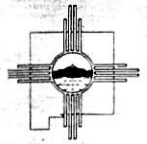


# PAYDIRT



Volume 18, Number 1

New Mexico Tech's Newspaper

Tuesday, February 6, 1990

## Closed Faculty Meeting Held To Discuss Nov. 14 Incident

by Thomas Jones  
STAFF REPORTER

On the afternoon of January 19, a closed faculty meeting was called by Dr. Carl Popp, apparently in response to a petition that had been circulating among faculty members pertaining to Dr. Lattman's outburst towards a student on November 14th. Reaction to the meeting was quite mixed.

The petition that presumably resulted in the meeting read, in part, "If the students' accounts of this incident are substantially correct, then we request a public apology from Dr. Lattman to individual students and to the entire student body." Despite this, the meeting was declared closed after an open faculty vote, although only after much bickering among the faculty on the parliamentary rules that affected the gathering. The meeting was closed to all who are not faculty members of the Institute Senate, that is to say that not only were students, non-teaching Tech persons and outside individuals expelled from the meeting, but also those officially known as "instructors." Nearly all of those expelled were upset by the closure, some very noticeably so.

After the meeting, however, most faculty members this reporter encountered were quite pleased with the results. Two individuals who offered comment were Dr. Gary

Olsen, chair of the Humanities department, and Dr. Chuck Campbell, also of that department. Dr. Olsen described the meeting as "a very productive meeting... one of the best meetings since I came to New Mexico Tech," that it included "very frank discussion... on a variety of issues." Pertaining to the November 14 incident, he said "I am personally very optimistic that we will be able to put the issue behind us." Dr. Campbell stated that "It appeared to me that the meeting aired and settled some issues between Dr. Lattman and some faculty members. These issues were largely personal... He accepted responsibility for having made a grave error."

Some faculty members were not at all pleased with the meeting, however. Dr. Ross Lomanitz, of the Physics department, said he was "sick at heart and disgusted" that the faculty voted to close the meeting. Dr. Lomanitz said that, in particular, he was "dismayed and heartsick" when Dr. Lattman "was asked whether or not he would show this sort of behavior [relating to November 14th] to his supervisors, and he said 'No, of course not.'"

The Yacht Club, two of whose members were primary characters in the Nov. 14th incident, was contacted, but declined to give comment on their current view of the incident.



An unknown Tech Student, David Hershberger, and Bob Broilo enjoy bringing their chairs out onto the golf course on January 18's snow storm. Photo by Bob Hall

## Lattman Institutes New Policy Regarding Openness to Students

by Thomas Jones  
PAYDIRT STAFF REPORTER

Dr. Lattman, Tech President, has instituted a new policy encouraging more communication between students and himself. Many students have considered Dr. Lattman out-of-touch with students, and he stated that he seeks to change this impression.

Under the arrangement, from one to five students can make an appointment to discuss with Dr. Lattman whatever they consider to be important. The groups will remain small, and consist of students alone, so that all present can provide input, and a comfortable atmosphere for discussion can be maintained.

In response to criticism regarding the number of closed meetings held recently on campus, Dr. Lattman stated that representatives of the student newspaper (*Paydirt*) are welcome to come to any of these meetings to record what transpires, and report it to the student body.

While Dr. Lattman stated that he would prefer to discuss issues concerning Tech, especially the quality of student life and how it can be improved, he is not averse to students wishing to discuss himself and his policies.

Students interested in utilizing this offer should call Ms. Lucy Chavez at -5600 to make an appointment.

## Nine Members of Student Government Resign—Restructuring in Progress

by James Gilson  
STAFF REPORTER

For those of you who do not pay all that much attention to school politics, the student government is undergoing some changes. Last semester the SA lost two of its senators, one transferring and the other graduating. If that was not enough to inconvenience the SA, upon returning to school, it was discovered that five more senators as well as the President and Vice-President had to resign because of loss of eligibility. This loss of eligibility was due to academic status.

As of this date, the Student Association Government had finished restructuring, with the election of February 2, 1990 producing Senators to fill the vacant positions, as well as a President and Vice-President (as soon as all run-off elections are completed).

The full restructuring and reor-

ganization will be covered in detail in the next edition by Staff Reporter Shawn Clever.

For now, however, we must be content with the fact that the reorganization is happening even now and with luck may result in an even better government than the preceeding one.

The reasons for governmental shake-up are really quite simple, as is well known NMT is a relatively difficult school, and success at Tech requires a certain amount of effort, i.e., studying. Being active in Student Government also requires effort: Senate meetings, committee meetings, meetings with Administrations Officials, and trying to find out what, or even if, other students think about various issues, all place demands on a Student Government office holders time. As one might expect, something has to give, and to keep their grades in line, each year several members of the

SA Government find it necessary to resign.

If anyone is truly interested in precise data about who resigned and why, the SA Secretary, Amy Koerner, has a list of persons who have left the Government, and the persons who have left the Government, and those persons may be contacted as to precisely why they have resigned.

The SA Government will be up and running at full speed within a week of this issue, and Staff Reporter Shawn Clever will keep *Paydirt* fully posted.

### Coming Next Issue...

Is the Tech Bookstore Overcharging Students?

An in-depth investigation compares the prices at Tech's bookstore with those at other schools.

## Financial Aid Notes

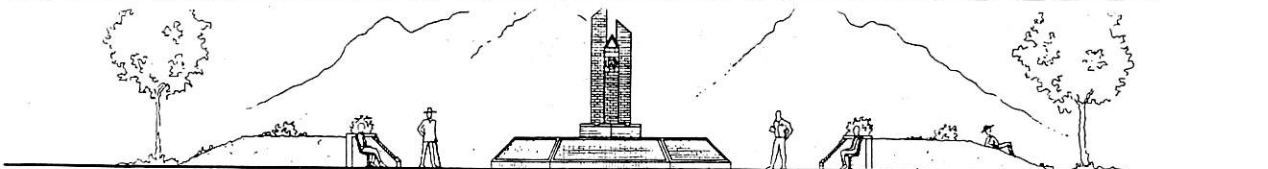
FROM THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

The 1990-1991 Financial Aid Application and the College Scholarship Service Financial Aid Form (FAF) must be completed by those who wish to be considered for Federal and State financial aid programs for the Summer of 1990 and the 1990-1991 Academic year. These programs include: Pell Grant, Supplemental Grant (SEOG), New Mexico Incentive Grant, Perkins Loan, Stafford Loan (formerly GSL), Plus Loan, Supplemental loan, Federal and State Work-Study, and the New Mexico Scholars' Program or any tribal and/or other need-based programs.

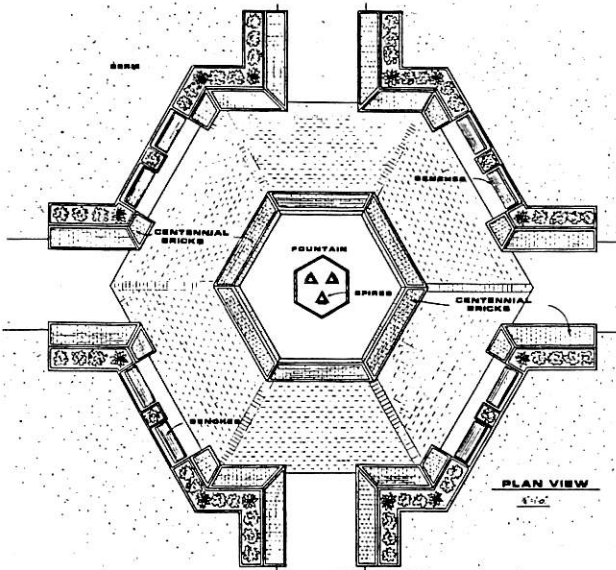
Please note that the priority deadline is March 1.

Summer financial aid is limited to the Stafford Loan, Plus Loan, and the Supplemental Loan Programs. Federal and State Work-Study is available after July 1, 1990. Part-time institutional employment prior to July 1 is subject to the availability of funds. Pell Grant is available after July 1. Contact the Financial Aid Office regarding restrictions in the use of Pell Grant for the Summer Session. To receive financial aid for the Summer Session, you must enroll in at least 6 credits.

# UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT



## CENTENNIAL PLAZA TO BE BUILT SOON



by Stephen Legate  
STAFF REPORTER

Everyone remembers the Centennial Plaza, right? That beautiful, imposing, structure which commemorates the 100th year of Tech's existence? That beautiful, imposing, structure which you can still buy a piece of for only \$25.00, and get an art poster (valued at \$30.00) to boot? The beautiful, imposing, structure which hasn't yet been built?

Well, according to Richard Ortega of Alumni Affairs, the waiting should soon end. The Centennial Plaza missed its October '89 commemoration date due to financial problems, but continued contribu-

tions from Tech staff, alumni, and students have resolved the difficulties. Ortega places an optimistic completion date at the end of this spring semester.

Alumni Affairs originally estimated the cost of the plaza at \$90,000, but Ortega seems confident that contractors will underbid that figure. To date, over 750 contributors have purchased \$46,000 worth of commemorative Centennial Bricks, at \$20 and \$25 per brick. In addition, Ortega has successfully solicited sponsors for seven of the eight benches in the plaza. Bench sponsors donate \$4,000 each, for which a permanent plaque is placed on the bench in their honor.



Joseph Ortega, of Alumni Services, stands on central campus where the Centennial Plaza is to be constructed, with the library in the background. Mr. Ortega is in charge of the project. Photo by Bob Hall.

The plaza itself will be 70 feet from end to end (see above figure). The heptagonal fountain in the center will be 15 feet on a side, and the spires within the fountain will be from 13 to 16 feet high. Current plans place the plaza directly across from the entrance to Workman Center.

The commemorative brick idea is not a new fundraising technique. Kinney Brick Company of Albuquerque, the contractor producing the bricks for the Centennial Plaza, has completed similar projects at the State Fair Grounds and in Santa Fe.

According to Ortega, 99% of the contributions for the Plaza have come from Tech alumni, staff, and students. Contributors have pur-

chased bricks in honor of deceased friends and relatives, favorite professors, and even pets. Individual Tech alumni contributed the funds for six out of the seven Plaza benches.

The administration originally suffered some criticism for spending this amount of money in this manner. However, all money spent on the plaza has come from the fundraiser. Why not have the Centennial fundraiser provide something useful, like improvements to student housing? Ortega defends the Plaza. "It has caught the imagination of donors," he says, "it has had no negative impact on any other fundraising efforts, and it might bring in support for other projects."

## THUNDERAMA DANCE

February 24  
SAC  
9:00 PM

Tech Students and One Guest: Free  
All Others: \$2.00

## EXPRESS YOURSELF!

Don't be just another voice in the crowd.

Your opinion counts!  
Write a letter to Paydirt!  
Box GG, Campus Station

## PAYDIRT

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The official newspaper of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

Editor-in-Chief	Thomas Jones
Assistant Editor	James Gilson
National Advertising Manager	Warren Marts
Local Advertising Manager	Bobby Kehrman
Staff Reporter	Meiko Haushalter
Staff Reporter	Matt Jones
Sports Reporter	Jennifer Johnson
Head Photographer	Robert Hall
Staff Photographer	John Goshy
Auxiliary Services Correspondent	Laura Buxton
Campus Political Correspondent	Shawn Clever
Campus Police Correspondent	Taige Blake
Institute Political Correspondent	Stephen Legate
Physical Plant Correspondent	Jason Coder
Secretary/Reporter	Melinda Bailey
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## Student Government Chronicles

by Shawn Clever  
STUDENT POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

When I first began college in the fall of 1985, I was enthusiastic, bold, optimistic, and eager to take on the challenges that college life and study had to offer. I was also a bit naive because I soon discovered a major difference between my old life living with my parents, and my new life in college. Decisions for my benefit were made mostly by my parents, but in college, policy decisions relating to my life and those lives of others were being made often without my knowledge, or best interests at heart.

Upon discovering this, I initially remained somewhat apathetic. So what if some of the decisions once made by mom and dad were now made by a board of regents, a faculty senate, a housing board or an athletic department? At the time, I didn't care. I soon realized that the board of regents had raised the tuition 50 percent over the two years that I was there, 70 percent total over the last five years. I witnessed the administration and regents pacify a feeble student protest by agreeing to research reasons why tuition was not affordable. I learned of misappropriation of funds, the elimination of needed programs, and athletic event tickets that I had purchased with my activity fees being given to other people. It wasn't long before I felt left-out, cheated, and pretty helpless to the administration.

I was too late to effect the tuition increase and other misdoings at that college. When I came to New Mexico Tech last year, I decided to make students aware of these decisions being made on their behalf that don't always include them. Over the next few weeks, I will be bringing you news of the decisions and policies being made that affect YOU the student, and what you can do to get involved. This column will bring news of many aspects of campus government. I would invite anyone with any questions to write to

Paydirt, c/o Student Political Correspondent, or just come to any SA meeting (held on alternate Mondays at 8:30 PM in the SAC). I will do my best to answer your questions, because in addition to being Paydirt's Student Political Correspondent, I am also an S.A. Senator.

NO EXIT by Erik Andresen

**FALSE RUMORS ABOUT TWINKIES**

**RUMOR #1:** TWINKIES ARE MADE FROM LITTLE TWINKIE ANIMALS FOUND ALONG THE AMAZON.

**FACT:** YOU'RE THINKING OF SPAM.

**RUMOR #2:** A TWINKIE COULD LAST ON THE STORE SHELF FOR 80 YEARS.

**FACT:** SOME NO-GOOD PUNK SHOPLIFTER WOULD HAVE STOLEN IT BY THEN.

**RUMOR #3:** THE AVERAGE TWINKIE HAS 36 BILLION CALORIES.

**FACT:** THE AVERAGE TWINKIE ONLY HAS 36 MILLION CALORIES.

**RUMOR #4:** IT TAKES SIX MONTHS TO DIGEST A TWINKIE.

**FACT:** TWINKIES ARE INDIGESTIBLE.

**ADVICE TO FRESHMEN PART 2.**

**HOW TO GET MONEY FROM HOME**

MY BOOKS COST \$17,000.

**SLIGHTLY EXAGGERATE THE COST OF CERTAIN ITEMS.**

NO, REALLY! MY ENGLISH TEACHER SAYS WE NEED A MOTOR SCOOTER!

**INVENT FICTITIOUS SCHOOL SUPPLIES.**

HOLD LITTLE SISTER HOSTAGE.

**USE COMPUTER VIRUS TO Siphon FUNDS FROM PARENT'S BANK ACCOUNT.**

AND REMEMBER! IF YOU CAN'T GET MONEY OUT OF YOUR FOLKS, TRY TO GET A NEW SET OF PARENTS.

© 1989 Erik Andresen

# SPORTS

by Jennifer Johnson  
STAFF SPORTS REPORTER

Hello again sports fans! Ready for another exciting season at Tech Basketball? Are you ready to hear every juicy, amazing detail? Ask and ye shall receive!

Traditionally the teams at Tech have been split into three leagues, respectively known as the "A" league, the Upper Turkey league, and the Lower Turkey league. However, this year because of a lack of "A" team members, all three leagues have been lumped into one league. Mostly this solution to the lack of involvement in the basketball intramurals program has been a successful one. Even though the "A" team members are in general much more competitive than the Turkey league members, the former "A" leaguers have tried to tone down their "competitive" drive and make the games enjoyable for all involved. However, "A" leaguers and Turkey leaguers do have different views on whether the game is to be played for fun or for competition and this has caused some problems. Both leagues need to take the other leagues' view into consideration for the season to be enjoyable for all.

Sky Monkeys, last years runners-up, beat Ya-Tah-Hey, last years champs, 77 to 52 earlier this season. Up to date, the Sky Monkeys are undefeated. Ya-Tah-Hey and Geodynamics are tied for second with three wins apiece.

Darren Meadows, formerly of Sky Monkeys and Most Valuable Player of last year's pre-Christmas tournament, is back at Tech, but has left his beloved Sky Monkeys and is now playing for Steve Halkoski's Love Pistons. The six foot three Meadows has been known to "cause opposing teams grief with his vertical leap" in the immortal words of former Pay Dirt sports commentator Susan Engi. Why, may you ask has Darren "jumped ship" so to speak? Mr Meadows told this reporter that his change of teams was because he feels that as the Sky Monkeys already dominate the boards, he wished to make the tournament more challenging for all concerned. The rumor mill, however, has come up with another

possible reason for Darren's change of heart. Meadows and former teammate Chad "Top Dog" Tipton had a bet (gentlemen?) on who would have the highest individual score in the game that week between Meadow's Love Pistons and his estranged team, the Sky Monkeys. Tipton narrowly edged out Meadows 20-19 respectively, but wait-word on the street is that Darren was recovering from a severe allergic reaction (which required a short trip to the hospital) just prior to gametime. Tough break Darren, better luck next time. However, the individual high for the evening was not turned in by Tipton but by Frosh newcomer Mark Davis who canned 25 points that game.

Now for award time. The individual points per game record is currently held by Tipton with 32 scored in a game against the Staffadons. Following close behind are Ritchie Gutierez (Ya-Tah-Hey) and Meadows, both with 28. The honor of outstanding female is bestowed upon Debbi Crane of Captain Kangaroo who dunked 17 against Squat-n-Shoot (name origins unknown) led by captain Dave Cross. There is a toss-up for the biggest schmuck award between Mike Easterling's team, Geriatrics, who started to go towards the wrong basket but soon found the error of their ways, and turned around and in the process crossed the half court mark (constituting over-and-back) and the referees who failed to make the call but instead elected to start the game over. Is this a new regulation guys? A few words of advice. Mike, you might want to seriously reconsider renaming your team "Fools Incorporated" and refs, you should probably look into attending remedial referee school.

"So what are you telling us Jenny?" My conclusion is this: withstanding a few exceptions, the season is running fairly smoothly. I wish to commend all the teams on the efforts they are making to ensure that the combining of the leagues is successful.

Last year we had a record turnout of approximately fifty students for last year's championship

game. Lets really show some school spirit this year by bettering last year's record. So come on out and give support, or consolation as the case may be, to your favorite team. Pre-tournament games are also open to the public and are always fun to see. Look for another basketball article around tournament time, but for now as Dennis Miller would put it "I am outta here!"

## Auxiliary Report

by Laura Buxton  
AUXILIARY SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

(This first column presents residence life from the side of the RA. Future columns will include general information on what Auxiliary Services is up to.)

Most people who live in the dorms regard Resident Assistants (RA's) as a sort of necessary evil to be avoided. Believe it or not, RA's are really there to help you, and if they get on your case about things, like playing your stereo too loud, it's usually for the benefit of some one else who called and complained. It may help you deal with your RA if you remember the following things:

1) RA's do forget things. Your clogged toilet may not be high up on his list of immediate priorities if you tell him about it right before his physics final. As a reminder, it might be wise to put a follow-up note on his door.

2) RA's don't control P-Plant. We can put in orders and find out what's happening with them, but they don't really tell us when they will do something. As a result, we send off a work order and must assume that it will be done promptly. If you are still living with the clogged toilet after two weeks. Tell your RA that nothing's been fixed, and they'll try to nag P-Plant some more. The point is, the RA won't know if something's been fixed or not unless you say so. Which brings us neatly to:

3) RA's are not omniscient. It may bug the hell out of you that there's a group of people who have orgies in the kitchen at 3 AM every Saturday, and you may wonder why the RA does nothing, but it's quite possible that the RA has no idea that it is happening. If you do not tell an RA your problems with your psychopathic roommate, she can not help you. On the flip side, if you don't bug anyone enough that they call an RA to stop you, you won't get in trouble. If you have a few beers with a couple of friends and keep on the quiet side, your RA will neither know or care. If you throw a kegger and toss your neighbors off the second floor, you will probably hear from your RA (and maybe Campus Police). Basically, you need to let your RA know if something is bothering you, and you should also avoid bothering other people. It's the price you pay for being a social ape.

Basically, you need to put out a little effort by telling your RA the things that you want, keeping in mind his limitations. Dorms are a kind of a halfway house between home and reality, and RA's are little more than landlords, and a lot less than most parents. They don't want to nag you, but they don't want others to be miserable either. Accept some responsibility for yourself and the people around you, and everyone will get along great and all the RA will have to do is get light bulbs.

In my next column, I would like to do an interview with Rhonda and/or Trish. If there are any questions you have about Auxiliary Services, including: the dorms, the pool, the gameroom, the golf course, and ARA, send your questions and suggestions to: Box 2471 c/s, or call me at 835-6141. All input will be greatly appreciated.

Miami needs to build a new elementary school every six weeks to keep pace with the arrival of immigrant children.

Washington Post Weekly, 12/25/1989

## Humanities Department Considering Giving Advanced Placement Credit

by Thomas Jones  
PAYDIRT STAFF REPORTER

The Tech Humanities department is currently investigating the possibility of giving credit to entering freshmen for classes taken in high school under the Advanced Placement program, and, in certain cases, has already begun issuing credit.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program, given in high schools throughout the country, allows students at the high-school level to take courses presumably at a college level, and then take a final examination so that colleges may give course credit on the basis of a score on the exam. Until last fall, Humanities was the only department on Tech campus which has corresponding AP exams and did not give any credit to students doing well on those exams. (The Chemistry, Math, Biology, Computer Science, and Physics departments for many years have been giving AP credit ranging from three to eight hours for sufficiently high scores on their respective examinations.) The Humanities department began last fall giving credit on the American History exam on a provisional basis, and the department plans to discuss with Admissions the prospect of offering AP credit in other subjects next fall. No retroactive credit would be given to students already attending Tech.

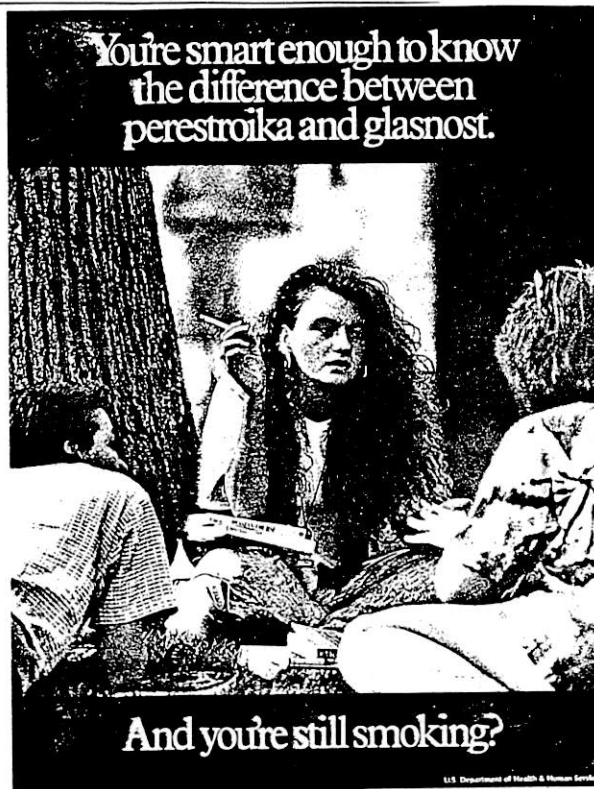
Dr. Olsen, Humanities chairman, stated that the policy of no AP credit was established because of the difference in material covered by the AP exams and the corresponding courses offered at

Tech. The consideration currently under way would allow students who took Advanced Placement courses to advance further in the subjects in which they have already studied. For instance, a student who had performed well on the AP American History exam would be eligible to enroll in History of American Technology (History 383), which normally requires introductory American history (141 and 142) as pre-requisites.

Dr. Olsen emphasized that the AP exam credit would only supplement the student's Humanities courses and would not replace any classes required to satisfy basic degree requirements. This system would be similar to that currently offered for students scoring 27 or higher on the English portion of the ACT exam—English 111 is waived as a requirement, but the student must take either English 341 (Technical Writing) or 342 (Speech) instead.

When asked why his department differs from others on campus in that it does not allow AP courses to fulfill degree requirements, Dr. Olsen stated that, regardless of how much one has studied humanities before entering college, "We feel that an educated person must take a substantial amount of literature, fine arts, and history."

When informed that some incoming transfer students were very unsatisfied with the quantity of humanities credits accepted for transfer into Tech, Dr. Olsen said he felt that acceptance rates were quite high, and that anyone with such a complaint should talk with him about the particular courses in question.



You're smart enough to know  
the difference between  
perestroika and glasnost.

And you're still smoking?

Editor's note: Of 14 people surveyed, 13 did not know the difference between perestroika and glasnost. Of these, none smoked. The individual who did know also did not smoke.

## Musicians, Singers Wanted

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

The Tech/Community Chorus and Tech/Community Orchestra will both be working on music from Gilbert and Sullivan's light opera *The Mikado* this semester, as well as other pieces. People from the Socorro community are invited to join in the fun! You may perform just for fun, or you may sign up for one credit hour if you wish.

Both groups meet in the basement of Macey Center. The chorus meets at 7:30 PM on Tuesdays, and the orchestra meets at 7:30 PM on Thursdays. Both groups are directed by Michel Iatauro, director of the Fine Arts and Music Program at Tech.

## Career Services Calendar

FROM THE CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

Tuesday, February 6: Career Opportunities Presentation by Hank Cureton of Hewlett-Packard. 3:00 PM in Cramer 102.

Wednesday, February 14: Informational meeting with Compaq Computers. 7:00 PM in MSEC 209.

Monday, February 19: Sign-ups for interviews with US Forest Service, Los Angeles Department of Public Works, and Unisys. Career Services Office.

Sunday, February 26: Information about Unisys. 5:30 PM, Copper Room of Macey Center.

Tuesday, February 28: Representative of Marine Corps will be in the SUB from 9:30 AM until 2:00 PM.

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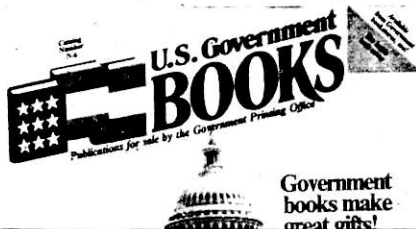
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## THE GREY AREA by Derek T. Jones



Stanley needed a little extra money, so he decided to sell his roommate's plasma.



## Police Blotter

by Taige Blake  
CAMPUS POLICE CORRESPONDENT

This column's purpose is to help keep the Tech community abreast of the incidents taking place on campus. The NM Tech Police blotter will be like most other police blotters in other papers; it will report the various crimes and violations that take place on campus. In most instances, names will not be used. This column will be run once a month with the previous month's incidents reported. At this time, however, the information has not yet been compiled, since the cooperation with campus police was just established at the beginning of this semester. The editor, the P-Plant correspondent, and myself had a chat with campus police director Tom Zimmerman to gain this cooperation.

The campus police department is an actual certified police department as well as a security force. All officers are trained police officers. They are trained in the same manner as all other officers in law enforcement. A few of the tech officers are ex-county sheriffs, including the director. The dispatchers have attended an eighty hour program to handle the stressful situations which might arise on the phone. The campus police have the same responsibility and enforcement powers of any other police force. Their jurisdiction includes both campus and TERA land.

Since campus police are an actual police force, any phone calls involving incidents at Tech should be directed to them, not the Socorro Police. Calling the Socorro Police will result in the loss of valuable time, since the Socorro Police will refer the call back to campus police. If you believe something is amiss or you think you are in danger, you are urged to call in. Campus police would rather respond to a false alarm than to see someone harmed; luckily the violent crime rate on campus is very low.

Traffic tickets are now state citations. All appeals are handled through municipal court, since Tech has no court system of its own. Although some of you might believe tickets are handed out in enormous quantities, campus police have no quota system; they do not even keep the money from the citations they hand out. The county currently receives all money from such fines.

Also, campus police works with the other jurisdictions in the area. Although the campus is not under the city's jurisdiction, city police can follow a suspect onto campus, if the incident occurred downtown. Leroy Place and Bullock Avenue are not considered borders. Socorro County and the State Police, of course, have jurisdiction over campus.

If you have any questions concerning campus police policies or other general concerns, you can write Paydirt, c/o The Blotter, Box GG, Campus Station. If you have any problems of a more personal nature with campus police, go up and talk to the director, Tom Zimmerman. He wants to hear from you.

For \$13.95, From Edmund Scientific's latest catalog, you can buy a "Build Your Own Nuclear Power Plant"

noticed by Paydirt staff

## Physical Plant News

by Jason Coder  
PHYSICAL PLANT CORRESPONDENT

The object of this column is to inform and enlighten the student body as to what projects P-Plant is currently involved in, future developments, and how these projects will effect life here on campus. As this is the first column in this series, I would like to begin by providing some basic background on Physical Plant itself, to familiarize those readers who might not know the full extent that P-Plant is involved in everyday life here at Tech.

Physical Plant employs more than 100 people that are responsible for the maintenance of over 30,000 acres, including campus, the golf course, the fire fighting academy, and parts of "M" Mountain. Em-

ployed are many specialists such as plumbers, electricians, and architects that enable the P-Plant to upkeep and repair all the facilities that they are responsible for. Physical Plant's offices are located just past the Pro-Shop, on the opposite end of the building from Campus Police.

Current Projects include:

1. The automation of the sprinkler system involving the installation of control wires and new sprinkler heads around campus, so you can expect to see some small trenches around campus. Completion is anticipated within the next couple of weeks.

2. The refurbishing of Wells hall, done by an independent contractor under P-Plant supervision, is on schedule and should be done within the next few months.

3. Two holes on the golf course have been closed for resodding and will be opened when the new grass is capable of withstanding traffic.

4. Also under construction is the new irrigation lake that will be fed by Lattman Well. (Lattman Well is a recently dug source of water for the campus sprinkler system. It is visible from the upper West floors of South as the building adjacent to the large brown water tank.)

5. The renovations in the basement of Brown Hall are also proceeding smoothly, and should be completed within the next few months.

Two projects that are currently on the drawing board are a pavilion behind the SAC, where the old playground was, and a recycling plan for campus. P-Plant is seeking input from the students now on these two projects, before actual construction begins. Students or faculty with suggestions for these or other P-Plant matters should write to: Paydirt, Attn: P-Plant Correspondent, Box GG, Campus Station. Future columns will answer questions as space permits.



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at reasonable prices!

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11:00am-1:00pm

DINNER:  
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The CANTEEN is open;

MON-FRI 7:00am-4:00pm

SAT-SUN 11:00am-3:30pm



ITZA PIZZA is open;

MON-FRI 11:30am-8:30pm

SAT-SUN 4:00pm-8:30pm



# OPINION

Editorials, Commentary, and Letters to the Editor

Mail letters to: *Paydirt*, Box GG, Campus Station [Socorro, NM 87801]. Computer e-mail is also accepted at the address [paydirt@nmt.edu](mailto:paydirt@nmt.edu). (For computers, unformatted text is preferred.) Letters are welcome from students, faculty, staff, and other concerned persons. All letters submitted for printing must include the author's name and telephone number, although names will be withheld on request. *Paydirt* reserves the right to edit all letters as it deems necessary, and also to accept or reject any letters as it sees fit. Letters concerning controversial, previously unprinted topics will not be printed in the last issue of any semester, in order to permit timely responses from other concerned individuals.

## A New Leaf

You may have noticed a significant difference between this issue of *Paydirt* and the issues that you have seen for the past couple of years. That is our intention. Under the administration of a new Editor-in-Chief, the goal is to actually provide New Mexico Tech with a newspaper that will entertain, interest, and, most of all, inform the Tech community about what's going on. In this respect, *Paydirt* has turned over a new leaf. This newspaper intends to uphold reasonable journalistic standards, and replace the rumor mill as the most useful source of news around campus. Since the staff has relatively little journalism experience, the paper may not be as polished as the *New York Times*, but from the editor and rest of the staff you have this guarantee: We will do our best.

## New Policies

In our effort to be a useful newspaper, *Paydirt* intends to be issued every two or three weeks, almost always on Tuesdays. To ensure that as many people as possible get to read it, copies will be distributed to all on-campus dorm rooms and offices. Once the paper is re-established, delivery may be reduced to campus offices, since all students on-campus can pick up their copies in the cafeteria or SUB. A staff has been employed, with positions ranging from Assistant Editor to Physical Plant Correspondent. By delegating authority in particular, small units, each individual involved in *Paydirt* will not need to spend too much time, but the quality of the paper will increase dramatically over what Tech has been forced to get used to. Anyone with valuable skills is welcome to join the staff.

If you have a complaint about something on campus, go to the department responsible and talk to them about it. If that doesn't work, you're welcome to write a letter to the editor. Or, if the subject is of general interest, just send us a note, and somebody will be sent to investigate. If you work for a department that's doing something new and worth knowing about, drop *Paydirt* a line, so the whole campus will find out about it. We'd also like to know what you think about *Paydirt*, so send us your comments!

## A New Editor

I am Tom Jones, and am also the new editor of *Paydirt*. Many of you are familiar with my writing already, since I am also editor of the *SPRIL Newsletter*. (To those who are wondering about SPRIL's current status, have no fear. There will be newsletters this semester, though not as many.) For those who are interested, I am also a third-year Physics major (with TC & CS minors). I half-heartedly accepted this job, but since I rarely do anything half-heartedly, I have as my insane goal the revolution of *Paydirt* into a useful paper, a status it has not had in many years. This paper may not be as good as it could be, but I'm confident you'll agree that it's substantially better than it has been recently.

## The Incident of November 14

Last semester, President Lattman made a mistake, and, in a loud outburst said a lot of things to a student that he shouldn't have. This event has resulted in the biggest mess on campus in many years, and has appeared on numerous agendas as the Event of November 14th. Unfortunately, all those agendas were for meetings that were closed to the public and, more importantly, to the student body. The most recent of these meetings occurred last Friday, and, during it, Dr. Lattman apologized to the faculty. Closed meetings are generally cause for distrust, and should be avoided. Many individuals are quite disturbed that yet another closed meeting has been held on the subject, but there is one additional consideration that needs to be made, about that particular meeting: Most of the faculty encountered after the meeting were quite pleased with its results, not just because of the apology, but because it was also a session at which many of the faculty's general grievances with Dr. Lattman were aired and discussed. From time to time, exposing such wounds can lead to rapid healing, and, in many cases, it seems to have. Such a discussion could not have taken place in a public meeting. Even though the faculty petition that resulted in the meeting requested a "public explanation," in this particular instance, a closed meeting accomplished far more than an open meeting would have.

Dr. Lattman apologized repeatedly to the faculty at this most recent meeting. He made a general statement in the January 14 *Albuquerque Journal*. He has apologized to the two students involved in the outburst. The student body has, as yet, heard no apology, and he certainly should make a statement to them, as soon as possible.

But, before the lynch mobs are organized, a more general analysis of the whole situation must be made. Dr. Lattman's mistake was not a mortal sin. It has not destroyed the reputation of the school, and in no way deserved nearly the amount of attention it has received. Apologies are all that are in order, and those who are demanding his resignation or other penance are out of line. Most people at Tech have already forgotten about the incident. It is long overdue that everyone at Tech put this incident behind them and get back to the school's purpose: education.

## BOOK REVIEW:

### College on the Rio Grande

by Paige W. Christansen

available at Print Plant and the Tech Bookstore, \$11.00

by Thomas Jones  
PAYDIRT STAFF REPORTER

On its cover, *College on the Rio Grande* states that it is "A History of New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology Celebrating its Centennial, 1889-1989."

History is, in and of itself, an interesting subject. Colleges generally have particularly colorful pasts, so it would seem that this history of Tech would be simultaneously interesting and informative.

If you were looking for miscellaneous statistics from years past, this is the book to buy; for instance, according to the author, there were only 15 students at Tech in 1945. The history of the campus itself through the years is also rather thorough and interesting:

The old [golf] course must have been interesting to play. The fairways, to use a term lightly, were simply areas scraped of some of their brush. There was no effort to develop grass.... The greens were scraped clean, covered with a thick coating of sand with a metal hole and a flagstick.... Each green was equipped with a rake so one could smooth a path from the ball to the hole before putting.

Dr. Christansen explains when every building was constructed, and why. His description of the evolution of the college through the addition and removal of academic departments is also thorough. However, the story of the campus's structure and general aspects of its development of Tech's organization represent the only thorough descriptions present in the book.

The two things that are generally recognized as making Tech a unique institution are the students and the faculty. As one reads *College on the Rio Grande*, there are gaping holes in what could obviously be very interesting history. For example,

The peak for intercollegiate athletics came in the 1945-1946 academic year. The basketball team... was led by a pair of giants, six-foot Charles Reynor and seven-foot one-inch Elmore Morganthaler. The latter finished second in the national individual scoring race. The School of Mines won the New Mexico Conference and played in the National College Tournament in Kansas City, but failed to win a place. Intercollegiate athletics were dropped by the school the following year.

Surely there was a lot more to the story than that, but, for whatever reason, Dr. Christansen declines to tell us about it.

After telling how important the St. Patrick's Day celebration was to the character of the school, all that is said is that "it became increasingly raucous and

disruptive and was finally terminated by the administration in 1985."

After describing how vital former Tech president Colgate was to the institute, revolutionizing the academic program, his description concludes with

Ten years is a long time to hold things together in such a volatile world, and Colgate and the regents came to a parting of the ways. The students continued to support the president, as did most of the faculty. Without the support of the regents, however, Colgate felt that he could not remain president, and he resigned in 1975.

While Stirling Colgate's departure from the presidency was rather unique, as the rumors around campus will attest, a description at least slightly more informative must have been possible. And the description of the end of the administration of President Ford is just as vague. Perhaps Dr. Christansen felt (or was told) that revealing presumably negative characteristics about these individuals would hurt their reputations, but this still provides no explanation of the other missing information such as the end of the basketball program.

Also missing from the history is a presentation of the real character of Tech, the way the students and faculty felt and acted. Although there is probably little information on character from the early days of the school, information about it is obviously available about the last thirty years, but the book declines to investigate. Instead, the author uses sweeping generalities such as "The period was difficult for students across the nation."

On the few aspects of Tech history I am directly familiar with, there are statements of dubious merit. Underneath the photo of South Hall reads the caption, "South Hall, dormitory. Built in 1966. Often called 'The Motel' by the students." I'm sorry, Dr. Christansen, but I've lived in that building for three years and I (nor anybody I asked) has ever heard of that title, even though it bears a significant resemblance to one. Perhaps it was called that in 1966, but certainly not "often" today.

Use of the book as a reference is severely hampered by the lack of any index—one has to read an awful lot to discover the particular history of almost any facet of NM Tech.

For individuals interested in Tech's past, *College on the Rio Grande* is indispensable reading. There are few written histories of Tech available, and this is the most thorough I know of. But for those who seek to find out how Tech evolved through the years, or something fun to read on a week-end, you won't find *College on the Rio Grande* very appealing.

## SA Movie Schedule Spring 1990

February 9	My Bloody Valentine
February 16	Caddyshack
February 23	Dirty Harry
March 2	Rebel Without a Cause
March 9	Student Bodies
March 30	Dr. Strangelove
April 20	Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory
April 27	Tootsie

All movies start at 8:00 PM in the SAC.

Tech Students and one guest: Free

All others: \$1.00

Movies selected by the SA Movie Committee

## IN MY DAY:

# The Indestructible Land Rover

by John W. Shipman  
PAYDIRT COLUMNIST

*In this series, I will tell some stories from my career as a Tech undergrad, 1966 to 1970. Some of them are true, like this one. Some will be fictional but based loosely on real events. Those of you who have known me in the eighties needn't worry that I'll talk about you. I have plenty of material from the old days.*

When my roommate Fred Beach got his inheritance, he knew right away it was going for a Land Rover. He had somehow gotten the idea that these were indestructible vehicles, and he was out to prove it.

Within a few days of getting it, he was taking it over the motorcycle jump. Great fun. I went over it a couple times as a passenger, and he got all four wheels well off the ground. The third time, I rode in the back with a massive toolbox. During that short period over the jump, the toolbox and I went up in the air. I came down first, and the toolbox came down on top of me. It was more fun in the passenger seat.

One full moon night around 2 AM we had just finished off bowls of the industrial-strength green chili at the P & T Cafe, and I just wanted to go back to the dorm and sleep, but Fred wanted to go drive on the riverbed. He'd been at a party on the riverbed a few months previously when it was dry.

We drove over the dike and stopped just at the gap between the trees. Fred got out and stomped around right by the door and found firm sand. Meanwhile I was looking at a very subtle discontinuity in the riverbed about two feet ahead of the bumper: it seemed that the sand dropped about an inch and turned slightly darker. I should have known that a color change in the sand that can be seen by moonlight is a pretty big change in the sand condition, but I knew nothing about the Rio Grande riverbed, and apparently Fred didn't either. Neither of us thought much about whether the river had run anytime recently. Turned out it had been up within a week.

Fred pronounced the sand entirely safe and drove over that little drop-off. Beyond it, the sand was about as solid as chocolate pudding. We sank up to the axles in about two seconds.

"No problem. I'll just put it in four-wheel drive."

I knew we were stuck, but Fred didn't know it until he put it in four-wheel and spun the tires for a minute. The car didn't even rock when he did that.

We walked back to the firehouse and woke up T. Cash Rhodes, who had a yellow Scout. Those who knew T. Cash in his later days would be amazed to hear that Fred persuaded him to come out to the river at 3 AM and try to pull us out. Fortunately for him, he didn't drive into the pudding, but even back on the "dry" sand he almost got stuck.

I wasn't there for the actual removal, but it took not only Gary Sower's gigantic Dodge power wagon, plus the winch on the Dodge tied to a big cottonwood, plus Fred's engine in four-wheel drive as well, to get back over that lip. Good thing,

too, because the river ran a couple of days later, and probably would have taken the vehicle with it.

One Saturday morning not long after that, I just wanted to sleep in, but Fred prevailed on me to help him get the Land Rover back from someplace called the Rienhardt Ranch, which was way the heck out on the southeast flanks of the Magdalenas.

Fred worked for Charlie Moore's thunderstorm research crew at the time, and apparently a tethered balloon had torn loose and Fred had torn off after it. The balloon had a trash can hanging from it containing several thousand dollars' worth of instruments, and Fred was going to be a hero and catch it.

Blasting across open range at full speed, Fred managed to destroy a tire. Did that stop him? No, he had a good spare. Not even slowing down much, he continued until a second tire died. That stopped him, and he walked to the Rienhardt Ranch from there. The Rienhardts are very nice people (they're still out there), and they had helped out Charlie's people before. They gave him a ride back to town.

The plan was that he would borrow Stirling Colgate's Jeep and use the spare off the Jeep for one flat and the Land Rover's spare for the other, and I was along to drive the Jeep back to town. This plan was doomed for two reasons. The Jeep's spare had five holes and the Land Rover's wheels had six lugs. Also, a third tire had gone flat after he left the ranch.

As we cruised out along the ranch roads, I asked Fred if he knew where he was going. "Of course," he said, "I was here only a couple of days ago."

After a while we came up to a ranch.

"Is this the Rienhardt Ranch?"  
"I think so."

It wasn't. Eventually Fred found somebody who told him that the Rienhardt Ranch was about five miles south of there along a rough track.

Fred took off down this track at full speed, not thinking about how this was just a track and not a fully maintained county road. We went down a long grade, and right at the bottom there was a nearly invisible washout about six inches wide and about six inches deep. Fred saw the washout from about ten feet away and hit it going at least 30. Wham. The Jeep landed with the motor dead and the wheels skidding.

Fred pushed the starter button and got a click, but no more.

We pushed the Jeep up the hill a ways, then let it roll down so Fred could try to start it. A curious thing happened: every time he engaged the clutch, the back wheels locked up. After pushing the thing up the hill three times and watching this phenomenon, we decided it was time to hoof it.

After a walk of a couple of miles we came to another ranch.

"Is this it?"

"No, but I think that ranch three miles up the wash is the one."

But it had water—it was a hot summer day, and we drank our fill out at the water tank. The door

was wide open and some music was playing inside, but no one was home. Fred told me to stay put and he would walk up along the wash to the Rienhardt place.

I stuck around there for an hour or so, then got bored and decided to walk after Fred along the road. I got good and sunburned and tired and thirsty and made it to within a mile of the Rienhardt place when I saw a pickup coming to get me, containing Mrs. Rienhardt, Fred, and one of the hands. They had brought water and a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, possibly the best one I've ever eaten.

We went back to put the Jeep under tow and bring it back to the ranch. The wash had some pretty big stones in it, and while the Rienhardt's pickup had no trouble getting across, it was having some trouble pulling the dead weight of the Jeep. They told me to get out and jump up and down in the pickup bed, an old off-roader's trick, and it worked—with a little rocking, we got the Jeep to the road and towed it back to the ranch.

There was no way the Land Rover was going back to town this trip, with three destroyed tires. The Jeep fared better: when it hit the washout, one of the two bolts that holds the starter to the block had sheared off and a chunk of it had wedged in between the flywheel and the starter cog. To fix it, they just took off the other starter bolt and we push-started the Jeep and went back to town with a full load of tires.

Fred had a lot less success convincing me to join him on his adventures after that.

## Computer Center Receives Grants

### COMPUTER CENTER

The Tech Computer Center has received generous grants from two different firms that will increase the computing facilities available to students and faculty.

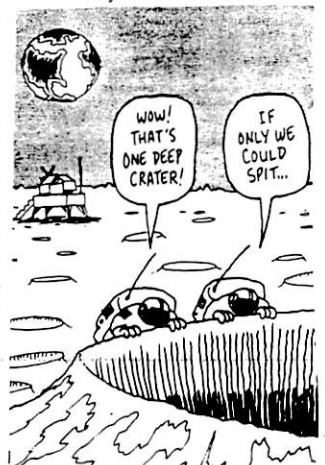
The Phillips Foundation is covering two-thirds of the cost of a new Apple Macintosh lab, which is to contain between five and ten Machines. The lab should be opening late this semester or during the summer.

Hewlett-Packard is donating one of its HP9000 models to the Computer Science department, worth between \$100,000 and \$200,000. The machine, complete with a variety of software, should be arriving later this semester, and will be replacing the VAX 11/780 that has been deteriorating recently due to its age.

For more information concerning either of these grants, please contact the Tech Computer Center.

### THE GREY AREA

by Derek T. Jones



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# KTEK SPRING SCHEDULE

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8:00	DARK				The Steele Hour		
9:00		Annette's Breath					
10:00							
11:00							
noon			Aimster's Hours	DARK			
1:00							
2:00		Peter Rock	Teatime with Steve	Cosmos	The Holy Roman Empire Show		
3:00							Paul Houle
4:00	T.T.		DARK	Anti-Smut Society	Aaron		
5:00		Religious Stupidity	The Elvisless Hour	Mad Scotsman's Revenge			Eric's My Show
6:00	DARK						
7:00		The Hobbitt	Modern Tunes for Modern Reptiles	Just Another Bob	Like it or Lick it	Reggae Hiphop	The Saturday Night 69'er
8:00	Cosmos						
9:00		The Anti-Smut Society	My Show	Matt Jones	Rock the Flock	The Laura Buxton Show	
10:00							
11:00	The Family Show	On the Edge	Jack Fusion & Big Ed Couloumb	J.P.	My Show		
midnite						DARK	

Schedule supplied by KTEK.

Graphic by T. Jones, Paydirt staff

## STEPHEN SMOOGEN'S HOROSCOPES

(Paydirt accepts no liability for the content of these horoscopes. Cast your own if you like.)

**Aries:** I see splendid times for you in the near future. Your love life is wonderful but beware of the Gemini loner with Jupiter roaming this sign. Your test-taking skills will astound your professors, and your social life is blossoming.

**Taurus:** Your usual bull-headed approach to life will find little resistance over the coming weeks. Those who have thought themselves the matador in the past will find themselves stampeded by your sheer will of force.

**Gemini:** Big sky chief rules your sign. Heap big medicine made by glorious sky chief. Powerful wampum comes your way. Evil men with forked tongue will run from you. Prepare for glorious times.

**Cancer:** As you scuttle over the sands of life, you must beware the incoming tide. Your love life shall ebb but from your new chastity many friends shall appear from the salty foam of the incoming sea. An early test could drown you.

**Leo:** You are at your weakest this month with the sun in Capricorn. Be careful of tests, social gaffes, and tons of homework. A tall, unusual stranger will walk into your life soon and many change it completely.

**Virgo:** Pluto resides in your sign this month, symbolizing death to many, but he is also the controller of money. While money is tight, it will be enough if you are careful. If you look in the right place, your love life will blossom.

**Libra:** Pluto is near your sign, so beware of risky ventures. School will be busy but if you keep calm, a new strength will come into your life in two weeks that will help pull you through.

**Scorpio:** Your appeal to the opposite sex is astronomical. You'll have to beat them off with all your might. Beware, though, for the sands of time are falling, and classes are only to get tougher. Next Friday will be special.

**Sagittarius:** This is the month for you. Six planets reside within your sign; you truly command the heavens. A Taurus will become more involved in your life in the coming weeks. Next week holds a troublesome exam.

**Capricorn:** Be careful of water, especially fire water, in the coming month. Stress will increase in the next weeks, but your preparations will pay off, if you are able to maintain control. Relax and your life will be easier.

**Aquarius:** The sun is almost within your sign. You possess hidden strengths and a sunny disposition. Wild opportunities will present themselves—don't jump overboard without looking down first.

**Pisces:** Your sign is troubled for the next week. Be careful when travelling, and be sure to spend enough time studying for your exam later this week. Once the week is over, the week-end will bring new surprising delights.

## Adobe Update

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

A comprehensive study of adobe, a sun-dried mud brick familiar to most New Mexicans, is the subject of a 60-page publication recently released by the New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources (NMBMMR), a division of New Mexico Tech.

Adobe, Pressed-earth, and Rammed-Earth Industries in New Mexico by Edward W. Smith and George S. Austin documents the current adobe industry in the state and includes a history of adobe. The study also summarizes the geology and mineralogy of adobe soils, the physical properties of adobe bricks, and the production techniques and market trends of the adobe-brick industry in New Mexico, where over one-third of the nation's earthen dwellings are found.

Bulletin 127, as this new adobe survey has been designated, is available from the NMBMMR, for \$6 plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling if necessary. Contact the Bureau Publications Office at (505) 835-5410.

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## At the Library

FROM THE LIBRARY'S DESK

Librarians at Tech's Martin Speare library and eight other libraries across the state will now be able to answer citizen inquiries about this legislative session's activities through the computerized **Daily Bill Locator**. The Bill Locator will give information on the daily status of legislative bills as they progress through the 1990 Legislative session. Using this service, a citizen will be able to determine what bills have been introduced to the legislature and where they are in the legislative process, such as committee status. This service is being offered for the first time this session on a test basis. If successful, it will be expanded to more state sites in the future.

THE GREY AREA by Derek T. Jones



Proof that E.S.P. doesn't work.

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