douglas Handley
Mrs. Charlotte Foster Hansen
Herbert G. Hathorn
J. K. Hardy
Freeman Harris
John R. Harris
William W. Hart
Mrs. Connie Hartley
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace S. Hartley
Clinton Hartmann
Mr. and Mrs. Wade Hartrick
Ernesto Hasegawa
A. L. Hawley, Jr.
Reginald D. Hayes
Herbert K. Heaslet
Robert C. Heasley
Dr. Solomon Heller
Dr. J. H. Hirten
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Henderson
Dr. J. B. Henderson
Mrs. Nancy Elder Herrmann
Mrs. David E. Hernandez
Mr. and Mrs. Servando Hernandez
Eduardo R. Herrera
Mr. and Mrs. Roy A. Hickman
Virgil C. Hicks
Mary E. Highsmith
Robert Hinojosa
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Hoben
Mrs. Verne Hodgkins
Dr. Isabel W. Hones
W. Cole Holderman
Ernest S. Holmes, III
Lt. Robert J. Holub
Jack H. Hooker
Thomas W. Hope
Mr. and Mrs. Lee E. Housen
Dan C. Hovious
Robert H. Hoy, Jr.
Mrs. Wesley Hradek
Dr. Paul J. Huchton
Mrs. Murray C. Hudson
Mrs. Mary Alice Huffington
Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Humbert
Mrs. W. H. Hunt
Frank H. Hunter
Mrs. Nettie K. Hutchinson
Walter E. Hyatt
Max Immelman
Maurice D. Ingram
Mrs. Norma K. Irwin
Dr. Ralph C. Ivy
Royal B. Jackman
Paul R. Jackson
Dr. Homer Jacobs
Mrs. Fred K. James
Mrs. Naomi Jameson
Mrs. Mary Jamshid
Maj. and Mrs. J. R. Jastrzembski
A. M. Johnsen
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd S. Johnson
Mrs. Lu Etta Johnson
Kirk R. Jones
Don Henderson, James Agee and Robert Cave have something in common. They are all young, energetic graduates of the College, enterprising young businessmen who could spend every waking moment at their businesses and with their families and still not have time to do all that should be done.

They are alike, too, in that they all have shared responsibility for the Alumni Fund for Excellence. Don Henderson is the newly-appointed chairman of the Fund for 1967 (he was vice-chairman last year), succeeding Agee, who was in turn preceded by Cave.

These men are busy, with growing responsibilities and young families. Yet each has willingly and eagerly devoted hundreds of hours in the interest of the College. They are typical of many alumni and friends of the College, some young, some older, in that they contribute heavily in time and money so that this will become a better institution.

Why do they do it? Their reasons vary, but the reasons are never selfish. I suspect that all would admit to a considerable degree of self-satisfaction in accomplishing something they consider worthwhile, something that affects the quality of the College they rightly regard as their own, something that can be done only by men and women who make their contributions voluntarily.

Whatever their reasons, the College is grateful to them, and its other alumni and friends should be grateful as well. For they and other alumni workers for the Excellence Fund are performing the greatest single service that can be made on behalf of the College. They are acquiring the resources for the Excellence Program.

The Excellence Fund has enabled the College to enlist the finest faculty in its history. It has enriched the library so that now we have more than 200,000 volumes. It has brought to this campus distinguished lecturers and consultants, and it has enabled us to purchase specialized equipment to enrich the education of thousands of students.

The dollars given to the Excellence Fund are the most important dollars available to us, for they can be applied where opportunity for academic advance is greatest.

Acquiring these funds is no easy task, and it is one that many alumni do not relish. Few people like to ask others for money; those who do it deserve the highest measure of appreciation for the causes they serve.

Henderson, Agee and Cave are not alone in this service to the College. Each Alumni Fund chairman has found that scores of men and women shared his enthusiasm and dedication. Together they have built a growing source of financial undergirding for the Excellence Program. Each year the Alumni Fund has grown. Sometimes it has taken a giant step forward, as Don Henderson anticipates and is working for in 1967. He has projected a 25 per cent increase over the record $14,654 contributed during Mr. Agee’s chairmanship in 1966.

The goal of $18,000 is challenging but realistic, Mr. Henderson believes. I share his conviction and applaud his determination.

—Joseph M. Ray
Texas Mines and Texas Western has graduated many geologists over the years, but, in truth, most ex-students owe their familiarity with geology to their surviving the basic course. Among these survivors, even after they have forgotten diastrophism and the ammonoids of the Cretaceous, most will recall "Speedy" Nelson, his jokes or perhaps his desk (which was the messiest but richest lode of fossils west of the Pecos). They will recall too the names and reputations of "Doc" Quinn (and remember the alligator in his office) and Bill Strain, whose brain-baking summer field camps on Cristo Rey are legendary. Still others will remember fellow students, especially such a flamboyant giant as Charlie Steen, the rags-to-riches uranium magnate. Whatever the reason for recalling geology at the College, it should be of interest to discuss the academic emphasis and professional direction now being taken by the science.

During the last several years, vast academic and administrative changes have taken place at the College; emphasis has shifted and programs have been deleted and added with regularity. One of the important transitions has taken place in the Department of Geology. Dr. H. E. Quinn, who so ably built and developed the department over the years, relinquished the administrative reins of geology in 1964 to Dr. William N. McAnulty.

In three years the department has grown from a faculty of five, two with Ph.D.'s, to its current eight member staff, that now includes five Ph.D.'s. In the fall of 1967, we anticipate the addition of two more men with doctorates, one with experience in petroleum exploration and the other in physical geography.

We also initiate a graduate program this fall. The growth of the department is based on solid academic tradition pioneered by the late Dr. Lloyd A. Nelson, Dr. Quinn (now Professor Emeritus), and Dr. William S. Strain. Geology at UTEP remains vigorous and basically traditional. Obviously, as appropriate new methods and concepts are developed, they are added into the course framework. Geology, like the other sciences, cannot remain static.

Our greatest assets are our location, teaching collections, traditions, and our alumni. Among the latter, we boast of such a man as Charlie Steen—already mentioned—who took his mineralogy and economic geology with Doc Quinn; the more prosaic George McBride, president of Freeport Oil Company, who took his petroleum geology with Bill Strain; and Dr. John Lance, professor of geology at the University of Arizona, who took his paleontology with Speedy Nelson. Our graduates have been successful in mining, petroleum, engineering, and academic geology to a remarkable degree. They have scattered over
every part of the globe from the out-
back of Australia to the Libyan desert
and from Alaska to the howling Antarc-
tic wastelands. They are our pride, our
heritage and, ultimately, our responsi-

The College enjoys a unique position
geographically and geologically. Geol-
yogy students and faculty can work in the
field all twelve months of the year. This
far west outpost of Texas has available
to it a treasure-house of every phase of
traditional geology as well as catalogue
of geological time units without equal.
It is all here, within an afternoon’s drive
of the campus. Our geologic setting is
our l a b o r a t o r y . Freshman students
make long field trips; the physical geol-
yogy groups visits such a r e a s as the
White Sands and the Pennsylvanian
reefs of the Sacramento Mountains in
Southern New Mexico; the historical
gеology class visits such areas as the
Precambrian Van Horn sequences and
the classic Permian reef at El Capitan.

Individually, the staff can utilize their
specialities in afternoon laboratories in
the area. Dr. McAnulty (economic geol-
yogy), head of the department, takes
his men to such local metallic mining
districts as the Organ district east of
Las Cruces or the Orogrande district in
the Jarilla Mountains. For non-metallics,
there are the fluorite occurrence at
Organ Pass and the many quarries in
the Franklin Mountains. Dr. Jerry M.
Hoffer, our mineralogist and petrolog-
ist, takes his students from lecture to
location in mineralogy. Petrology is
infinitely more meaningful when one goes
from a morning lecture on basalt to an
afternoon lab on the cinder cone and

flows. When I (paleobotany and inverte-
brate paleontology) lecture on the pa-
eoceology of reefs, the afternoon lab

William N. McAnulty and David V. LeMone

BONES TO PICK—Dr. William S. Strain, center, with geology students James Abshier and
Frank Heenan.

in geomorphology with a day’s trip to
the Florida Mountains and its classic
geomorphology. The field is our great-
est teaching aid and the student here
can see his text become a reality.

But our superb location alone is not
enough. Where are we bound? What is
our purpose? To answer these ques-
tions, we must explore our mission and
its three basic functions: service,
professional training, and research.

Our service duty covers the labora-
tory science requirement for the entire
College and geology is a priceless sci-
ence to the student in every field. In
the humanities for example, the con-
cepts of time, evolution, the succession
of the worlds of the past, and the
impermanence of all things in the geologic
process are requisite for understanding
man’s relationships in space and time.

In the sister sciences, geology,
through the paleontological disciplines,
reveals to the biologist the natural his-
tory of life on earth. Geophysics and
geochemistry, the blend of physics and
chemistry with geology, gives new di-

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BONES TO PICK—Dr. William S. Strain, center, with geology students James Abshier and
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increased in this decade. The State Coordinating Board, late in 1966, approved Earth Science as a teaching field. By 1970 it is expected that some 13,000 new teachers of Earth Science will be needed in the nation.

Our second mission, the training of professionals, still revolves around the geology major. His interest today is equally divided between minerals and the petroleum industry and this balance is excellent. The UTEP geology department is one of the few offering a strong program in mineral exploration and exploitation, a legacy from the old department of Mining Engineering and from Dr. Quinn and Dr. Nelson in geology.

We would like our student body today to demonstrate, as in the past, a balance between industrial competence and academic excellence. He should be capable of effective professional performance upon graduation and we would like his academic background to enable him to enter and survive graduate school. (We have noted, incidentally, that a dwindling number of students are going immediately into graduate studies. Industry's demand for geologists is constantly growing. As a result, mining and petroleum companies are competing for graduating seniors, and their offers are often too appealing to turn down.)

Our concept of the necessary background of the geologist remains much as it was: fundamental geologic principles are stressed and combined with depth in mathematics (through calculus), chemistry, and physics or biology. We selectively introduce some concepts of computerization (e.g. numerical taxonomy in paleontology) as directions in which the field is going today. Systems analysis, computer language and programming are offered, although not within the department itself.

The graduate program in geology will begin this fall. We prefer not to take our own graduating seniors into the master's program. It is felt that they should go elsewhere to gain a broader spectrum of concepts and see other geologic provinces. On the other hand, we welcome graduates with several years of professional experience, for outside experience gives depth and dimension.

The department's third mission is research. With engineering we are trying to develop an approach in arid lands research in the areas of hydrology, soils, geomorphology and climatology. Most of our faculty have recently published articles and abstracts and all have given papers at professional meetings.

We are aware of our heritage and responsibility too and we are often reminded, as we work here, of the service done Texas Mines and Texas Western and The University of Texas at El Paso by the two men who established the department, Doc Quinn and Speedy Nelson. By their professional dedication and strength of character, these men influenced all of their students. Together they served the institution some 80 years and time will not erase the marks they left.

I never met the man I replaced, Dr. Nelson, yet I feel I know him well. He remembered the names and faces of most of his students and all of his majors. He taught exceptionally well, as his students can verify. His versatility enabled him to teach widely divergent disciplines. Interestingly, Dr. Nelson was also a registered engineer, a regrettable rarity in nearly every department of geology today. And, his colleagues were unanimous in their verdict that he was a remarkable scholar and an exceptionally good geologist.

In 1965 a drive for $100,000 was initiated to establish the Lloyd A. Nelson Professorship in Geology as a memorial to his service to our College and profession. Donations to the professorship are being received from alumni and friends for the College and the department but perhaps most of all, to honor the man himself: Lloyd Nelson.

Geology's basic philosophy has not altered. Our department is exceptional in its concepts, location and tradition. We hope to combine academic excellence with a close student-teacher relationship and our unique laboratory-field opportunities to produce the same type of outstanding graduate that we have had in the past.

—David V. LeMone

GEOLAB—Dr. J. M. Hoffer and students Irma Lizzarraga, Michael Kennedy and Gene Nellis, Jr.
OUR ALUMS IN WASHINGTON

When Richard C. White of El Paso became the first College of Mines alumnus to be elected to Congress, he chose as his press-relations assistant, another Texas Western College alumnus, Conrey Bryson. And, since 1964, the two UTEP alumni have been working together in the Washington Congressional office of the 16th District of Texas, with occasional wistful glances westward where the grassroots thrive in warm weather.

White attended the College of Mines in 1941 and 1942, prior to his service in the U.S. Marine Corps where he saw combat duty in the Pacific during World War II. After the war, he took his B.A. and LL.B. degrees at the University of Texas in Austin.

As an alumnus, Richard White has rendered important service to the College in many ways. He was the first chairman of the Alumni Fund for Excellence, and was a member of the 37-man Mission '73 committee which recommended an extensive program of improvement for the College, a blueprint that is being followed and updated to this day.

Conrey Bryson, while a radio and television newsman and special events director for KTSM in El Paso, attended Texas Western and was awarded the B.A. degree in 1954 and the M.A. in 1959. He then served four years as a part-time instructor in history and government at the College.

Along with actively representing UTEP in its various requests for government assistance and co-operation, White exercised his Congressional prerogative in 1966 to name the UTEP library an official depository for government documents. His Congressional office is frequently a rallying place for UTEP alumni in Washington. This was most evident when the Miners won the NCAA basketball championship at nearby University of Maryland. White's office scrounged all available tickets for supporters and helped to organize the victory party following the final game.

Bryson's job is to handle press releases to some 20 newspapers and 15 radio and television stations in the 16th district, work on news-letters, plan radio and t-v broadcasts, and serve as legislative advisor on many subjects with which he was associated in El Paso.

Mrs. White, Kathy, holds a master's degree in history from Texas Western. Along with the many unofficial duties that fall to a Congressman's wife, she has, on her own initiative, written a series of newspaper columns and radio broadcasts to inform West Texans of many aspects of life in the national capital. Mrs. Pat Bryson, formerly librarian at the Memorial Park branch in El Paso, is on the staff of the Prince George County Library in Maryland, working at several suburban branches.

Congressman White and Conrey Bryson, both past presidents of the El Paso County Historical Society, are naturally enjoying the historic sites of the capital and nearby Mount Vernon, Monticello, Williamsburg and Philadelphia, but they like to see El Paso faces. So, if you should be in Washington, the Congressman's office, at 1329 Longworth House Office Building, is open to you.

Conrey Bryson and Congressman Dick White.
OLD POET

Collar open.
Hair blizzard white.
Box elder leaves over the left
Wrist.
And the eyes not looking in
Or out. Just looking.
It is fearful. This old leaning
Man. The neck in calf folds.
Some ancient son.
He sees.
He thinks.
Hiss goes his brain.
But now he won’t tell us.
After he goes we can consult
The leaves. They grew wise at his sleeve.

—Robert Burlingame
(with permission of SATURDAY REVIEW and the author)

LOCAL REPORT

We got out before
breakfast to drive up to
the post office at Canutillo.
There were important letters
to be sent—a recommendation,
a check to the White House, and six
poems (doomed to come back).

We drove home on
the levee road—past cottonwoods
holding the snow-crisped
leaves of an old summer, past
the chili field, past
the river running swift and brown
like an insistent woman—
all womb and freshness, and
death.

We got back in time
for eggs and bacon. Afterwards
there was the ditch to clean.
And then a walk to the river
running through the land—
for which we were glad.

—Robert Burlingame
(from IN THIS WAY WE WALK, 1964)

FRIEND

Mr. Lewis Strongarm
Who used to blow in New Orleans
Would confide to me on occasion
to me and one or two others
how it was inside his head
When he was blowing.
Only the gin would be in him at the time
Up to the eyeballs.
A whole damn bird, he would say,
A white bird every time.
And no body would understand.

Except after
After he had quit playing for ten minutes
To resume his conversation with Mr. Gordon
Then some one would say
Or another think it
lower yourselves sons carefully.

—R. M. Russell

lion at the zoo

gigantic face staring at you
lemon eyed.
examining you somehow from head to toe
behind bars
for the mote in your own eye.
azure souled. august presence.
black tuft flicking flicking.
do you see in me the dark taunting fury
the implacable, about-to-be-hurled spear
the illiterate unintelligible screams yells
of bitchery and hysterical victory
when back to the forest o king africa
africa, claims you?
sunlight moves
tawny hugeness
and floats out over the heads
they yawn, cacaphony of legitimate boredom.
silent enshadowed lounger
and the mate staring staring.

—R. M. Russell
**RIO BRAVO**

Like wet clay shines the river
on days the water from the dam
sludges the long dry Rio Grande.

The wet shine shatters
loud around the muddy splash
of children who dry the color of dust
and hard adobe hunger.

Rich is the feel of thick water
against the ache of yesterday
as thin idols spring high
clay arms out flashing gay mouths.

And here across the bank
I choked as on tomorrow's dust
and taste the dry adobe.

—F. A. Ehmann

**SKATERS’ WALTZ**

No Icarus, my less spectacular
fall is horizontal—flashy
scraping blade and granulated splash
and gliding colors parting, laughing
whirling in wintry vertigo.
The sky stops, life goes
again in ordered rhythm.
Someone brushes off the melting sign
of wings.

—F. A. Ehmann

**POETS FOUR
POEMS SIX**

Recognition of the College as a vital force in the
community, rather than apart from it, has done much
to erase the caricature of the absent-minded profes-
sor. Few people today imply even in jest that those
who can't do something should teach it. College pro-
fessors now expect to demonstrate their abilities
through scholarly or creative publication, believing
that such work keeps them intellectually alive. And
certainly the student benefits from having an art
professor who can paint or an English professor who can
write.

The English department at UTEP in fact boasts a
number of writers—playwrights, poets, novelists. Their
gold, of course, is publication, but even without it they
learn, as one can in no other way, much about the
literature they teach. Four of the department's poets
are represented in this issue of NOVA. Two of them,
Robert Burlingame and J. Edgar Simmons, have pub-
lished extensively, while Richard Russell and Alan
Ehmann have only recently achieved national publica-
tion. The variety of their work indicates the variety of
literary approach which injects vitality into the depart-
ment.

—J. Edgar Simmons
(with permission of
THE HARVARD ADVOCATE and the author)
Harking back to a couple of issues ago, "PUL-EASE!" writes David W. Tappan to NOVA. Mr. Tappan was President of the Texas College of Mines Band, 1938-40 and is now a Chartered Life Underwriter with the Massachusetts Mutual office in El Paso. He could have, he says, become a member of some of our singing 'Dig Dig Dig etc.' This song was sung by the Varsity Singers, accompanied by the band, many times under Col. Glenn Johnson—the most versatile musician El Paso has ever seen. Many times he didn't last, but lots of us sang it!" Any other Miners who sang the song the Miners didn't sing?  

Brig. General S. L. A. Marshall ('20-'23) writes from Birmingham, Michigan: "NOVA is becoming the most attractive and readable periodical of its kind that I have ever read. I'm much obliged to you for sending it my way." General Marshall, Outstanding Ex of the College in 1950, is an eminent military historian and author.  

Charlie V. Beall ('49), his wife and two sons live in Tripoli, Libya, where he is Chief Geologist for the Simmons sons. He is also notiﬁes NOVA that Richard Simmons ('51) is stationed in Libya working with the American Overseas Oil Company. 

Dr. Joseph F. Alderete ('50) is Chief of Psychiatry at the U.S. Medical Center for Federal Hospitals in Shreveport, Louisiana. He is asking that his title be included on mail addressed to him. Dr. Alderete explains "The reason for this is that I am presently assigned to a large Prison Hospital, and if the mail is simply addressed Mr. Alderete it gets into the prisoner's mail and it may then be a few days to a few weeks before I get it back."  

Mrs. Natalie Romer is teaching in a Veteran's Hospital, a paraplegic center, in Long Beach, California. She graduated from El Paso College in 1953. Barbara Wright Keily ('50) and her husband Lee ('58) are living in Abilene, Texas. Lee is sales manager for Standard Oil of Texas and is a lubrication specialist for some 200 counties in the state. Joe Standifer ('59) is credit manager for the Sears store in San Angelo. He is planning to organize an Ex-Students Chapter in the San Angelo area. And, George R. Minjarez ('64) is a Peace Corpsman assigned to Camp Crozier, Alaska. Puerto Rico. His Alumni Fund gift was most welcome.  

Along the honors trail: Henderson Edmond (H. E.) Van Surdam, Class of 1904 at Wesleyan University and one of the first football coaches at El Paso Military Institute, now UTEP, is residing in New York. At the age of 84, he is Honorary Board Chairman of the Touchdown Club of New York. Mr. Van Surdam helped get EPMI changed to the Texas School for Boys. He has been instrumental in establishing a mining school and metallurgy.  

Berlyn Brixner ('28-'30) was awarded the E. l. du Pont Gold Medal Award by the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers. He is in charge of training the group in the Los Alamos, N.M. Scientific Laboratory. Dr. W. Turrentine Jackson ('35) specialist in the history of the American West and professor of history at the University of California, was among featured speakers at the Western Historical Association convention in El Paso in October. Dr. Jackson delivered a paper entitled "Wells, Fargo, Stagecoach and the Pony Express: A Historical Appraisal."  

Mrs. Bettie Alice Tritton (MA '58) was honored during Teacher Appreciation Week in El Paso at the Group of Public Schools for 11 years and is currently teaching mathematics at Morehead School. Jerry Thrasher ('55-'59), president of Scott Pharmaceutical Inc. and Jerrald Creams Inc., was named Grand Knight of Bishop Schuler Council No. 3686 in El Paso. He has been a member of Knights of Columbus since 1953. Ralph Chavez ('59), instructor at Jefferson High was selected as the nation's top high school journalism teacher and winner of the Wall Street Journal Newspaper Fund award of $1,000. And, Therma Rose Moreno (MA '62) and Mrs. Dorothy Beall (MA '61) have been named to the 1966 edition of "Outstanding Young Women of America." Miss Moreno is a first grade teacher at Ramona School and Mrs. Beall teaches special education in the El Paso Public Schools.  

There have been changes made: Charles R. Schulte ('49), El Paso attorney and former County Judge and member of the Military Order of the Thirtieth Infantry now is District Judge of the 41st District Court in El Paso. Judge Schulte earned his LLB degree from the University of Texas. Osborne Lawes ('50) has been named an associate in the Gadd, Cheadle, Reade, and Guerra law firm a member of the department of the Travelers Insurance Companies in Hartford, Conn. Ray Davenport, a third year law student at the University of New Mexico, was elected to a fourth term in the New Mexico House of Representatives from Dona Ana County. He received his degree from the College in 1951. John Sequeiros ('51) was named vice-president of KDEF-AM-FM radio in Albuquerque by the board of directors of the Trigg-Vaughn Stations Corporation.  

Robert C. Heasley ('53) has been awarded the professional designation of Chartered Life Underwriter by the American College of Life Underwriters. Heasley is a former Exes Club officer and Alumnus Award recipient in 1967. Patrick B. Healy ('51-'55) recently opened a gift shop in Midland called "Mr. Pat's" which fits and James B. Bostick has taken a position with Mott and Reid for the Miner Company. He was formerly associated with the New Mexico House of Representatives. Major Hutto played guard and the Distinguished Flying Cross for action in Southeast Asia. Major Hutto played guard for the Miner football team in 1950. He and his wife live in Hampton, Virginia. Maj. Raul Garibay was in El Paso for the holiday and is now attending the General Staff and Command School in Leavenworth, Kansas. He is a Liaison officer for the Air Force. The three daughters of Albert Johnson ('59-'61), who was stationed in Viet Nam as is Lt. Carl T. Johnson ('59-'61). Mrs. Johnson, the former Pamela Bulls ('60-'62) is living in El Paso and teaching fourth grade at Crockett School. John C. Schmidt ('61), who returned from Viet Nam in August is now stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama.  

Also serving in Viet Nam is Lt. Michael E. Davis ('62) (see photo) who was recently awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism in a military operation in which he exposed to enemy ground fire, he and his crewmen searched for survivors of an aircraft that had crashed in hostile territory. His parents live at 2922 Taylor Street in El Paso. Ens. and Mrs. K. H. Heineman will be in Newfoundland for two years. The Ensign (63) is with the U.S. Naval Facility. Mrs. Heineman is the former Linda Boone ('64). Lt. Bill Kiley ('64) is a combat engineer stationed at Cu Chi in Viet Nam. Lt. John Abernathy ('65) teaches at Beall School here. Lt. Gilberto Salinas, Jr. ('64) is stationed at Pleiku, South Viet Nam. He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal for meritorious service while stationed at Sheppard AFB, Texas.  

Lt. Bob Thies ('64) is company commander of the 159th engineering group in Long Binh, near Saigon. His wife teaches at East Point School in El Paso. She is Sharon Mo-
VIET NAM, U. S. COMBAT FORCES—1st Lt. Michael E. Davis, right, receives the Distinguished Flying Cross from Lt. General Horace M. Wade, deputy chief of staff for personnel, USAF.

Junkin Thies ('65), Lt. Joe Gelishorpe ('65), now serving in Viet Nam, was wounded in August. He was a 1965 distinguished military graduate in ROTC. John H. Herrick ('65) has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the USAF upon graduation from Officer training School at Lackland AFB, Texas. He has been assigned to Lowry AFB, Colorado. James T. Padden ('66) has joined the Pearl Harbor engineering and scientific staff of the Naval Ship Systems Command. Commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force was John T. Casady ('66). He has been assigned to Williams AFB, Arizona, for pilot training.

Miguel de la Rosa ('66) has also been commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the Air Force upon graduation from Officer Training at Lackland AFB. He was assigned to Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, for training as a base civil engineer. Lt. Stuart Kincaid ('66) was awarded the Purple Heart in recent action in Viet Nam. He was wounded when a truck in which he was riding hit a landmine. His platoon was providing support for a convoy carrying supplies just west of Tuy Hoa, South Viet Nam. And, David A. McKnight ('66) has been appointed to the Army Intelligence School at Ft. Holabird, Maryland. He received his wings at Ft. Benning, Georgia.

In the University System: Jack T. Chapman ('64) has been named to Chancellory honor of the main University School of Law. He is comment editor of the Texas Law Review and will receive the LL.B. degree in 1967. Luis L. Castellanos, Roger R. Delgado, Jr., and William K. Sutherland are among 152 first-year students at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. The three students, all 1966 graduates of UTEP, are studying anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pathology and psychobiology.

William W. Lake

Dr. William W. Lake, professor emeritus of UTEP, died December 20 in El Paso. Dr. Lake served in the Chemistry Department at the College from 1927 until 1961. Contributions are being made to the W. W. Lake Memorial Scholarship Fund at the College.

Mr. Joe K. Parrish ('47) died December 26 of a heart attack. He was a well-known public relations and publicity man in El Paso, author of "Coffins, Cactus and Cowboys," an informal history of the city, and was president of the Ex-Students Association in 1952-53.

Mr. Adolfo Trespalacios ('32), owner of Pavimentos S. A., died November 10 in El Paso. He was 61 years old.

Mr. Daniel L. Hill, president of Western Gas Service Company, died November 27 at the age of 48. He attended the College in 1935-36.

Miss Effie Nell Dunlap ('62) died July 10 in Temple, Texas, where she was working toward her master's degree. Miss Dunlap was 24.

CAPSULES

News Briefs From the UTEP Campus

A $1.5 million expansion of the UTEP library will begin in March. The Board of Regents approved final drawings and specifications for the addition late in 1966. The building's capacity will be 450,000 volumes or approximately double the present maximum. The 59,000 square feet of floor space will permit book stacks and reading areas to be placed together with books divided according to subject rather than number. Four deans were appointed and four new schools were established at the College following action by the Board of Regents in December. Dr. John M. Richards will be dean of the School of Business Administration; Dr. John W. McFarland will be dean of the School of Education; Dr. Lewis F. Hatch (of the University of Texas) was named dean of the School of Science; and Dr. Ray Small, former dean of Arts and Social Sciences, will be dean of the School of Liberal Arts. Dr. Edmund B. Coleman will succeed Dr. C. L. Sonnichsen as dean of the Graduate School. Dr. Sonnichsen, H. Y. Benedict Professor of English, will resume full-teaching time at the College.

Dr. Rex W. Strickland, a member of the UTEP history department since 1936, will retire from his teaching duties in July. He has served the College as full professor, head of the department of history, government and sociology, and as research professor.

Greek organizations with lodges on campus were notified that their property will be appraised in the near future for possible purchase by the College. The land, if bought, will eventually be used as student housing. Seven of the 12 Greek organizations will be affected.

A trial system of registration was put into effect in January for seniors and graduate students. The new pre-registration system eliminates the confusion of closed classes and long lines of regular registration. Seniors had their schedules approved by individual departments, had class cards pulled by the staff in the registrar's office, and then paid their fees in the business office. It is hoped that all students will ultimately register this way.

The mechanical engineering department of the UTEP School of Engineering was approved in November by the Engineer's Council for Professional Development. All four departments in engineering are now fully accredited.

A tuition hike at all state supported colleges and universities was proposed by the Texas College Co-ordinating Board. Upon approval by the Legislature, fees for residents will be $7 per semester hour, $20 per semester hour for non-residents. Medical, dental and nursing students will not be affected.

Dr. Patrick Romanelli, H. Y. Benedict Professor of Philosophy, is the subject of a recently-published book by Giovanni de Cresciani, a teacher at the University of Naples, Italy. The book, a critical survey of the Romanelli philosophy, is entitled "Partick Romanell e l’Oidieramo Naturalismo Statuinte."

A meeting in Chihuahua City last fall resulted in a cultural exchange pact between UTEP and 10 other colleges and universities in Mexico and the Southwest. UTEP began the program by sending two faculty members and six students to Chihuahua November 15 for a literary meeting. The exchanges will also include lectures, publications, music groups and art programs.

"President's Report," the annual progress publication of the College, was issued in November. The new pictorial format includes information about the College budget, construction, enrollment, library, faculty salaries, and undergraduate and graduate degrees.

A $70,277 grant from the U. S. Office of Education will enable the English Department to conduct a summer institute in English proficiency of grade school students. Dr. Ray Past will direct the institute. A maximum of 48 teachers from West Texas and New Mexico will be on campus from June 12 through August 4. Three UTEP faculty members and three distinguished visiting lecturers will instruct the participants.