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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News & Publications

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
REF: 1-4-4-95
CONTACT: Jennifer LeNoir

(Editor's Note: Members of the media are invited to cover the awards luncheon at noon in the Godbold Cultural Center, as well as the 2 p.m. lecture in the Rotunda of the College of Business Administration at Texas Tech.)

LUBBOCK -- David P. Frazier, president, chairman & chief executive officer at DF&R Restaurants Inc. in Dallas, will receive the "Outstanding Entrepreneur Award" from the College of Business Administration at Texas Tech University during a luncheon at noon Thursday (April 6) in the Godbold Cultural Center.

Frazier, who operates 12 Harrigans and 34 Don Pablo's restaurants, also will speak to Texas Tech business students about "How to Take a Company Public" from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday (April 6) in Room 257 of the College of Business Administration.

Frazier, the son of a West Texas cafe owner from Aspermont, said he never intended to follow in the footsteps of his father. By working as a dishwasher, a cook, a waiter and Lubbock restaurant manager, he earned a bachelor's degree in finance from the College of Business Administration at Texas Tech in 1973.

In 1977, he and Marc D. Redus, a college friend, opened Harrigan's restaurant in Lubbock. Frazier was 30 years old. Redus was 22. Despite a bad location -- on the back side of a closed alley with no exposure to a major street -- the format succeeded. Frazier and two other partners purchased the building for \$40,000. In 1979, Frazier founded DF&R Restaurants Inc. with Redus and Bill Davis.

Today, DF&R owns and operates 46 full-service, casual dining restaurants in eight states, including 12 Harrigans and 34 Don Pablo's. In 1994, DR&R was named one of the best small companies in America by *Forbes* magazine. Its initial stock offering in January 1993 was rated by *Securities Data* as one of the 100 best of the year.

"We believe there is a nationwide demand, so we're putting energy into finding the markets and satisfying demands in those markets. People are broadening the horizons of what they will eat. But we're not trying to reinvent Mexican food. We are a Mexican restaurant. I don't want any bones about it," said Frazier.

The company has been profitable every year and according to restaurant industry analysts, is in the top tier of fast-growth restaurant companies.

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FRAZIER\PAGE 2

As part of their innovative approaches, the company tries to hire at least 80 percent of its management from within DF&R. Nearly all of the 24 employees in DF&R's headquarters, from members of the payroll department to the CEO, have worked at Don Pablo's or Harrigans.

Another positive concept for DF&R is the company's extraordinary level of service. DF&R's training concept is based on the belief that restaurant employees don't have to drift from one restaurant job to another. As a result, the company has established a career "ladder" for employees. The highly organized business structure also enables employees to know exactly where they stand in their career track.

Last year, the company completed a secondary stock offering of 1.15 million shares. The company will use the proceeds from the offering primarily to finance additional Don Pablo's units in the Midwest, Southwest and mid-Atlantic states.

DF&R plans to open eight more of its Don Pablo's restaurants during the first half of fiscal 1996. The company is focusing its expansion on Columbus, Cincinnati and Dayton, Ohio, as well as Indianapolis and Merrillville, Indiana, and cities in Oklahoma and Michigan.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
REF: 2-4-4-95
CONTACT: Steve Kauffman

LUBBOCK -- The Texas Tech University Library Performance Series will continue its free public fine arts presentations this month with a flute choir concert at noon Friday (April 7) in the Croslin Room of the library.

The School of Music ensemble, directed by Professor of Flute Michael Stoune, will perform a range of pieces from duets to quintets by composers such as Mendelssohn, Kuhlau, Debussy and Bach. Also featured will be a setting of "Amazing Grace" by doctoral student Fred Allen.

The series of monthly presentations is coordinated by the Art in the Library Committee at Texas Tech. The group focuses on bringing free performing arts presentations to patrons in the library each month during the lunch hour. The series hosts vocal and instrumental concerts as well as theatrical performances.

For more information on the Texas Tech University Library Performance Series, contact Librarian Bonnie Reed at (806) 742-2236.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
REF: 3-4-5-95
CONTACT: Jennifer LeNoir

(Editor's Note: Members of the media are invited to attend the Tuesday reception and interview authors.)

LUBBOCK -- The Texas Tech University Libraries will host a reception for faculty and staff authors from 4-5 p.m. Tuesday (April 11) in the Croslin Room of the University Library. The reception coincides with the 13th annual Faculty and Staff Book Exhibit, which is scheduled April 10-28 in the library's Croslin Room.

The reception and book exhibit are activities planned to highlight National Library Week, April 9-15.

The ceremony will honor authors of more than 40 books and monographs that were published from Jan. 1, 1994 through March 1, 1995. This exhibition will feature the largest display of books and monographs ever shown at the library, according to Carrie Sundstrom, assistant director of library development.

The recently published authors include Edward E. Anderson, professor of mechanical engineering; Elaine Atkinson, assistant publications manager for the Office of News & Publications; Thomas E. Baker, Alvin R. Allison professor of law; Helen C. Brittin, professor of education, nutrition and restaurant/hotel management; David Dean, adjunct professor of museum science and associate director of museum operations and programs; Sam Dragga, associate professor of English; Gary Edson, professor of museum science and executive director of the Museum at Texas Tech; Thomas G. Engel, research assistant professor of electrical engineering; and Don Ethridge, professor of agricultural economics.

Additional authors include Tracy Givens and Celeste Lovett, both information specialists at the Home Economics Curriculum Center; Ulrich Goebel, professor of classical and modern languages and literatures; Fred Hartmeister, professor of educational psychology and leadership; Nancy P. Hickerson, associate professor of sociology, anthropology and social work; David Leon Higdon, Horn professor of English; Linda C. Hoover, assistant professor of education, nutrition and restaurant/hotel management; Jerry Hunt, Horn professor of management; Clyde Jones, professor and curator of biological sciences; and Alan J. Koenig, associate professor of educational psychology and leadership.

Additional authors include James C. Lampe, professor of accounting; David E. Lawver, assistant professor of agricultural education and communications; Hua Li, assistant professor of computer science; Timothy T. Maxwell, associate professor, and Jesse C. Jones,

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BOOK EXHIBIT/PAGE 2

lecturer, both from the department of mechanical engineering; Freda McVay, journalism lecturer, and Ashton Thornhill, associate professor of photocommunications, both at the School of Mass Communications; E. Roland Menzel, professor and director of forensic studies; Paul Allen Miller, assistant professor of classics and composition literature; Debbie Mumme, curriculum project coordinator from the Home Economics Curriculum Center; David J. Murrah, associate director for special collections and director of the Southwest Collection; Harley D. Oberhelman, Horn professor of classical and modern languages and literatures; Lynn Perrin, associate director of the Home Economics Curriculum Center; Marilyn E. Phelan, Robert H. Bean Professor of Law, and Bill Piatt, professor of law; and Randy Reddick, assistant professor of journalism.

Also among those to be honored include Sue Tolleson-Rinehart, professor of political science; Carolyn D. Rude, professor of English and director of graduate studies; Ritch Sorenson, associate professor, Grace Kennedy, lecturer, Ida Ramirez, lecturer, and Grant Savage, associate professor, all from the area of management; Donald R. Tanner, professor of music; Mary Jeanne van Appledorn, Horn professor of music; Barbara K. Walker, curator of the Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative; Warren S. Walker, director of the Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative and Horn professor emeritus of English; and Peggy Willis-Aarnio, professor of theatre and dance.

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REF: 4-4-5-95

CONTACT: Chuck Bischoff

LUBBOCK -- Texas Tech University's College of Engineering will honor five outstanding alumni at the 29th annual Distinguished Engineer Awards Luncheon at 11:45 a.m. Friday (April 7) in the University Center Ballroom.

The Distinguished Engineer Awards program annually recognizes graduates who have made significant contributions to society and who have brought distinction to the College of Engineering.

The College of Engineering's 1995 Distinguished Engineers include Executive Director of the Texas Department of Transportation William G. "Bill" Burnett of Austin; Tisoft Inc. Founder and Chairman of the Board Patrick R. Gallagher of Fairfax, Va.; Herd Producing Co. Founder Bob L. Herd of Tyler; Vice-President--Progress of Amoco Corp. Larry D. McVay of Woodridge, Ill.; and President and General Manager of Amoco Trinidad Oil Co. David George Wight of Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

"The Distinguished Engineer program allow Texas Tech University, as an institution, a means to recognize graduates who have brought credit and honor to their alma mater by their achievements and contributions to society," said Jorge I. Aunoi, dean of the College of Engineering.

After graduating from Texas Tech in 1971 with a civil engineering degree, Burnett joined the Texas Department of Transportation Odessa District office as resident engineer and worked in Pecos, Midland and Odessa. He became one of the youngest district engineers when he was chosen as the director of the Abilene District in 1986. He later became the district engineer in El Paso in 1991.

In 1993, the Texas Transportation Commission unanimously endorsed him for appointment as the executive director of the Texas Department of Transportation. In 1996, he will become the president of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, an organization in which he has served as a member and as chairman of several committees.

Among his other professional affiliations, Burnett serves on the Texas Tech Civil Engineering Advisory Council and was inducted into the Texas Tech Civil Engineering Advisory Council in 1992.

Gallagher, a native of Odessa, graduated from Texas Tech in 1964 with an electrical engineering degree. Immediately after graduation, he joined the Houston-based Industrial Products Division of Texas Instruments Inc. as an industrial instrumentation design engineer. After a series of promotions, he become responsible for minicomputer sales in the Mid-Atlantic area. His district consistently ranked among the top three national sales districts.

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AFTER HOURS CALL: Margaret Simon (806) 797-1888 / Steve Kauffman (806) 792-6019

DISTINGUISHED ENGINEERS/PAGE 2

Gallagher currently serves as chief executive officer of Tisoft Inc., in Fairfax, Va., a computer service integration company he founded in 1980. The company serves the federal government sector with annual sales exceeding \$70 million. The implementation of the Department of Justice AMICUS and EAGLE contracts involved installing more than 20,000 workstations and earned Tisoft Inc. \$250 million in revenue.

Gallagher actively has been involved with the Texas Tech Mentor Match Program and the Electrical Engineering Industrial Advisory Board. He also is a member of the Russell H. Seacat Jr. Scholarship Founders Committee, the Travis L. Simpson Scholarship Foundation and the Texas Tech Electrical Engineering Academy.

Before earning a petroleum engineering degree at Texas Tech in 1957, Herd served four years in the U.S. Air Force which included the early years of the Korean War.

After graduation, the Mesquite native was employed by Enserch Exploration as a petroleum Engineer, until 1964. He then became an independent oil and gas operator and producer founding Herd Producing Co. in 1965 and becoming the company's chief executive officer, a position he currently holds. The company owns and operates more than 400 wells in Northern Louisiana and East Texas. He also founded affiliate companies Ty-Tex Exploration Inc., Horizon Natural Gas Corp. and Petro Management.

As a loyal supporter of Texas Tech, Herd is a member of the President's Council, has funded a Presidential Endowed Scholarship, has contributed funding for a chair in the College of Engineering and has made several contributions to the Ex-Students Association.

McVay worked for Amoco Production Company for three summers while attending Texas Tech. After graduating with a mechanical engineering degree in 1970, he joined the company fulltime and, during the next 10 years, held numerous positions in engineering supervision and management in Texas, Illinois and Colorado.

In 1980, McVay became the district manager of the Slaughter District in Brownfield -- Amoco's largest district -- and oversaw the industry's first field carbon dioxide operations. The \$100 million project came in 30 percent under budget, ahead of schedule and with minimal operating problems.

McVay served as vice-president and general manager of Amoco Pipeline and has managed refineries in Wyoming and Virginia. He currently serves as vice-president--progress of Amoco Corporation in Illinois, a position he has held for two years.

In addition to his involvement in numerous civic organizations, McVay has been appointed to the Governor of Virginia's Task Force for Implementation of the Clean Air Act and to the Governor of Colorado's Economic Development Council.

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DISTINGUISHED ENGINEERS/PAGE 3

Wight, a native of Great Bend, Kan., began work as a junior petroleum engineer with Amoco in Levelland after graduating from Texas Tech in 1964 with a petroleum engineering degree. He was promoted from various petroleum engineer positions in Fort Worth and Midland and Liberal, Kan.

He currently serves as president and general manager of Amoco Trinidad Oil Company, the largest petroleum producer in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, producing more than 350 million cubic feet of natural gas and 60,000 barrels of crude oil per day.

In addition to his professional interests, Wight is an FIFA referee with the U.S. Soccer Federation and is vice-president of the American Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad and Tobago.

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CONTACT: Jennifer LeNoir

[Editor's Note: For more information on Texas Archeology Awareness Week, contact Lara Adair at (806) 742-1116. To schedule a tour, which demonstrates techniques in archaeology through hands-on mock excavations, artifact interpretation, matrix sorting, interpretation and survey, as well as grid set up, call Diana Theall at (806) 742-2456.]

LUBBOCK -- The Museum of Texas Tech University will celebrate "Texas Archeology Awareness Week" April 21-30 at the Lubbock Lake Landmark State Historical Park. The week will culminate with Sen. John Montford serving as the master of ceremonies for the unveiling of a life-size giant armadillo bronze at 10 a.m. Saturday (April 29) at the Robert "Bob" Nash Interpretive Center at the landmark.

The bronze sculpture was created by Albuquerque artist Dave Thomas. Currently the landmark displays other bronze sculptures representing a giant short-faced bear and an ancient bison.

Visitors who attend the April 29 unveiling ceremony will be admitted free to the landmark before 1 p.m. Norwest Bank Texas is underwriting the cost of admission fees for the ceremony. Individuals who attend other "Texas Archeology Awareness Week" activities will be charged a park admission fee of \$1 for children ages 6 to 12, and \$2 for everyone 13 years old and above.

Prior to the unveiling ceremony, Eileen Johnson, director of the landmark and curator of anthropology at the Museum of Texas Tech, will dedicate a memorial plaque to Patty Thompson. Thompson, who died March 23, had been a volunteer at the landmark for more than a decade. She was active in all aspects of the landmark from excavation to fundraising activities, as well as laboratory work and the development of guided tours for members of the public.

Additional activities will include a series of evening lectures April 25-27 in the Robert "Bob" Nash Interpretive Center at the landmark. The first lecture, scheduled from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday (April 25), is titled "The Archaeology of San Sabá County, Texas." The lecture will be presented by Grant Hall, assistant professor of sociology, anthropology and social work; and Texas Tech anthropology graduate students Ellen Mayo and Diane Kimbrell.

A lecture by Kent Hicks, research assistant at the Museum of Texas Tech, will provide a slide presentation and discussion titled "The Pastores Culture of the Southern Plains," from 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday (April 26) in the Robert "Bob" Nash Interpretive Center at the landmark. The pastores were Hispanic sheep herders who moved into the Canadian River Valley and onto the northern rolling plains from the early 1870s to the mid-1880s.

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ARCHEOLOGY AWARENESS/PAGE 2

Luc Litwinionek, who is from the Université de Montreal and currently working as a research assistant at the Museum of Texas Tech, will discuss what may have happened to a mammoth whose remains were found eroding in Yellowhouse Canyon. Litwinionek's lecture is from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday (April 27) in the Robert "Bob" Nash Interpretive Center at the landmark.

Visitor hours at the Lubbock Lake Landmark State Historical Park are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday. The landmark is closed on Monday.

Fees to state parks are established and supervised by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The Lubbock Lake Landmark State Historical Park is a partnership between the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas Tech.

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MEDIA ADVISORY

REF: 6-4-6-95

CONTACT: Myrna Whitehead
or Angela Murray

LUBBOCK -- Texas Tech University's Saddle Tramps will extend a rowdy West Texas welcome to 44 German visitors as they begin a brief visit to the Lubbock community at 5:15 p.m. Monday (April 10) at the Lubbock International Airport. The visitors, members of "Karl-May-Gesellschaft" literary society, will be spending 14 days touring the state of Texas.

Media representatives are invited to interview the delegates during their Lubbock visit. They will be most accessible at an opening reception at 6 p.m. Monday at the National Windmill Project Inc., 401 N. Interstate 27, or at a reception at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Ranching Heritage Center, Fourth Street and Indiana Avenue.

According to Meredith McClain, associate professor of German at Texas Tech, Karl May's favorite character was a Mescalero Apache he named "Winnetou." The 14-day tour, organized by McClain, is called "Winnetour."

Among the German guests are Rene Wagner of the Karl May Museum in Radebeul/Dresden; Andre Neubert of the Karl May House in Hohenstein-Ernstthal; Eckehard Koch, Karl May Society publisher, and Friedrich Oldenburg, city government official from Berlin-Steglitz. Donald Haragan, Texas Tech University executive vice president and provost, will present the opening address at a reception at the National Windmill Project. Also during the reception, several German speaking graduate students will describe each windmill for the visitors.

Beginning at 9 a.m. Tuesday (April 11), the delegation will visit the Texas Tech campus. The group also will tour at 10:30 a.m. the Lubbock Lake Landmark and at 2 p.m. the Museum of Texas Tech University and the Ranching Heritage Center. Other tour sites set for Tuesday will include the Ransom Canyon area, Blanco Canyon and the Caprock and Llano Estacado wineries.

The delegation will attend special receptions and tours in the Texas cities of Fort Worth, Palo Duro Canyon, Amarillo and the New Mexico cities of Roswell, Ruidoso, Santa Fe and Albuquerque during the remaining weeks of their visit.

For more information on the German guests, contact Meredith McClain, associate professor of German, at (806) 742-3207.

MEDIA ADVISORY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

REF: 7-4-6-95

CONTACT: Myrna Whitehead
or Angela Murray

LUBBOCK -- Texas Tech University and West Texas A&M University will be the sites of a collaborative video teleconference set for 10 a.m. Monday (April 10) in Room 235 of the Education/Administration Building. The teleconference, co-sponsored by the College of Education at Texas Tech and at West Texas A&M, will allow the faculties of each institution to exchange information via the interactive teleconference.

Media representatives are invited to attend the video conference and interview the faculty of both institutions who will be attending the event. The faculties will discuss the future of a proposed doctoral degree in which students can attend West Texas A&M and receive their degrees from Texas Tech. Media representatives from Amarillo also will be on hand to observe the conference and interview participants.

The doctoral program, approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is designed to train professional educators in the Panhandle region of Texas who are interested in an advanced degree in educational administration.

Among the guests from West Texas A&M will be College of Education Dean Bryan Lotven; Ted Guffy, chairperson of education; James Smith, associate professor for educational leadership; and Vaughn Nelson, acting dean of the Graduate School. Attending from Texas Tech will be College of Education Dean Elaine Jarchow; Joe Claudet, associate professor of education/educational psychology and leadership; Bill Sparkman, associate dean of the College of Education; and Thomas Langford, associate dean of the Graduate School.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REF: 8-4-6-95

CONTACT: Michael Sommermeyer

LUBBOCK -- The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources will host the Texas Tech FFA Hamburger Feed and Area Judging Contest on Friday (April 7) and Saturday (April 8) for Area I and II FFA students.

The FFA Hamburger Feed starts at 6:30 p.m. Friday in the Livestock Arena. The dinner, free to all contest participants, provides an opportunity for high school students to socialize and talk with students, faculty and staff at the college.

The dinner is prepared and served by students from various college clubs and organizations such as the Student Agricultural Council. The members of these organizations also set up booths to provide information about the different opportunities that are available to students through Texas Tech's extracurricular programs.

FFA students will compete in one of nine different contests Saturday to qualify for state competition. The areas of competition are agricultural mechanics, dairy cattle, dairy foods, horse, land, livestock, meats, poultry, and range and pasture judging. The top placing individuals and teams will then advance to the state competitions.

Paul Vaughn, chairman of the department of agricultural education and communications and contest coordinator, said the judging contests have shown steady growth in both size and demand during the past few years. Last year, more than 1,000 students participated in the area contest.

The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources coordinates both events and its departments in various capacities. The college faculty and students provide the supervision and direction of specific contests, as well as the organization, implementation and tabulation of results.

State contests are hosted at many different universities throughout the state. Texas Tech University will be the location April 29 for six state contests: crops, cotton, entomology, wool, range and pasture identification and horse.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
REF: 9-4-6-95
CONTACT: Margaret Lutherer

LUBBOCK -- The Office of News and Publications at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center has been awarded first prize for scientific and medical writing in a five state region. The award was made on Monday, (April 3) in Fort Worth at the district meeting of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE.)

The Texas Tech Health Sciences Center office also won a first place award in design improvement for a series of marketing materials promoting the Texas Tech School of Nursing. That award was submitted by Elaine Atkinson, assistant manager of health sciences center publications. Atkinson and publications manager, John Walls, also received a second place award in general institutional literature for a brochure, promoting the health sciences center, titled "Caring for West Texas."

Medical Writer Wayne Barringer was awarded second place in a category in the general feature writing category for his story "Out of the Darkness" that appeared in the health sciences center alumni magazine *Pulse*, in the spring of 1994. Walls received a third place award in the same category for his story "Doc of All Trades," which also appeared in the spring 1994 *Pulse*.

The first place award for best medical scientific writing in a five state region was the result of writing samples submitted by Preston Lewis, assistant director of News and Publications, Barringer, Walls, and Sandra Pulley, student intern in the office.

"Texas Tech is extremely proud of these awards won by our health sciences center office. To produce the best medical scientific writing in a region that includes many prestigious universities and medical schools is a significant accomplishment for Texas Tech," said Margaret Lutherer, director of News and Publications for the university and the health sciences center.

CASE is a national support organization for higher education located in Washington, D.C. District IV of CASE consists of university and medical school member institutions in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

MEDIA ADVISORY

REF: 10-4-6-95

CONTACT: Margaret Lutherer

LUBBOCK -- The Texas Tech Board of Regents will welcome its two newest members and a reappointed member when it meets Friday (April 14) in a new one day format.

To create a more efficient and effective structure, the Board of Regents will convene for one full day with committee meetings beginning at approximately 10:30 a.m. and a formal meeting of the board beginning at 1 p.m.

Three separate committee meetings will convene concurrently at approximately 10:30 a.m. on April 14. The academic clinical and student affairs committee will meet in the Board of Regents Committee Room on the second floor of the east wing of the Administration Building. The Finance and Administration Committee will meet in the Board of Regents Formal Meeting Room also on the second floor of the east wing of the Administration Building. The campus and building committee will meet in the Academic Affairs Conference Room, Room 104 located inside the Provost's Office of the first floor of the Administration Building.

Following a private luncheon, the board of regents will meet at 1 p.m. in the Board of Regents Meeting Room on the second floor of the east wing of the Administration Building. The formal board meeting will be a working session where issues are discussed and regents brief each other on the agenda items of the committees. Votes on various issues will be taken, and Texas Tech regential policy will be made at this meeting. The meeting will conclude with an address by Texas Tech President Robert W. Lawless.

Enclosed is the schedule for the April 14 board meeting and background information for each committee meeting. Also enclosed are brief biographies of the two new regents, Robert Brown of El Paso and James Sowell of Dallas. Highlighting the board of regents agenda for the April meeting will be the granting of academic tenure and promotions to the faculties of both the university and the health sciences center. The board will also discuss giving authorization to President Lawless to approve the establishment of a certified nonprofit health corporation under the Texas Medical Practice Act. The certified nonprofit health corporation will allow health sciences center physicians to engage in managed care contracting. In addition, the regents will discuss establishment of appropriate curriculum for the new School of Pharmacy in Amarillo. The regents will also discuss approval of a contract between the health sciences center and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to provide clinical, health care management and nursing services to inmates of the newly constructed John T. Montford Psychiatric Facility in Lubbock.

For more information on the new format for Board of Regents meetings or on specific agenda items for the April 14 meeting, contact Margaret Lutherer at (806) 742-2136.



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MEDIA ADVISORY

REF: 11-4-7-95

CONTACT: Michael Sommermeyer

Wind Engineering Research Center

LUBBOCK -- Wind engineering researchers, in conjunction with the Institute for Disaster Research at Texas Tech University, have conducted lab research and on-site documentation of natural disasters since 1970. The institute's faculty and students study the causes and effects of tornadoes, hurricanes and low-level blasts, looking for preventive methods to reduce the damage these severe storms can cause.

Researchers conduct field examinations of hurricane and tornado disasters within the United States, Mexico and Australia. The institute's researchers began their studies after the May 11, 1970, storm that destroyed one-fourth of Lubbock. In 1992, they examined the damage left by Hurricane Andrew in South Florida and Louisiana. Researchers observed that most of the property damage occurred from wind and water penetration after the initial storm blast and the buildings would have withstood this damage with better siding, window and roofing systems.

In 1993, researchers recommended new building codes for Dade and Broward counties in South Florida after testing storm shutters with an air cannon. Mehta points to information gathered from the damage of storms like Hurricane Andrew to saving lives through better construction and engineering strategies. Survey teams are prepared to go into the field again this year.

Research grants are funding projects such as an evaluation of the effectiveness of building codes and construction practices in preventing hurricane damage to residential and commercial buildings for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. A grant from the National Committee on Property Insurance has funded the development of a computer model that will help insurance underwriters predict the performance of existing buildings in wind storms. The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is sponsoring a project for the development of building design criteria that resist the impact of tornado generated missiles, thus protecting important Department of Energy facilities.

Work has begun on a computer simulation of wind blasts to aid in designing a building that can withstand high winds. Once completed this simulation would point out wind problems before a building was constructed reducing costly property damage during a storm.

SOURCE:

Kishor Mehta, Ph.D., (806) 742-3476

Director of the Wind Engineering Research Center and Professor of Civil Engineering

Man-made Hailstones Aid Researcher

LUBBOCK -- Hail often puts so many dimples in metal that a car hood can resemble a golf ball. This dangerous natural phenomenon also can split roofing material and shatter glass.

Hail causes thousands of dollars in damage to machinery, structures and agriculture each year. Texas Tech University Industrial Engineering Professor Milton L. Smith is studying hail effects on aircraft and wind generators.

The project involves simulating hail impacts with a compressed air cannon that shoots man-made ice balls against a target at speeds of up to 300 miles per hour.

Although most hail actually falls at speeds of 50 to 100 mph, collision speed increases when a moving object encounters a falling hailstone. For example, if hail falling at 50 mph hits wind generator blade tips moving upward at 250 mph, the collision speed equals 300 mph.

However, hail stones often impact objects moving much faster. For instance, a helicopter traveling through a storm will encounter hail at speeds of nearly 600 mph. To obtain higher velocities, such as those of helicopter blades, researchers will use compressed helium to increase the cannon velocity.

While intensity of hail rather than size of stones affects crops, hailstones with diameters of 1.5 inches or more cause the most serious damage to metal and glass. Planes and helicopters moving into a hailstorm may sustain damage to cockpit enclosures, canopies and windshields with even just a few large stones.

Smith first analyzed the effects of hail on machinery in the 1980s during a 3-year project sponsored by the Department of Energy. To assess hail damage to reflective glass on solar collectors, researchers placed Styrofoam hail pads near 20 units scattered throughout the United States. By measuring permanent indentions in the hail pads, Smith determined the size of hailstones, wind velocity, number of impacts per unit area and the direction of the storm.

Aircraft and automobile manufacturers have expressed interest in the hail damage research. Once he determines the threshold speed of damaging hail, Smith can help equipment manufacturers improve their products to withstand the damaging effects of hail.

SOURCE:

Milton Smith, Ph.D, (806) 742-3543
Professor of Industrial Engineering

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CONTACT: Chuck Bischoff

LUBBOCK -- The Museum of Texas Tech University will offer children's educational activities 10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m. Saturday (April 8) in the Explorium Gallery of the museum. Free and open to the public, the activities will coincide with the exhibit titled, "A Celebration of Bats," currently on display in Gallery 2.

Space is limited. Reservations for the activities can be made by calling the Museum Education office at (806) 742-2432.

Museum educators will demonstrate how bats see in the dark and use their sense of smell to find their babies. A museum staff member will read "Stellaluna," Janell Cannon's award-winning book about a baby bat.

The first participants under 18 years of age to register will receive a free bat poster featuring a color photograph from the exhibition.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this workshop and who may need auxiliary aids or services are requested to notify the Museum Education office at the time of registration so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

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MEDIA ADVISORY

REF: 14-4-7-95

**CONTACT: Steve Kauffman or
Paul Cushman**

LUBBOCK -- A reception honoring Texas Tech University Professor Emeritus Preston F. Gott and celebrating the opening of the Preston F. Gott Skyview Observatory will be held 7 p.m. Sunday (April 9) in Room 103 of the Science Building on campus. Members of the media are invited to the reception and, immediately following, the site visit to the observatory New Deal.

The reception is co-sponsored by the Texas Tech's department of physics and the South Plains Astronomy Club.

The observatory became a reality due primarily to the tireless efforts of Gott with the help of the department of physics and the South Plains Astronomy Club, according to Charles Myles, chairman of the department of physics. He added that the telescope, dome, and land were donated to Texas Tech, and the funds for moving the telescope and dome to the present site were donated by an anonymous donor.

"It has always been one of Gott's goals for Texas Tech to have a dark sky observatory for teaching and research, and he never lost sight of this vision," Myles said.

Funds for the construction of the building and finishing the inside were allocated by Texas Tech. Much of the work on the inside of the building was performed on a volunteer basis by South Plains Astronomy Club members.

Gott was a faculty member in the department of physics for 40 years, retiring from teaching in 1989. He now is designated as the director of the Texas Tech University Observatories.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Steve Kauffman or
Paul Cushman

LUBBOCK -- Poet Bob Fink will read selections from his published poems at 8 p.m. Tuesday (April 11) in the Senate Room of the University Center. The reading is free and open to the public.

A native Texan, Fink is professor of English and director of the creative writing workshops at Hardin-Simmons University. He earned both his master's and doctoral degrees at Texas Tech.

Fink's return to Texas Tech celebrates last month's publication of his third book of poems, "The Tongues of Men and of Angels." Fink's work has been published in many literary journals including *Michigan Quarterly*, *Poetry Northwest*, *Southern Poetry Review*, *Southwest Review* and *TriQuarterly*.

Fink's poems have a power and grace rare in poems of such immediate clarity. His language sings out of wide experience. He shares his world in vivid images, and it becomes the audiences, according to Wendell Aycock, chairman of the department of English.

His second volume of poems, "The Ghostly Hitchhiker," was published in 1989. His first collection, "Azimuth Points," won *The Texas Review's* annual chapbook contest in 1981.

In 1990, Fink was elected to membership in the Texas Institute of Letters, the highest distinction a poet can achieve in Texas. Fink also received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1992 from the Texas Tech department of English. He has served as president of the Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers (1982-1984) and, more recently, he served two terms as president of faculty at Hardin-Simmons University.

In conjunction with his reading, copies of Fink's most recent books are available in the "Visiting Authors" section of the Texas Tech Bookstore. Fink's visit is co-sponsored by the Texas Reading Circuit with funding from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

For more information about the poetry reading, contact Professor of English Walter McDonald at (806) 742-2500.