



Photo by HEIN DUNG

Scott Nash looks at an Environmental Design 103 project on display in Sterling C. Evans Library.

# Higher education

## Human resources seen as key to competition

**Associated Press**  
AUSTIN — Texas must turn to human resources to provide the economic viability and competition it needs going into the 21st Century, the Select Committee on Higher Education was told Thursday.

"That is the primary task of this committee, that is why we are different," said Norman Hackerman, former president of the University of Texas at Austin and of Rice University, who is a committee member.

In stressing the need for research, Hackerman said the state has no choice but to push for advanced technology in Texas universities and colleges.

"We cannot wrest from the planet all the things we need," he said.

"In order for this region to re-

main viable we have to have a very important resource, resources such as this state enjoyed for 70 years with oil and gas. The obvious problem is that these resources are not renewable.

"There is one resource that is renewable, which in technology is the leveraging proponent, and that is human resources," Hackerman said.

Hackerman said development of human resources should be the main interest of the committee "so that it in effect provides for this region those capabilities and technology which make for economic viability and competitiveness."

Hackerman said universities are the sole source of scientists and engineers "and that is why we must maintain an adequate supply of scientists and engineers."

"Without that, we do not have the slightest chance of remaining in the economic race," Hackerman said.

Hackerman warned that the committee should not get too deeply involved in the dollars and cents of the Texas higher education system. Earlier two accounting firms urged the committee to provide for management audits in universities and colleges to maintain close fiscal control.

"One thing we have to do is be very careful in what you do in organizing that it does not impede the education process itself," Hackerman said. "You don't want to mess up the system."

"We need accountability, but accountability has to be done in such a way not to impede the process of learning," he said.

# Mexican president says he's cold in mind, warm in heart

**Associated Press**

MEXICO CITY — President Miguel de la Madrid, who offers only rare glimpses of his private life, said in an interview published Thursday that he is "cold in the mind and warm in the heart."

He said he prefers a beer to a sleeping pill, swims one to three times a week, and likes such authors as Mexican novelists Carlos Fuentes and Juan Rulfo, Colombian Nobel Prize-winner Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Jorge Luis Borges of Argentina.

The 50-year-old president also said: "Sometimes they say to me, this poor president whose turn came in such a difficult era. . . But I think that this also is a special challenge, that stimulates me to use greater talent, imagination, will and activity." He said being president is a permanent learning experience.

De la Madrid took office in December 1982 when Mexico already had dropped into its worst recession in half a century. Political and economic troubles have continued throughout his stay in office, complicated this September by the killer earthquake that devastated sections of Mexico City.

The president, who projects a fairly colorless image in public appearances, was asked about those who say he meets people with little enthusiasm, too rigid and distant.

"With the normal people I get

*"Because I know that in my country there are more positive things than negative, it bothers me that the contrary impression is given. . ."*  
— President Miguel de la Madrid.

along very easily and they with me," was his brief reply.

De la Madrid said he does not get depressed and sleeps well, but he does get tired at the end of some days.

The president said he tries to exercise one-half hour daily, "more for keeping fit than for fun." He said that includes walking, running or gymnastics as well as swimming one to three times each week.

"As my time is very limited I don't practice teams or pair sports," he said. "I don't play tennis. I do gymnastics. I practice swimming. I'll suddenly play volleyball with my sons, with my children, here in Mexico City or in the house we've had for many years in Cuautla."

De la Madrid has four sons and a daughter, ranging in age from 11 to 26. Cuautla is a mountain resort in Morelos state, just to the southwest of the capital.

He said he "fortunately" has time to talk to his children.

"Normally, in addition to Saturdays and Sundays, I go to eat in my house two times, and in the meal we have a chance to talk. And since I now have relatively grown children, I now see them more frequently at night, and there we chat or watch television, and there is an opportunity to be in contact with them."

Los Pinos, the presidential residence, also includes an office complex where he spends much of his working day.

De la Madrid said his taste in reading is varied.

"I try to read the classics from time to time, the Greeks, the Romans, the Spanish, the English, the great figures. The classical for that is classical, because it is of a permanent, eternal value, because it speaks of human nature that, in the end, is a constant in time. I like as well the modern, Borges, Garcia Marquez, (Peruvian novelist. Mario) Vargas Llosa," de la Madrid said.

He also said he is not hostile to the news media but is bothered by its tendency to emphasize the negative.

"Because I know that in my country there are more positive things than negative, it bothers me that the contrary impression is given; it bothers me that there might be yellow journalism for a desire to increase circulation."

# Houston councilman seeks to ban smoking

**Associated Press**

HOUSTON — A Houston city councilman is proposing a ban on smoking at sporting events in the city's enclosed arenas such as the Summit and Astrodome, but a colleague says that may ignite some controversy among smokers.

Councilman Jim Westmoreland, a former smoker who proposed the ordinance Wednesday, says banning smoking is good for public health.

But Councilman Frank Mancuso, a cigar-smoker and former professional baseball player, said smoking at sporting events is common.

"It is just like popcorn and beer at a ballgame — a lot of people won't want to do without it," he argued.

Houston ordinances currently prohibit smoking in the baggage claim areas of public airports and in elevators, grocery stores, theaters and hospitals.

In Dallas, the city council unanimously approved an ordinance Wednesday making smoking illegal in retail establishments with 500 or more square feet of floor space. The new ordinance, which takes effect Feb. 6, requires restaurants with 50 or more seats to set aside an unspecified number of tables for non-smokers and to prohibit smoking in common areas, such as restrooms and around cash registers.

Westmoreland said a recent survey shows only 28 percent of all Texans are smokers.

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