

Gold Pan

New Mexico Tech

Winter 2002

49ers 2001 - A Swinging Success

by Marty Jonas

While this year's event was not as rowdy as in years past, 49ers 2001 was a celebration to remember. The old, favorite standbys were enjoyed by all: car bashing, dunking your favorite (or not-so-favorite) administrator or professor, muscular miners drilling through hard rock, and of course, lots of festive music.

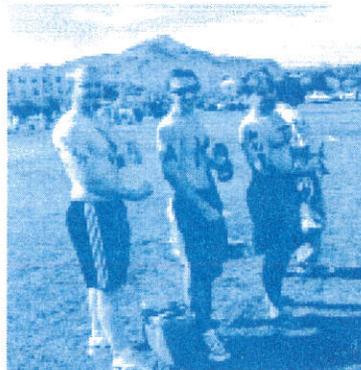
Even the weather cooperated this year, and the playing field was full as people watched the soccer, rugby and volleyball games or took advantage of the warm, sunny day to play in the mud pit. *Baila! Baila!* performed a stunning array of folk dances, with nearly a dozen dance groups of all ages in full costume. Members of the San Lorenzo Parish also treated the audience to an authentic Matachines dance performance.

The M Mountain Run drew 67 participants, more than double previous years. There's nothing like a cash prize to increase participation! The M shone much brighter after applying all the lime students hauled up the mountainside.

By far, the most popular and fun event was Casino Night, held in the SAC conference room, which was small, but evoked the feeling of

crowded gambling rooms of the old West. The Swing Daddies held sway in the auditorium and the dance floor was packed with couples showing off their skill. To everyone's surprise, a streaker, wearing nothing but green paint, ran through the crowd, proving that the 49ers spirit is alive and well at Tech.

Next year's 49ers is set for Oct. 18 – 20, 2002. Come join us!



Coming to Your Area Soon!

New Mexico Tech Alumni Chapters may soon be coming to your area. We are currently planning to establish Alumni Chapters in Albuquerque, Denver, Phoenix/Tucson, Houston, and possibly your area.

Thanks to the efforts of **Shari (Colella) Foley**, '91, '95, **Bill Foley**, '90, **Eleni "Sam" (Myers) Sims**, '91, **Gina (Age) Ross**, '92, and **Garret Ross**, '90, '92, an Albuquerque Tech Alumni Chapter will have its first meeting on Jan.

22, 2002, at 7 p.m. at the Albuquerque TVI Small Business Development Center, located at 5600 Eagle Rock Ave., Suite 201.

Some of you may ask, "Why should we have Alumni Chapters?" Our purpose is to:

- * Provide organizations where alumni, parents, and friends have an opportunity to create an association that provides support and intellectual and social enrichment;
- * Provide Tech with the opportunity to create a solid connection with its alumni, parents, friends, and prospective students;
- * Provide a networking resource for alumni and current Tech students possibly evolving into internships, mentorship opportunities, and chapter scholarships; and
- * Encourage support for Tech through programs such as development, student recruitment, career placement, community service, legislative advocacy, and professional expertise and encouragement.

As chapters, we plan on having at least one event per year. These events could consist of scheduling a dynamic speaker, group trips to sporting events, scientific programs, and exhibits, and/or simple social gatherings as interest dictates. These events are a great way to stay in touch with old friends, develop new friendships, and support your alma mater, as well.

Contact Rose Baca by e-mail at rbaca@admin.nmt.edu, or by calling (800) 428-TECH, #4, or (505) 835-5724 to join.

IN THIS ISSUE

Cover:
49ers 2001 Alumni Chapters

Letter from the Editor 2

Tech Notes 2

Donor Recognition 4

People You Know 6

Tech License Plates 12

Obituaries 12

Willow Burand Receives Citation from Alaska Legislature 15

Join the Tech Alumni Association 15

Keep in Touch! 16

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New Mexico Tech is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

From the Editor:

Dear Alumni:

We at the Advancement Office are happy to bring you another issue of *Gold Pan*, although this one took a while. We're juggling many of Tech's needs, including producing recruiting material for the Admission Office, as well as holding alumni events like 49ers and managing development projects.

We're trying to fill two needs with this publication: the need to reach you frequently with news of Tech and your fellow alums, and the need to bring you more in-depth news about your school. Our plan is to bring you this newsletter – short, black-and-white, and focused – three times a year, and once a year bring you a color magazine with more feature articles about Tech.

We're re-inventing Tech's communications with alumni, and every process has its growing pains. Frequent news from Tech is also available from the Yahoo newsgroup called *Goldpan*, and of course, on our webpage, www.nmt.edu.

Thanks for your patience!

Kathy Hedges
Gold Pan editor



Tech Notes

[Following are abbreviated versions of recent Tech news stories. Full versions are available at www.nmt.edu/mainpage/news/2001/]

Tech Named "Hot School"

The *Wall Street Journal*, in an article published on Oct. 5, 2001, named New Mexico Tech to its list of "This Fall's Hot Schools." Tech made the list on the basis of its peaceful location, research in counter-terrorism, and scholarship money available. Tech was one of 16 schools on the *Wall Street Journal's* list, including Dartmouth, Pennsylvania State, Rice University, University of Iowa, State University of New York at Albany, and the College of William & Mary.

Albuquerque Journal Spotlights Tech

New Mexico Tech was the subject of a front-page feature article in the *Sunday Journal* on Sunday, Oct. 14, 2001. The article, called "Mission

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Possible" highlighted the on-campus jobs that Tech students get at Tech's many research divisions, including the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center, the Institute for Complex Additive Systems Analysis, and the Petroleum Recovery Research Center.

Tech received about \$60 million last year in research grants and contracts, on a campus with about 1,600 students. The total is expected to increase in the coming year, due to increases in counter-terrorism work.

Over 80 percent of Tech's undergraduates work in research programs, according to Dr. Peter Gerity, vice president of academic affairs. Some student jobs pay up to \$15 an hour, for students with work and classroom experience.

Tech's "Team FRACTAL" Rides NASA Plane

Ten New Mexico Tech students traveled this summer to NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston and took their team-developed experiment to never-before-achieved heights aboard the space agency's famed KC-135A aircraft — a military version of a Boeing 707 which has been affectionately dubbed by its various passengers over the years as the "Vomit Comet."

Four members of Tech's "Team FRACTAL" accompanied their fluid dynamics experiment aboard the airplane in two separate flights above the Gulf of Mexico.

New Mexico Tech's Team FRACTAL (an acronym which stands for "Fractal Response and Character of Turbulence at Low Gs") explored the effects of reduced gravity, as well as increased gravity, on the fractal characteristics of buoyancy-driven turbulent flow.

The experiment involved immersing a heating element in a narrow tank of

water and heating up the water until a convective heat flow became turbulent enough to allow illumination from a nearby light to project the pattern of convection onto a screen located on the other side of the tank. In addition to designing and implementing the experiment, Team FRACTAL members also developed their own software which they are currently using to analyze and evaluate the fractal nature of the observed turbulence.

The Tech students plan to publish results of their work and also conduct educational outreach programs based on their experiment and experiences aboard the Vomit Comet at New Mexico middle and high schools.

NM Tech on Team to Direct Supercomputing Center

New Mexico Tech is on a team to operate and manage the Maui Supercomputing Center, home to some of the country's major high performance computing resources. The Air Force Research Laboratory awarded the contract to a team headed by the University of Hawaii. In addition to New Mexico Tech, the team included Boeing Rocketdyne Technical Services, Textron, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), and the Ohio Supercomputer Center. The contract, which begins on October 1, 2001, may be extended for up to 10 years and has a potential value of \$181 million.

Fire-Fighting Robots

New Mexico Tech teams of electrical engineering students received more awards than any other college during the Eighth Annual Fire-Fighting Home Robot Contest, an international robotics contest held at Trinity College. Five out of the nine robotics entries fielded by New Mexico Tech placed among the top ten positions in the senior division. "New Mexico Tech 2," an entry

submitted by Tech graduate student Jose Guilberto, placed second overall in the senior division; while "New Mexico Tech 1," another robot designed and built by Guilberto, ended up in 11th place.

Two of the students later competed in the Second Annual Regional Fire-Fighting Home Robot Competition in Beijing, China, and took first and third places.

Cal Receives Award

Mark P. Cal, an assistant professor of environmental engineering at New Mexico Tech, recently was honored by his alma mater after being named by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) as this year's recipient of its "Young Civil Engineer Achievement Award."

The award was given for outstanding accomplishments in the field of air quality control, specifically the development of materials for novel gas separation processes, and the development of non-thermal plasmas to destroy hazardous air pollutants. Only about 60 total awards have been presented over the years, which represents about 0.1 percent of the total civil and environmental engineering graduates of UIUC.

Inal named Fellow

Osman T. Inal, a professor of materials and metallurgical engineering at New Mexico Tech, was selected by ASM International, the Materials Information Society, as a 2001 Fellow. Inal's esteemed professional career at New Mexico Tech began nearly 30 years ago and has been marked by excellence in both teaching and research. A world-renowned scientist, inventor, and innovator in the field of materials engineering, Inal has had over 190 research papers

published and is the holder of several patents, many of them related to the correlation of microstructures to the properties of materials.

During his 15 years as chair of his department, he has supervised nearly 50 graduate students with thesis and dissertation topics in various areas of materials research.

New Faculty

Scott Teare

Ever since 1997, New Mexico Tech professor of electrical engineering Scott Teare has spent the better part of his summers in the mountains near Pasadena, Calif., working on the 100-inch Hooker telescope at the Mount Wilson Observatory. In addition to conducting astronomical research, Teare also is an optician for the telescope and takes on the responsibility of recoating the 100-inch diameter primary and auxiliary mirrors of the telescope. A full story is at www.nmt.edu/mainpage/news/2001/10aug03.html.

Leslie Bentley

New Mexico Tech now has a full-time professor of Theater Arts. Like the Music Program, the Theater Arts Program is part of the Humanities Department.

Leslie Bentley has been teaching Theater Arts on campus since the Spring 2001 semester. She received her doctor of philosophy degree in Theatre from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. She also earned a master of arts degree in

Performing Arts from Emerson College in Boston, as well as a bachelor of science degree in Biology from Nebraska's Wayne State College.

Bentley has already started a Drama Club among interested Tech students. Eventually, she plans to propose adding theatre-related courses to the Tech curriculum, including Acting I and II, World and American Theatre History, Solo Performance, Special Topics in Theatre Philosophy, and Community-Based Theatre. During the Fall 2001 semester, she directed Molière's *Tartuffe*, which was performed during 49ers weekend.

Thank You

New Mexico Tech gratefully acknowledges gifts received during the fiscal year from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001. The generous support of these individuals and companies helps us meet the expectations of our student body for an outstanding education.

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People You Know

The following items were submitted from June to August 2001. If you submitted your news later, it will appear in the next issue.

1920s

Francis U. Hammel (23, BS, geology) celebrated his 100th birthday on Aug. 4, 2001.

Hammel was born in Socorro, son of the family who owned the Hammel brewery, later the Hammel icehouse, and now the Hammel Museum. As a boy, he spent summer vacations delivering ice to families by horse and buggy. During his days as a student at the School of Mines, he met and married Alma Philipp, daughter of the owner of Socorro's five-and-dime store.

After graduating from the School of Mines, Hammel worked for the U. S. Boundary Commission, mapping the border between the United States and Mexico, and also state borders.

In 1927, Francis and Alma moved to Los Angeles. He worked for the L. A. Parks and Recreation Dept., where he eventually became a supervisor. After he retired in 1966, he and Alma moved to a ranch in Gardenia, Calif., and eventually to Lake Forest, Calif., in Orange County.

Alma passed away in 1995, after 71 years of marriage. In her memory, Francis planted a pink rose bush, called "Unforgettable." Francis is still surrounded by flowers, in an

assisted living residence in Lake Forest. He has one son, Bill Hammel, and two grandsons, Andrew and James.

1930s

Kenneth C. Bayer (38, BS, geological engr.) writes, "Congratulations, New Mexico Tech! In 63 years, your graduates have increased 10-fold, from some 28 in 1938 to the current 287.

"I made 85 years on July 19, 2001. I am now on a mission to arrive at a three-digit age in 2016. However, I'm still recuperating from the loss of my wife in March 2000. Although I'm a scientist emeritus (retired from the U. S. Geological Survey), I'm currently devoted to volunteer work as an elementary school teacher, "babysitter," and Santa Claus (for 27 years!)"

Kenneth resides in Reston, Va.

1950s

Thomas A. Voorhees (54, BS, petroleum engineering) writes that he has recently purchased a winter home in Las Cruces, N.M., at the Sonoma Ranch Golf Club.

John W. Powell (58, BS, mining engr.) retired from U. S. Energy in November 2000. He moved from Lander, Wyo., to Alamogordo, N.M., in June 2001.

1960s

Dr. Mitchel Bloom (62, MS, physics) is president of Bloom Forecasting, Inc. Since 1997, he has been teaching production and operations management in Israel for Boston University's Master's Pro-

gram in Management. He recently completed doing that, and he is now in the process of publishing a paper on the design and application of an index of ecological quality. Mitch moved to Kelowna, B. C., Canada in May 2001.

1970s

Roger Friedline (72, BS, geophysics) has formed a new consulting business named Rally Exploration, Inc., located in Midland, Texas.

Dan Pilkenton (72, BS, physics) is a computer programmer for TASA Graphic Arts in Taos. TASA produces multimedia CD-ROMs for education. They specialize in the Earth sciences and geology: www.tasagraphicarts.com

Allen Cooper (73, BS, geology; 77, BS, mining engr.) writes, "I was recently transferred from ASARCO's Mission Mine located in Sahuarita, Ariz., to ASARCO's Technical Services Center (Environmental Services Group) located in Salt Lake City, Utah.

"I worked at the Mission Mine for 23 years (as a mine engineer, geologist, and environmental engineer). The last position held was Senior Environmental Engineer. I was promoted within the company to Environmental Scientist at the Technical Services Center.

"On May 5, 2000, I married Wanda Bauder. My younger son (Kyle) has blessed me with two grandchildren (boy-and-girl twins) who are living in Tucson."

James A. Lupens (73), principal geologist with Phillips Petroleum

Co. in Englewood, Colo., has been named a 2001 ASTM Award of Merit winner; accompanying this award is the title of Fellow. The award is the highest society award to individuals for outstanding service and outstanding participation in committee activities.

Dr. Donald Wenner (74, BS, chemistry) and **George Scott III** (81, BGS) have been awarded a patent for a surgical laparoscopic instrument that is used to remove stones from the bile duct. This tool will be instrumental in saving thousands of lives each year as the tool and resultant enhanced surgical procedure are adopted (see web site at www.lapsurgical.com). Dr. Wenner's enhanced biliary procedure will ultimately replace the current practice of stone removal that is conducted by GI specialists, known as ERCP, which has approximately 1.0% mortality rate, and relatively high incidence of morbidity due to pancreatitis.

Greg Friberg (75, BS, math; 75, BS, computer science; 83, MS, computer science) writes, "After getting my master's, I got married and moved to Las Cruces, N.M., where I have lived ever since. I worked for several contractors at White Sands, but could never quite get the knack of working. After several nervous breakdowns my wife quit, and so did I (work that is). Now I seem to be able to handle life (finally!!!) as long as I take my daily dose of Prozac.

"I now spend my time taking care of my 91-year-old father, Martin (Flash) Friberg, who was a professor of mathematics at Tech from 1951 to 1975; taking care of my daughter, Sara, 13, soon to be sophomore at

Mayfield High; and building a business restoring classic cars. I've got four acres on Highway 70, just outside of Las Cruces, with every man's dream — his own junk yard.

"I can be reached at gfrberg@zianet.com."

Adel A. Bakr (76, Ph.D., geo-science) recently moved to Philadelphia to be near his first granddaughter. He consults and provides hydrogeology-related training to South Carolina professional geologists to meet their continuing education requirements.

Drusilla Claridge (attended, 76) is the author of a novel called *Peacock Ore*, based on the origins of the Cooney Mining District and the life of Capt. Cooney. It is published by the electronic publisher Crossroadspub.com.

Rick Sprague (77, BS, physics) has recently started an independent music label, Rick Sprague Music. His first CD, "Dreams of Love — The Guitar of Rick Sprague," has just been issued. Rick credits his physics degree from Tech with his understanding of the vibrating string. He has studied guitar with Hector Garcia, Alexandre Lagoya and Christopher Parkening. Samples of the CD are available at www.CDBaby.com/cd/RickSprague.

Sprague's adventures after Tech included earning an M.B.A. in 1985 from Colorado State University and pursuing advanced music studies at Montana State University. He has worked with Schlumberger Well Services, Andersen Consulting, Carolina Power & Light Company, and Cambridge Technology Partners

Kathy McGrade (78, BS, metallurgy) writes, "My son Ted (named after my older brother) and I live in the San Francisco Bay area. Ted helps to keep me sane after a day of running my company which inspects and tests fire service aerial trucks and ladders throughout California, Colorado, and Arizona."

Dr. Terry Wallace (78, BS, math; 78, BS, geophysics; 83, Ph.D., geophysics) was the subject of an article in *Discover* magazine in Sept. 2001. The article is on how seismologists can detect man-made events that governments often want kept secret, specifically the loss of the Russian submarine *Kursk*. Terry was presented with the Tech Alumni Association's Distinguished Research Award in 1995.

1980s

Wendy Beavis (80, BS, biology; 01, MST) is a science teacher with the Fairbanks (Alaska) North Star Borough School District. She writes, "I will be returning to the classroom this fall, after serving for a year as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow in Washington, D.C. I was placed at the U.S. Department of Energy in the Office of Science. I spent my year learning more about federal policy and science education.

"While at DOE, I worked with Undergraduate Research programs managed by the Office of Science. I was also able to finish my master's degree. I came back to Tech to defend in April and graduated in May.

"In 1999 I received a Toyota TAP-ESTRY grant which enabled me to

buy \$10,000 worth of equipment for my eighth grade students to conduct research projects on the unique Fairbanks winter environment. It is my goal to expose my students to as much technology and research as I can while teaching them science. I am looking forward to being back in the classroom."

Charles F. Garvey, (80, BS, geology) has transferred from the Onshore Division to the International Division of Samedan Oil Corporation. He continues to live in Houston. His title is Exploration Geologist-Argentina. He would love to hear from other Techies at cgarvey@samedan.com

George Scott III (81, BS, geology) works for RealtimeZone in Roswell, N.M. He recently developed a real-time stimulation technology to improve reservoir fracturing processes, on which a patent is pending. RealtimeZone is licensing the technology to National Energy Technology Lab (NETL) and Halliburton Energy Services.

Susan Delventhal (83, BS, biology; 92, MST) writes, "I have relocated to Rolla, Mo., after spending about 18 years in New Mexico. I am no longer teaching but continue to work with youth. I am the director of a youth mentoring program for the county, which assists at-risk youth, ages 16-21 years old. I enjoy the challenges and rewards of working with young people. My husband Jörg Peter, who attended New Mexico Tech for two years, is pursuing his metallurgical engineering degree(s) here at the University of Missouri-Rolla (UMR).

"I've lost touch with many of my Techie friends and would love to hear from them. Contact me at P.O. Box 2028, Rolla, MO 65402 or susand@theppcp.org"

Christopher Heath (attended 85-88) received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in May 2001. He currently lives in Worcester, Mass., with his wife, Beth Heath (89, BS, environmental engr.) and children, Katie, 4, and Isaac, 2.

Allan Berry (86, BS, environmental engr.) writes, "I started my own engineering consulting firm, Yorkshire Engineered Solutions, early in 2001. We provide construction management for public works projects, and design services for wastewater collection. I am particularly interested in projects with school districts and parks departments, and in solving problems locally with green engineering solutions."

Allan and his wife, Jane Roffey Berry, live in Portland, Ore.

Kim Birdsall (88, BS, environmental engr.) is a senior environmental engineer with Adelante Consulting, Inc., doing environmental restoration in Los Alamos. She recently returned to New Mexico after nine years with the Environmental Protection Agency. She lives in Pojoaque.

David L. Summers (88, BS, physics) has written a short story that was featured in the August 2001 issue of "Realms of Fantasy" magazine. Dave's novel, *Children of the Old Stars*, is newly released. It can be ordered at bookstores (on-line

and otherwise) or at <http://hadrosaur.com>. When Dave is not busily writing, he is an astronomical systems consultant for New Mexico State University.

Dave's wife, **Kumie Wise** (87, BS, math) has founded her own independent bookkeeping service, Wise Bookkeeping. She can be reached at kumie@zianet.com Kumie has an MBA from the University of Arizona in addition to her Tech degree. Dave and Kumie live in Las Cruces and have one daughter, Myranda.

Shannon Krause (88, BS, physics [astrophysics option]; 88, BS, math; 90, MS, physics) writes, "Since graduating from Tech in 1990, I spent four years at NRAO's Very Large Array as a telescope operator. From there I move to Newport News, Va., where I worked as an accelerator operator at the Continuous Electron Beam Accelerator at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility. I worked my way through the ranks to accelerator crew chief, and after 5.5 years in Virginia, I got my present position as the operations group leader at MIT's Bates Linear Accelerator Center in Massachusetts. My job is to make sure the electron accelerator is producing quality beam for nuclear physics research. See www.jlab.org and mitbates.mit.edu for more information."

Ma Shouxiang (89, MS, petroleum engr.; 92, Ph.D., petroleum engr.) is a petrophysicist with Saudi Aramco, doing reservoir simulation and description. He writes, "My whole family moved to Saudi Arabia last year. The weather here is similar to

Socorro, but hotter. Coming from Houston, we are enjoying the blue sky here and the sandy beach.

"My family consists of my wife, Xiaoyun, our son, Jeffrey, who was born in Socorro in 1990 (and always wants to go back to visit), and our daughter, Lisa, who was born in Laramie, Wyo."

1990s

Terry Reed (90, BS, technical communication) married Raeleen Ballard of Malaga, N.M., on May 27, 2000. Terry is a senior staff assistant with the Westinghouse Government Technical Services Division in Albuquerque. Raeleen is an elementary school teacher.

Abraham Jones (91, BS, physics) writes, "Since I graduated in 1991, things have gone roughly as follows: between 1991-94, I had a series of survival jobs up in Albuquerque. The most notable were substitute teaching and driving a delivery truck for a Mexican food company.

"After three years of that, I was close to losing my mind, so I joined the Peace Corps and taught high school physics at Nandom Secondary School from 1994-96. Nandom is in the Upper West Region of Ghana, in West Africa.

"I came home in the fall of 1996 a new man, albeit a bit thinner. My experience overseas convinced me to be an engineer. So, I started a master's program in mechanical engineering at NMSU in the spring of 1997. I finished that in the summer of 1999, and shortly after that I got my first real job, working

for Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Ariz.

"I'm a systems engineer, building bombs for a better tomorrow. In reality, I spend most of my time working with a missile simulator, trying to get the blue line (sim predictions) to chase the red line (test flight telemetry)."

James Penn (91, BS, math; 94, MST) continues to teach advanced math and coach academic teams at St. Pius X High School in Albuquerque. His teams set a New Mexico record by winning their fourth consecutive state championship in the Academic decathlon this year, and in April, his team took third place at the national finals in Anchorage. He married another mathematics teacher, Jay Christie Calog, in December 2000.

Eleni "Sam" Myers Sims (91, BS, metallurgical engr.) and her husband David welcomed Emily Elizabeth on June 8, 2001. She weighed in at 7 lbs 6.5 oz, and was 19 inches long.

They live in Albuquerque, where Sam works for a company called The Aerospace Corporation and help plan satellite missions for the Department of Defense. Her husband, David, a non-Techie, is a manager at Voicestream Wireless.

Dr. Stephen Malkowski (92, BS, biology) writes, "After graduating from Tech, I entered medical school at UNM where, after eight years, I completed an M.D./Ph.D. I spent the last year as a post-doctoral fellow at Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute in Albuquerque. I am moving to Portland, Ore. to

start an internal medicine residency. In 1999, I married Theresa O'Donoghue. We have a one-year-old son, Calvin."

Tom Allen (94, BS, environmental engr.) writes, "My wife Wendy, my daughter Ivey, and I all moved at the end of June from Seattle to Corrales. I will be teaching at The Bosque School in Albuquerque, and Wendy is looking into starting a specialty and wedding cakes business. Ivey is two and a bit, and is enjoying life in the sun."

Dawn (Thatcher) Hipsh (94, BS, technical communication) writes, "After graduating, I went to work at Los Alamos National Laboratory as a graduate research assistant and later as a contractor. In 1996, I started a freelance technical writing business and left the Laboratory in 1998 to pursue it full-time.

"My husband, Richard, completed his B.S. in physics at UNM in 1997 and then decided to pursue a Master's of Divinity degree at St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary in South Canann, Pa. He graduated in May 2001 and is now serving as the assistant priest at St. Seraphim's Orthodox Cathedral in Dallas.

"We have a daughter, Sophronia, 2, and a son, Silouan, born on July 14, 2001. My husband and I both still do some freelance work, and I manage the business end of things. Mostly, however, I am enjoying all the fun of the domestic life."

Carmella Martinez (94, BS, math) has been named director of institutional effectiveness at Northern New Mexico Community College. She

provides college statistics for grant proposals, reports, and accreditation reviews.

After graduating from Tech, Carmella earned her master's degree in experimental statistics from New Mexico State University. For two years, she was head statistician for the state Department of Education.

Dr. Heidi Catherine Shawver (95, BS, biology) is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, working as an emergency dog and cat doctor. She and Dr. Justin Ritthaler, a horse veterinarian, reside in Millsap, Texas, where they both have practices.

Jordan Alexander (97, MS, physics) writes, "I am a research scientist at Luxel Corporation (www.luxel.com/). We specialize in thin-film, X-ray filters used primarily for spaced-based, X-ray telescopes. I am involved in the development of fuel-shells for inertial confinement fusion."

Tim Gorham (95, BS, petroleum engr.; 97, MS, petroleum engr.) married Heather Walker of Bakersfield, Calif., on April 28, 2001. Tim works for Chevron in Bakersfield, where the couple resides.

Jason Marino (95, BS, computer science and business management) is an applications engineer and technical support representative for Yahoo. He lives in San Jose, Calif.

Travis Nelson (97, BS, environmental engr.) and **Jocelyn [Maynard] Nelson** (97, BS, technical communication) report, "We are happy to announce the arrival of our wonderful baby,

Connor Ryan He arrived on May 17, and weighed in at 8 lbs. 4 oz. and 21 inches long."

After graduation from Tech, Travis went on to receive a master's degree in chemical engineering from UNM, and both the Nelsons moved to Colorado Springs to work for Lockheed Martin. Jocelyn is now a full-time mom, and Travis is still working for Lockheed as a systems engineer at Schriever Air Force Base.

They would love to hear from long lost friends at tjcnelbelly@juno.com.

Sgt. Joseph Stroud (97, BS, geology) is a member of the New Mexico Air National Guard. Last year, during the Cerro Grande fires near Los Alamos, he volunteered to assist with the financial aspects of supporting the operation. For his efforts, he was awarded the New Mexico Distinguished Service Medal. This year, he was selected to be the accounting liaison for the Air National Guard with the Defense Finance Operating Location in Limestone, Maine. He is the first Air Guardsperson in the nation's history to be selected for such a position.

Joe writes, "I will miss the state of New Mexico when I move, but this is a rare opportunity that only comes knocking once in a great while in a person's life and I am honored to have been selected for it."

Steven L. Anderson (98, BS, technical communication) writes, "After managing the documentation effort on Oracle JDeveloper for the last year, I've recently been promoted to Senior Technical Writing

Manager in charge of the Application Development team at Oracle." Steven lives in Redwood Shores, Calif.

Marc Ahlen (99, BS, mechanical engr.) is an associate engineer with Newport News Shipbuilding, in the Aircraft Carrier Construction Division. He and his wife, Danise Ahlen, are expecting their first child. They live in Hampton, Va.

Bonnie (Matthews) Eveleth (99, BS, chemistry) writes, "I started working as a chemist for the photography lab at White Sands Missile Range in August 1999. My husband, Will Eveleth, and I have a daughter, Charlotte Rose, born on Feb. 20, 2001. We are living just outside Las Cruces, N.M. I would love to get email from any of my old friends at evelethb@newtec.wsmr.army.mil.

Anita Montenegro (99, BGS) and **Marvin MacAuley** (98, BS, biology) were married on Sept. 30, 2000, in Las Vegas, N.M. Anita works at Hall Environmental Laboratories, and MacAuley works for Kleinfelder, a consulting firm.

Denise Pompeo (99, BS, environmental engr.) and **Parker Dunwoody** (99, BS, management) were married on May 5, 2001, in a pecan orchard in Las Cruces. The bride and her father arrived in a Model T Ford. Denise is an environmental engineer in West Hartford, Conn. Parker is a commercial property manager and has recently been accepted into the Connecticut State Police Academy.

Cassandra Salinas-Marez (99, BS, biology) and **Jerome Marez** (99, BS, environmental engr.) were married on Feb. 10, 2001, and are expecting their first child in February 2002.

2000s

Nancy Hindle (00, BS, technical communication) writes, "I have just finished my master's degree in professional and technical communication from Southwest Missouri State University. I am now living in Kansas City, preparing to start a Ph.D. program at University of Missouri. I will be teaching freshman composition and technical writing at Johnson County Community College in the fall and working as a technical writing contractor for Nash Resource Group in KC.

"I really miss New Mexico and I hope the friends I've fallen out of touch with are well."

Jackie Brannan (01, BS, technical communication) writes, "I have accepted a position as an executive secretary and technical writer for Cynthia A. Kase, the president of Kase and Company, Inc., which is a trading and risk management firm. I love my job and feel like I am making a lasting good impression on my employer. I moved to Albuquerque, and I miss my friends and family, but I am enjoying city life."



Back by popular demand, the New Mexico Tech Alumni Association is offering New Mexico Tech vanity license plates. These plates are similar to actual New Mexico state license plates and can be legally placed on front bumpers of vehicles registered in New Mexico. The \$10 price includes shipping and handling.

Place your order by sending the following information and a check to:

New Mexico Tech
Alumni Association
801 Leroy Place
Socorro, NM 87801

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
E-mail Address _____

Or place your order by phone:
(800) 428-TECH, selection 4
(505) 835-5525,

Or place your order by e-mail:
rbaca@admin.nmt.edu.

Credit cards are accepted. Allow two weeks for shipping. Make all checks payable to New Mexico Tech.

Obituaries

The following obituaries cover June to early November 2001. They are abridged. For full obituaries, see our website: <http://www.nmt.edu/mainpage/obituaries/2001.3.html>

Jeffrey Bollschweiler, a 1975 petroleum engineering graduate of New Mexico Tech, passed away in late October 2001. He was a resident of Las Cruces. Since April of 1987, he has worked at the HELSTF (high-energy laser facility) at White Sands Missile Range as an employee of Lockheed. At the time of his death, he was operations manager for Logicon. The family has requested that donations be made to a fund to benefit petroleum engineering students at New Mexico Tech.

Jeffrey is survived by his mother Marjorie of Tucumcari; his daughter Candi, son-in-law, Dustin, and grandson, Austin Tinsley of Neligh, Nebraska; son Michael of Farmington; son Stephen of Las Cruces; the mother of his children, Charlene, of Farmington; and his brother David, sister-in-law Melissa, niece, Leah, and nephew, Glenn, of Las Cruces.

Salomon E. Chavez, age 87, passed away on July 25, 2001, at Arbor Hills Nursing Center in La Mesa, Calif. He was born on July 27, 1913 in Hillsboro, N.M. After graduating from the New Mexico School of Mines in 1935 with a bachelor's degree in mining engineering, he worked in the silver mines of Silver City, N.M., before moving his family to the San Diego

area in 1942. There, he was employed by the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation as a mechanical engineer. He retired from General Dynamics in 1973.

Solo, as he was known to family and friends, is survived by his wife of over 66 years, Josefita of Fletcher Hills, Calif.; daughters Cora Olguin of Las Cruces, N.M., PreAnn Chavez of El Cajon, Calif., Joanne Ralston of El Cajon, Calif., Victoria Toddre of Reno, Nev., Linda Peacock of Bend, Ore.; and son Carl Chavez of Graeagle, Calif.; as well as brother John Chavez of Albuquerque, N.M.

An obituary on **Dr. Frank E. Kottowski** appeared in the last issue of *Gold Pan*, but in the meantime, his colleague Dr. George Austin submitted a more extensive one. The longer obituary is available on our website (see URL at beginning of "Obituaries.")

A memorial endowment has been established in his memory. Details are at <http://www.nmt.edu/mainpage/giving/kott.html>. Contributions may be sent to: Advancement Office, Brown 111, New Mexico Tech, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro, N.M. 87801. On your check, in the "memo" section, please write "Kottowski Endowment."

William C. Meeks, Sr., age 72, passed away on Aug. 31, 2001. Bill graduated from New Mexico Tech in 1955 with a bachelor's degree in geophysics. He worked for many years at White Sands Proving Grounds (now White Sands Missile Range). He was a resident of Carrizozo, N.M., where he had served as a magistrate judge for four

years. The family would appreciate donations to the Kidney Foundation or the Lupus Foundation in his name.

Dr. Charles Nathan, age 81, died on Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2001. In 1977, Nathan joined New Mexico Tech as deputy director of the Research and Development Division. In August 1981, he was appointed professor of petroleum engineering. He served in that capacity until he retired in 1989. He passed away in Houston, where he had lived since then.

Dr. Nathan had a lifelong commitment to the Jewish community in every city in which he lived. He taught religious school at several synagogues and led many adult education classes. In later life, he was a member of Temple Emanu El in Houston, one of whose founders was his father, William Max Nathan. He was active in the Democratic Party.

Memorial donations may be made to Hillel, 1700 Bissonnet, Houston, Tex., 77005; Hospice at the Texas Medical Center, 1905 Holcombe St., Houston, Tex., 77030; or a charity of choice.

Dr. Per-Anders Persson, an internationally known explosives expert, former director of New Mexico Tech's Center for Explosives Technology Research (CETR) and a professor emeritus of mining engineering, passed away on Aug. 11, as a result of complications of lung cancer.

Persson was director of the Center for Explosives Technology Research

(CETR) from 1984 to 1992 and Director for the Research Center for Energetic Materials (RCEM) from 1984, as well as chief scientist at the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center from 1992. During 10 years, he built CETR into a self-supporting center of technical excellence in explosives technology, with an emphasis on a deeper fundamental understanding of the physical and chemical mechanisms of explosives decomposition reactions in slow heating, burning, shock initiation, and detonation.

Persson taught graduate-level courses in explosives technology, rock blasting, and mining technology, shock and detonation physics and chemistry, and supported numerous masters and Ph.D. students in their research. He was lead co-author of a combined university-level textbook and engineering reference book, *Rock Blasting and Explosives Engineering*, which was published in 1994. He had an earlier book, *Detonics of High Explosives*, published by Academic Press in 1970.

A memorial fund was established. Contributions may be mailed to: Advancement Office, New Mexico Tech, 801 Leroy Place, Socorro, N.M., 87801. Checks should be made out to New Mexico Tech, and on the memo line write "Persson Endowment."

Paul M. Perry, age 53, passed away on Sunday, August 12, 2001, from complications due to skin cancer. He was born on October 11, 1947, in Azusa, Calif. He was a 1969 graduate of New Mexico Institute of Mining

& Technology with a B.S. in physics. He earned his Ph.D. in physics from Oregon Institute in Beaverton, Ore. Dr. Perry worked at Western Geophysical Company from 1973 to 2001. Paul is survived by his sister, Becky Perry Kelher (86, BS, geology), and her husband, Robert.

Victor J. Saracini (76, Bachelor of General Studies) was the captain of United Airlines flight 175 that was taken over by hijackers on Sept. 11, 2001, and crashed into one of the World Trade Center Buildings. After Vic graduated from Tech, he served in the Navy, where he trained as a pilot. He worked for United for about 16 years. He was survived by his wife, Ellen, and two children, Kirsten and Brielle.

A memorial fund has been set up for the family: Victor Saracini Memorial

Children's Fund, First Union Bank, 679 Heacock Rd., Yardley, PA 19067.

Robert L. Schell, age 84, passed away on Feb. 19, 2000. as a 1939 graduate of the New Mexico School of Mines, with a bachelor's degree in mining engineering.

Schell was born on Sept. 14, 1915, and attended Wheaton Academy, followed by New Mexico School of Mines. His long career as a mining engineer which took him to Idaho, Arizona, and Nicaragua. He married Rosalie Schulz in 1942 and worked for Alcoa from 1943 to 1977. Schell is survived by his daughter, Dr. Margaret A. Schell, and her husband, Wilson Jones, of Little Rock.

Bonita C. Tsosie, a student at New Mexico Tech, passed away

on Aug. 8, 2001, possibly due to an epileptic seizure. Bonita was 35. Bonita was known to many faculty, staff, and students at Tech as a friendly, smiling, and perpetually helpful person with an infectious laugh. She was active in AISES (American Indian Society of Engineering and Science). She was always willing to volunteer for Science Fair, Science Olympiad, alumni events, and many other events. She always had an encouraging word for students and friends.



Contributions to help the family with burial costs may be made in her memory to: Bonita Tsosie Memorial Account, Bank of America, 201 Plaza NW, Socorro, N.M. 87801, or by calling (505) 835-1569.

The Alumni Office has received word of the passing of **William Wittmeyer** (48, BS, mining engineering). No further information was available.

Willow Burand Receives Citation from Alaska Legislature

The Alaska Legislature passed a resolution on May 6, 2001, honoring the late Willow Burand, a 1953 alumnus of New Mexico Tech and a former resident of Alaska. Burand passed away in April 15. An obituary appeared in the last issue of *Gold Pan*.

The resolution says, in part, "Mr. Burand was widely known in interior and western Alaska. He worked for the Territorial and State Division of Natural Resources as an assayer/engineer. In May of 1957, he moved to Nome, where he assisted miners, large and small, in exploring, developing, and promoting their prospects. He literally walked every square foot of the Seward Peninsula. After the 1964 Good Friday earthquake, he was transferred to Fairbanks where he worked until he retired.

"Mr. Burand not only contributed to the development of the mining industry during the late territorial and early statehood days, but he also helped spur individual interest in prospecting and mining. His willingness to travel, to explore, and to help others embodied the spirit of earlier Alaska pioneers. He was dedicated to his profession, to his family, and to the State."

Join the Tech Alumni Association TODAY!

Theresa Annette Boracci, *President, Tech Alumni Association*

Your membership is valuable to us, since the strength of any university is often measured by the support of its alumni.

Thanks to the support of alumni we can continue to promote Tech as a quality institute of higher education, enhancing its development. As a non-profit organization, the Alumni Association is separate from all other Tech-related fund-raising programs and does not receive government funding. Funding for the Alumni Association depends on annual membership dues. Due to rising costs, the Alumni Association Board recently raised the annual membership dues to \$30. These annual dues support a number of activities and projects, including:

- TechFest, an annual get-together of alumni, students, faculty, and staff, currently held in Albuquerque;
- Golden Reunion (50th Class Reunion);
- Events honoring alumni who have contributed to Tech's stature and growth;
- Co-sponsorship of the annual 49ers Celebration;
- Nationwide alumni receptions; and
- Publication and mailing of *Gold Pan*.

Benefits of annual and lifetime memberships are:

- *Gold Pan* subscription;
- Southwestern food recipe book;
- New Mexican chile seed packet;
- List of Rio Grande valley green chile retailers;
- Tech Alumni license plate frame;
- Complimentary annual 49ers Celebration cocktail reception;
- Tech Alumni Association decal;
- Tech Computer Center Alumni computer account;
- Online communication on Goldpan Yahoo! Groups; and
- Voting in annual election for Tech Alumni Association Board Officers

You can also become a Lifetime Member of the Alumni Association by donating \$200 (\$350 for alumni couples). The Lifetime Membership fee is added to the Lifetime Alumni Scholarship endowment fund that provides academic scholarships to TECH undergraduates.

Please join me in supporting our alma mater.

Join us on the *Gold Pan* e-mail listserv in *Yahoo! Groups*. The New Mexico Tech Office for Advancement (Alumni Relations) joined *eGroups* (now *Yahoo! Groups*) to provide a forum for Tech alumni to share their information and experiences. We also use the listserv to send Tech alumni current news about Tech at a faster rate and more efficiently without increasing our publication costs.

No matter where life has lead you, from senior management to new hires on your first job, whether you are in business, science, education, or self-employed, we need to hear from you. We need to know what you think about Tech and our events.

We encourage you to subscribe to this free electronic discussion group. It's simple

to subscribe to the *Gold Pan* listserv. Simply send an e-mail with the subject line "subscribe" to: Goldpan@yahoo.com.

Several of us use listservs on a daily basis, but for those of you who aren't familiar with e-mail listservs, here is an introduction: Listservs are the Internet equivalents of bulletin boards. Sending an e-mail to the listserv is similar to posting a message on a bulletin board—others on the listserv can read and respond to your message. You can also read and respond to the e-mail messages posted by other members of the listserv.

Directions for using the GOLDPAN listserv

After subscribing to the *Goldpan* listserv, you can send messages to the *Goldpan* listserv by sending an e-mail to: Goldpan@yahoogroups.com

If you decide to end your participation in the *Goldpan* listserv, you may unsubscribe by sending an e-mail to: Goldpan-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

You may also visit the *Yahoo! Groups* web site to read messages posted to the *Goldpan* list, or to modify your listserv subscription: <http://www.yahoogroups.com/group/Goldpan>

We hope that you will stay with us as we continue to improve our service to the Tech alumni community. If you have any questions or comments about this new *Goldpan* listserv, please feel free to contact the New Mexico Tech Alumni Office directly by calling us at (505) 835-5525, or by e-mailing us at Goldpan@nmt.edu.

We look forward to seeing you online!