

# Halbouty donates large endowment to geology

University News Service

Michel T. Halbouty is now the donor of the largest individually endowed academic chair at Texas A&M, with the announcement that he has increased his endowment in geology to \$1.1 million.

The Michel T. Halbouty Chair, originally endowed in 1981 with \$500,000 from the internationally prominent Houston earth scientist and engineer, is held by Dr. Robert R. Berg, widely acclaimed geologist and former president of the American Institute of Professional Geologists. The announcement of Halbouty's new gift came during the dedication of a \$7.1 million expansion of the Michel T. Halbouty Geosciences Building.

"The increase in the chair to \$1.1 million identified it as one of the most outstanding chairs in geology in the United States," Halbouty said. "And it will afford Texas A&M the opportunity for expanded geological research. It will also assist the College of Geosciences to maintain its standard of excellence."

Halbouty is a 1930 graduate of A&M and has been designated one of the University's distinguished alumni.

At the beginning of the ceremony, telegrams of congratulations were read from President Ronald Reagan,

Vice President George Bush and the Secretary of Energy.

Speaking to more than 100 persons gathered inside the Halbouty complex, Jack M. Rains, president of 3/D International and a 1960 A&M graduate, said he first heard of Halbouty in the 1950s when he arrived at A&M.

Rains told a story of Halbouty's first days at A&M as a freshman when he was \$50 short of funds to register.

"He kept hearing everybody say 'Prexy Walton did this and Prexy Walton does that,' so Halbouty decided to find this person to see if he could help. Not knowing that 'Prexy' was a nickname for president, Halbouty went to Prexy Walton's secretary and told her his story.

"President Walton heard Halbouty outside his door and came out to meet the young man and ended up lending Halbouty the \$50 out of his pocket.

Halbouty earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering at A&M before earning a doctorate of engineering from Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology.

A staunch supporter of his alma mater since graduation, Halbouty's generosity includes the giving of two

scholarships in geology and petroleum engineering each year for more than 35 years and funding of a President's Endowed Scholarship.

Halbouty has received numerous honors including the Hoover Medal for engineering excellence and public service from the American Association of Engineering Societies, the Geosciences and Earth Resources Medal for Distinguished Achievement and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists' President's Award for his special publication, "Giant Oil and Gas Fields of the Decade 1968-1978."

He has presented his personal papers, reflecting his illustrious career and involvement in worldwide energy matters, to A&M's Sterling C. Evans Library.

"Mike's love for Texas A&M began as a student on campus and has grown every year since," said Dr. Robert Walker, vice president for development. "He is very generous with his time and his resources and his interest in anything for the good of Texas A&M."

Dean Mel Friedman said with the new 40,000-square-foot Halbouty addition and the renovation of the older wing, the College of Geosciences at A&M will have facilities for teaching and research that are second to none in the nation.



Perspectives

Photo by WADE WILSON

Looking up the crane from directly underneath it presents a radically different outlook to the construction going on around the campus.

# Agriculture undersecretary: Deficit underlying problem

By JAMES WALKER  
Staff Writer

Tuesday night Republican Joe Barton, candidate for the 6th District Congressional seat made a stop in College Station with Undersecretary of Agriculture Frank W. Naylor as his guest.

Naylor is the number three man at the United States Department of Agriculture and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the department.

Naylor recently has been holding sessions around the county along with Secretary of Agriculture John Block.

High interest rates, lack of competitiveness in the market place, and the need to update farm legislation are major issues concerning farmers today, he said.

"The underlying problem is dealing with a deficit which is out of con-

rol," Naylor said.

He placed blame for high interest rates on the Carter Administration and Congress saying "Tip (O'Neill) has not faced the problems of fiscal responsibility."

He said until Congress passes some kind of law that will cut federal spending, the national debt will continue to climb.

"That's why we need people like Joe Barton," Naylor said.

Calling Mondale a major factor in the Carter grain embargo, Naylor criticized vice-presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro for having a zero voting record on agricultural issues.

Naylor said Reagan has been "efficient and aggressive" in pursuing agricultural problems. He cited the president's grain sale to the Russians, the payment-in-kind program, and the new debt restructuring program as examples of Reagan's com-

mitment to agriculture.

Naylor considers the debt-restructuring program to be the "most complex and comprehensive in agricultural history."

He said 5,000 workers recently have completed training in Washington and soon will be stationed in 2,300 field offices around the country. They will assist farmers in planning their finances for the spring lending season.

If elected, Barton said he will encourage state politicians to handle Texas agricultural affairs in Austin rather than in Washington.

Barton also condemned his opponent, Dan Kubiak, for supporting a gasohol program saying it would help Midwest farmers more than those in Texas. He added that currently there is no such plant in operation in the United States.

# Media may lose space in capital

United Press International

AUSTIN — A policy change being considered by the Texas House will oust members of the news media from their Capitol accommodations for the first time in nearly a century, a House spokesman said Tuesday.

Members of the Capitol press corps were warned by Dick Merkel, press secretary to House Speaker Gib Lewis, that it is likely the House will not renew leases for newspaper, radio and television offices in the two-story press room when the leases expire at the end of 1985.

Merkel says the office space, lo-

cated just outside the House on the second floor of the Capitol, is needed for offices for House members.

Reporters have had permanent office space in the State Capitol since the structure was built in 1888.

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