LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Central Artery Project

Boston's Central Artery Tunnel project, or "The Big Dig," as the local citizenry like to call the project, brings out both "The Agony and the Ecstasy." On the one hand, the construction has disrupted normal city life by creating monumental traffic jams, the very thing it was supposed to solve. At the same time, Boston could not function with its existing system. The authors of the article ("Central Artery/Tunnel Project – A Precast Bonanza," May-June PCI JOURNAL) have done an excellent job in presenting an overview of the project and the important role precast, prestressed concrete is playing in transforming Boston's archaic highways into a modern transportation system. I am looking forward to reading the forthcoming articles on this project.

Henry Becker
Boston, Massachusetts

Cable-Stayed Pedestrian Bridge

What I found interesting about the pedestrian bridge in San Pedro Sula, Honduras ("Precast Prestressed Cable-Stayed Pedestrian Bridge for Bufalo Industrial Park," May-June PCI JOURNAL) is that even in a country in which labor has been traditionally inexpensive, it was possible to build a precast, prestressed concrete structure at a competitive price. The authors are to be commended for their ingenuity and for taking the time to write a very interesting and practical article on this project. Their design-construction method can be applied (with some adaptations) in other parts of the world.

Pedro Fernandez
Mexico City, Mexico

IJL Financial Center

I read with much interest the article on the IJL Financial Center in Charlotte, North Carolina ("Curved Precast Façade Adds Elegance to IJL Financial Center and Parking Structure," May-June PCI JOURNAL). The architectural precast concrete façade is indeed beautiful but is even more spectacular when viewed close-at-hand. The architect, engineer and precaster are to be congratulated for a magnificent job. Finally, I am happy to see that another high-rise building using architectural precast concrete (by the same design-construction team) is now being built in downtown Charlotte.

John Peters
Atlanta, Georgia

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE NEWS

The Technical Activities Committee (TAC) (**C. Douglas Sutton**, chairman)

New Appointments to PCI Committees

The following individuals have recently accepted appointments to PCI committees. We appreciate their interest and voluntary participation.

- *Building Code Committee*

  David M. Schreffler
  H. Wilden & Associates, Inc.
  Allentown, Pennsylvania

- *Plant Safety Committee*

  Rich Holston
  CSR Pipe & Concrete Products
  Houston, Texas

- *Technical Activities Committee*

  Roger Becker
  Spancrete Industries, Inc.
  Waukesha, Wisconsin

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ROBERT E. BEERBOWER (1923-2000)

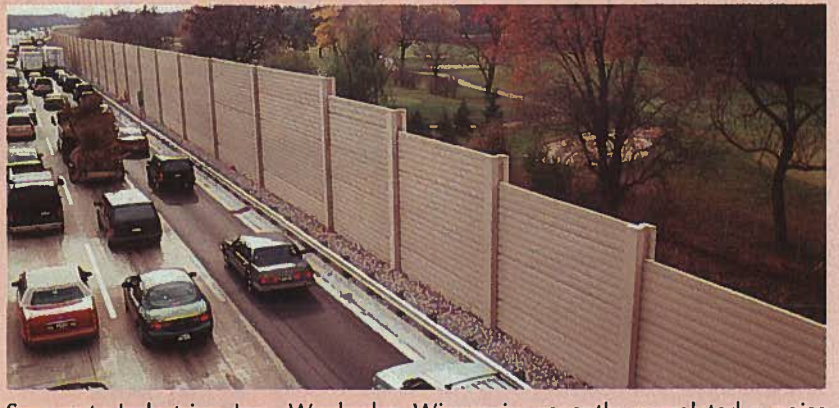
Robert E. Beerbower, chairman and founder of Flexicore Systems, Inc., died June 22 in Kettering, Ohio, at the age of 77. A native of Ohio, Mr. Beerbower obtained his BS degree in civil engineering and a business degree from Ohio State University. Later, he earned an AMP in business administration from Harvard University. During World War II, he served as an army captain with the U.S. infantry in Italy.

In 1950, as operations manager for Price Brothers Company, he built one of the earliest precasting plants for Flexicore in Lake Bluff, Illinois. Returning to Dayton, Ohio, he rose to become vice president of the Building Components Division of Price Brothers, which at its height had five precasting plants. In 1985, he founded Flexicore Systems, Inc. (FSI), serving as president (1985-1987) and chairman of the board (1985-2000). Today, FSI operates two precasting plants under the direction of its president, James Beerbower.

Mr. Beerbower served on the PCI Board of Directors for many years and was elected PCI President in 1981. Apart from his professional responsibilities, he participated in several civic and charitable organizations. During his lifetime, Mr. Beerbower contributed significantly to the precast concrete industry. With his enthusiasm, boundless energy and cheerful camaraderie, he leaves behind a strong legacy to his company, family and friends.

held its Summer Meeting in Stowe, Vermont, June 17 to 19. The following actions were taken:

- TAC approved the publication in the PCI JOURNAL of the report "High Performance Concrete Showcase Bridges," developed by the High Performance Concrete Committee.
- After much deliberation, TAC recommended that the following three reports, developed by the Erectors Committee (**Gregory B. Gibbons**, chairman), need to be substantially revised before publication:
  - "Recommended Practices and Procedures for the Erection of Vertical Litewalls and Pocketed Spandrels"
  - "Recommended Practices and Procedures for the Erection of Vertical Litewalls with Haunched Spandrels"
  - "Recommended Practices and Procedures for the Erection of Horizontal Litewalls with Pocketed or Haunched Spandrels"
- It was announced that the Tolerance Manual for Precast and Prestressed Concrete Construction (MNL 135-00) has been published and is now available for purchase. The selling price of the Manual for PCI Members is $35.00 and for non-members is $70.00.
- TAC recommended unanimously that without further conclusive research, the existing equations for strand transfer and development length of prestressed concrete members be retained. Further, that a letter be sent to the Federal Highway Administration informing FHWA of PCI's position.
- TAC recommended that PCI continue to fund the research project "Design Criteria for Headed Stud Groups," currently being carried out by Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates. This proposal was also approved by the PCI Board of Directors.
- **Donald R. Logan** reported on a proposed research program on soil/structure interaction with investigators in Turkey to be funded by $100,000 raised by Mr. Logan and other PCI Producer members. He has asked the PCI R&D Committee to provide oversight on this research program and they have responded positively. TAC and the PCI Board of Directors also supported this proposal.
- **Ned M. Cleland** presented his proposal for the development of a new manual titled "Recommended Practice for the Design and Construction of Prestressed Concrete Structures to Resist Earthquake Forces." This manual would be prepared jointly by Dr. Cleland and **Dr. S. K. Ghosh**.
- A presentation was made by **William N. Avard**, CPCI chairman, on the desirability of developing a program to integrate software for the precast concrete industry in North America. A two-day confer-



Spancrete Industries, Inc., Waukesha, Wisconsin, recently completed a noise barrier project for the Illinois Tollway (I-94 at Deerfield Plaza and Golf Road) that required 362,000 sq ft (33700 m²) of precast concrete highway noise barrier panels and 482 precast concrete columns. The noise barrier panels make up a reflective system, essentially causing the disruptive sounds of traffic or other noise sources to expend their energy, thereby lessening noise in the area. The panels also block undesirable views and increase privacy for nearby residents.

ence on this subject titled "Creating a Digital Building Product Model for the Precast, Prestressed Concrete Industry" has been planned for September 8 and 9, 2000, at the Delta Toronto Airport Hotel in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. TAC has designated **Kenneth C. Baur** to be its representative.

R&D COMMITTEE NEWS

PRESSS Final Reports Nearing Completion

The 13th PCI/PRESSS Advisory Group meeting was held on May 24 in San Diego, California. The primary objective of this meeting was to discuss current and future activities including the completion of 10 PRESSS Phase III reports based on the five-story precast concrete building tested in September 1999. The reports include details of construction, test procedures, building response, test database, analytical studies and design guidelines. Design guidelines and test data will be presented in a special PRESSS Session scheduled for Sunday afternoon, September 24, during the PCI Convention in Orlando, Florida.

In addition, PCI staff has worked with ACI Committee 550 on Precast Concrete to organize two sessions on Innovative Precast Concrete during ACI's Fall Convention in Toronto, Canada, October 15-20, 2000. These sessions include several PRESSS presentations on design, construction, testing, evaluation and code related issues to discuss some of the significant changes in the new IBC 2000 that are likely to affect precast producers in most seismic zones. All PRESSS Phase III reports are scheduled to be completed as Volume 3 by February 2001. Proposed titles for these reports are listed as follows:

Precast Seismic Structural Systems PRESSS Phase III: The Five-Story Precast Test Building — Vol. 3

- Vol. 3-1: Seismic Design (Stanton, Nakaki)
- Vol. 3-2: Construction (Nakaki, Sritharan)
- Vol. 3-3: Test Procedures and Instrumentation (Sritharan, Conley,

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In early June, PCI President **Tom Battles** (seated second from the left), attended the annual meeting of the CEOs of Concrete and Masonry Related Associations (CAMRA) held in Dallas, Texas. The more than 20 concrete industry CEOs meet each year to discuss issues of mutual interest and to plan cooperative programs where appropriate in such areas as codes and standards, education and training, research and development, and legislative issues. Often, the combined efforts of the entire concrete industry can achieve results which no individual association could expect to accomplish by itself.

MILLARD (MID) PEIRCE (1920-2000)

Millard (Mid) Peirce, a structural engineer with entrepreneurial and managerial skills, who participated in the early growth of the precast, prestressed concrete industry, died May 1 in Ormond Beach, Florida at the age of 79. A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Peirce obtained his BS degree in civil engineering from Carnegie-Mellon University in 1942.

After working for several companies, in 1953 he joined the Concrete Products Division of Martin Marietta Corporation, where he worked in various positions, rising to general manager (1963-1964) and president (1965-1969).

From 1970 to 1972, Mr. Peirce was president of Precast Systems, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, a cooperative, non-profit company representing 40 independent precast producers across the United States. The purpose of PSI was to perform engineering development and national marketing of precast building systems.

From 1973 to 1977, he was vice president and regional manager of Stanley Structures, Inc., in Denver, Colorado, overseeing annual sales up to $15 million of architectural and structural products.

In 1978-1979, he served as president and chief operating officer of San-Vel Concrete Corporation in Littleton, Massachusetts. At the time, the company had 500 employees with a sales volume of $20 million.

After leaving San-Vel, he established his own consulting and executive search firm in Florida. We salute Mid Peirce for his enormous contributions to the industry as well as the time he took to share his knowledge and experience with his colleagues, friends and family.

Contributed by Howard Gilbertsen
Vice President of Marketing
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Orlando, Florida

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- Vol. 3-4: Frame Direction Response (Pampanin, Priestley, Sritharan)
- Vol. 3-5: Wall Direction Response (Conley, Priestley, Sritharan)
- Vol. 3-6: Test Database (Sritharan)
- Vol. 3-7: Response Predictions (Sause, Pessiki)
- Vol. 3-8: Analytical Parameter Studies (Sause, Pessiki)
- Vol. 3-9: Design Guidelines (Stanton, Nakaki)
- Vol. 3-10: Summary Volume (Priestley)

Research on Headed Studs at WJE — Phase I Nearing Completion

Researchers at Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates are nearing completion of the first phase of a PCI sponsored project on "Design Criteria for Headed Stud Groups." They have completed the shear testing program, which included 328 shear tests on a variety of stud group configurations using 34 concrete slab specimens. Additional seven pilot tension tests were performed. Data analysis has been completed and the Final Report is being prepared. The objective of this research program is to improve design criteria for headed studs, and to modify the PCI design approach, if necessary.

Results so far indicate that the Concrete Capacity Design (CCD) approach proposed by ACI needs to be modified for an accurate prediction of shear strength. Both the TAC and R&D Committees agree that the research program in its entirety, including the Phase II program on combined shear and tension, needs to be completed quickly to allow for incorporation of the findings into the Sixth Edition of the PCI Design Handbook, The Standard Connections Manual and the building codes. A paper entitled "Design Criteria for Headed Stud Groups in Shear" has been submitted to PCI for publication in the PCI JOURNAL. A final report on the entire Phase I program is expected to be available by October of this year. A proposal for the second phase of this research program including combined shear and tension has been approved by PCI and is expected to be initiated later this year.

Student Education Committee — ACSA Materials & Technology Workshop

For the twelfth consecutive year, PCI co-sponsored AIA's (American Institute of Architects) Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Materials and Technology Institute Workshop. The program was held July 14-17 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. **Budd Hilgeman**, **Al Ericson** and **Rita Seraderian** presented a four-hour program to the attendees

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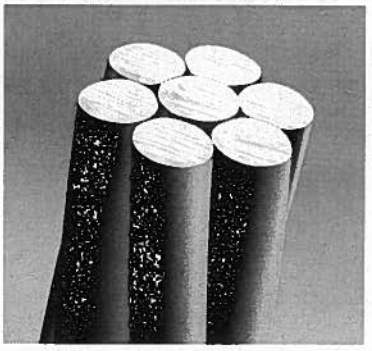

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who were all professional educators teaching materials in the schools of architecture nationwide.

Presentations included information on both architectural and structural solutions. Each person in attendance at the week-long workshop received a PCI Architectural Manual, a Design Handbook, the Color and Texture Selection Guide, a current Membership Directory and PCI Publications Catalog, along with a current copy of the PCI JOURNAL and ASCENT Magazine.

The highlight of this year's program was a four-hour plant tour of Northeast Concrete Products, Plainville, Massachusetts. The plant tour demonstrated the wide capabilities of architectural precast concrete and provided an outstanding opportunity to expose the architectural educators to our industry and products, so that they could incorporate the information in their courses. The PCI Student Education Committee's program consistently gets the highest rating of all the materials presentations at the ACSA Workshop.

CRS America Purchases Wilson Concrete Company

CRS America, Indianapolis, Indiana, has purchased Wilson Concrete Company, Red Oak, Iowa, and all of its precast, pipe and ready-mix concrete operations. Wilson's four prestress concrete plants in Omaha and Grand Island, Nebraska, and Kansas City, Kansas, are included in the acquisition. This brings the total number of plants in the CSR Prestress Group to 12. Wilson Concrete has been in operation

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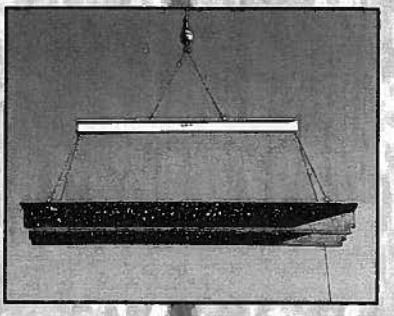

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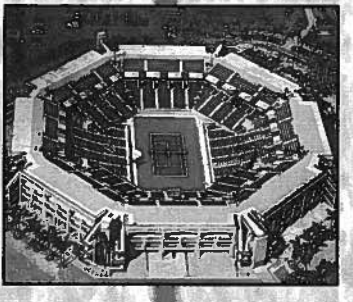

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2000 PC-21 Automation Tour in France

From May 21-27, 2000, 30 PCI members and 22 guests participated in the PC-21 Automation Tour to Paris and Strasbourg, France. The members visited several precast concrete plants where they viewed the latest in automated plant production techniques on a wide range of precast and prestressed concrete products. There were also a number of cultural tours and social events, which included the opportunity to dine with Michel Virlogeux, the President of *fib*, whose International Symposium will be held at this year's PCI Convention in Orlando, Florida. The General Arrangements Chairman for the tour was Ted Coons of Spillman Company, Columbus, Ohio. He was assisted by Weckenmann Anlagentechnik GMBH and PCE Elematic, Inc. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their visit to France and look forward to a similar event next year in Spain (tentative destination). Mark your calendars now for May 13-19, 2001.

since 1905 and under its principal owner, **Charles Wilson**, it now comprises 17 operations in the Midwest. Wilson Concrete was one of the first entrants in the precast, prestressed concrete market, and Mr. Wilson has been an enormous contributor to PCI and our activities for nearly 50 years, serving as President in 1973. CSR also purchased Leppert Concrete Products, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Hanson Engineers Selected for I-74 Project

The Illinois Department of Transportation has selected Hanson Engineers, Inc., Springfield, Illinois, to provide Phase II engineering services for a section of Interstate 74 in Peoria, Illinois. The firm will design improvements to Peoria's downtown streets from Sheridan Avenue to the Murray Baker Bridge, as well as provide designs for more lanes, ramps and bridges along the route.

Goodkind & O'Dea Promotes Arotis, Knochenhauer

Goodkind & O'Dea, Rutherford, New Jersey, has promoted **Michael P. Arotis** to assistant director of the Bridge Structures Department in its New York, New York office. Mr. Arotis joined Goodkind & O'Dea in 1988 as a structural engineer. His new responsibilities include assisting the overall management of the Bridge Structures Department.

Petra Knochenhauer has been named marketing manager of Goodkind & O'Dea, where she has worked since 1994. Ms. Knochenhauer will be responsible for developing new markets and implementing the firm's strategic marketing plan through the activities of the Corporate Marketing Department. She will also help to guide the marketing activities of all of Goodkind & O'Dea's eight branch offices.

ACPA Names Driver New Chairman for Fiscal 2000

Adrian Driver, president of CSR Hydro Conduit Corporation, Houston, Texas, has been named the new chairman of the board of the American

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Concrete Pipe Association (ACPA). As president of the Pipe and Concrete Products Division of CSR America, Inc., West Palm Beach, Florida, Mr. Driver heads the largest precast concrete pipe manufacturer in the United States.

ISIS Canada Names New Board Members

The Canadian Network of Centres of Excellence in Intelligent Sensing for Innovative Structures (ISIS Canada) has appointed **Aftab Mufti** as president and program leader. Dr. Mufti was one of the key people to initiate interest in the use of fibre-reinforced polymers through his founding work as chair of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering Technical Committee (1989-1993) on the use of advanced composite materials in bridges and structures.

ISIS Canada also appointed **Kenneth Neale** as vice president. As a professor of civil engineering at the Université de Sherbrooke, Dr. Neale directs the ISIS research theme on structural rehabilitation.

Sami Rizkalla will relinquish his leadership of ISIS Canada and will assume the position of distinguished chair, professor of Civil Engineering and Construction at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina. Dr. Rizkalla will continue to serve ISIS Canada in the capacity of past president until the Network completes its seven-year funding phase in 2002.

ISIS Canada elected **Mark Green** to represent the scientific community on the Board of Directors for a three-year term. Dr. Green, from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, leads the ISIS Canada research project, "FRP Wraps for Cold Region Application."

BORIS BRESLER (1919-2000)

Boris Bresler, structural engineering professor emeritus at the University of California at Berkeley, died at his home in Israel at the age of 81. Professor Bresler joined the Berkeley civil engineering faculty in 1946, where he taught for the next 32 years. At Berkeley, his research covered the fire response of structures, earthquake safety of existing buildings, and shrinkage and temperature effects in reinforced and prestressed concrete structures. He authored more than 70 technical papers (including the PCI JOURNAL) and co-authored two textbooks on structural engineering.

Upon retiring from the faculty in 1978, Professor Bresler joined the San Francisco office of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. As a principal in the company for 10 years, he continued to develop design criteria for different types of structures, including high-rise buildings, offshore structures, industrial and nuclear power plant facilities, and systematic procedures to evaluate seismic hazards and protect steel and concrete structures from fire. During his distinguished professional career, he was the recipient of numerous awards including the Wason Medal for Materials Research (1960) and the Joe W. Kelly Award (1978).

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More than 100 structural engineers attended the PCI Design Handbook (Fifth Edition) seminar in Honolulu, Hawaii, this past May. A thorough review of the chapters and changes in the new Fifth Edition of the Handbook was given. Rocky Mountain Prestress and the Structural Engineers of Hawaii sponsored the seminar, and **Wally Prebis** organized the event. Speakers included **Jason Lein**, **Jerry Jacques**, **Les Kempers** and **Wally Prebis**. The seminar was considered a major success especially since precast, prestressed concrete is used extensively throughout the Hawaiian Islands.

ERRATA

Two errors were inadvertently made in the article, "High Performance Concrete and Reinforcing Steel With a 100-Year Service Life" (May-June 2000 PCI JOURNAL):

- page 49, in the 2nd column, 3rd paragraph, the word "compressive" should read "comprehensive."
- page 51, in Item 3 the quantity "18 kg/m^3 (30.3 lb per cu yd)" should read "11.6 kg/m^3 (19.5 lb per cu yd)."

In the article, "Curved Precast Façade Adds Elegance to IJL Financial Center and Parking Structure" (May-June 2000 PCI JOURNAL), the following corrections need to be to the photography credits:

- page 35, Fig.1, photographer should be Gerin Choiniere.
- page 36, Fig. 4, photographer should be Gabriel Benzur.
- page 37, Figs. 6 and 7, photographer should be Gabriel Benzur.
- page 41, Fig. 14, photographer should be Gabriel Benzur.

Boral Materials Used in Houston Astros Ballpark

The recent construction of Enron Field, the new Houston, Texas, ballpark for Major League Baseball's Houston Astros, utilized high range water reducer and fly ash from Boral Material Technologies, Inc., San Antonio, Texas. In high strength concrete, the high range water reducer minimizes shrinkage and cracking due to a lower water content and speeds turnaround in casting prestressed concrete components, helping to lower the total cost of a project.

Ballpark Features New Enterprise Products

New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc., Roaring Spring, Pennsylvania, is providing 42 ft (13 m) single, double and triple precast concrete risers and precast lintels for the construction of a minor league baseball stadium in Staten Island, New York City, New York. The new stadium will be home to the Staten Island Yankees when the 2001 baseball season opens June 12, 2001 and will seat 6500 people in two levels of seating and 21 suites.

Nitterhouse Provides Precast Concrete Panels for Office Complex

Nitterhouse Concrete Products, Inc., Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, provided 266 architectural precast concrete panels for the Walnut Grove Office Building #5 in the Horsham Business Center, Horsham, Pennsylvania. The structure was clad with spandrel-type panels and column covers, each separated by glass. Currently, Nitterhouse is preparing a bid for Building #6 in the same office complex.

Burg Receives Erskine Award

The Expanded Clay and Shale Institute awarded **Ronald G. Burg** the Frank G. Erskine Award for outstanding contributions to the use of lightweight aggregates. Mr. Burg currently works as a principal engi-

neer for the Construction Technology Laboratories, Skokie, Illinois.

PCI Producer Members Play Important Role in Parking Structure Construction

Concrete Building Systems, Inc., Delmar, Delaware, supplied 650 precast concrete components to the Anne Arundel Health Systems' new parking structure in Annapolis, Maryland. The products include columns, inverted T beams, Litewalls, fire walls, stairs, double tees and spandrels. Universal Concrete Products Corporation fabricated the spandrels. The seven-level, 262,000 sq ft (24340 m^2) parking structure provides 700 parking spaces to drivers.

PCA Home Features Coreslab Structures Material

Coreslab Structures, Jonesboro, Georgia, is providing a structural hollow-core floor system for a 6000 sq ft (557 m^2) concrete home to be showcased at the National Association of Home Builders International Builders' Show in February 9-12, 2001. Portland Cement Association, Skokie, Illinois, is sponsoring the concrete show home for the event in Atlanta, Georgia. The home will incorporate a number of concrete products.

Grace Hires Smith as Vice President and General Manager

Grace Performance Chemicals, a division of W.R. Grace & Co., Cambridge, Massachusetts, has named **Wayne Smith** as vice president and general manager of its Construction Products' Specialty Construction Chemicals unit. Mr. Smith will head Specialy Construction Chemicals and serve on the Performance Chemicals' leadership team.

PCA Announces Course Schedules

The Portland Cement Association, Skokie, Illinois, is offering several courses on cement manufacturing, microscopy and concrete mix design this fall and next spring. To register, contact Julie Lisiecki at (847) 966-6200 or julie_lisiecki@portcement.org, or visit PCA's website at www.portcement.org.

CARL F. ROTH (1932-2000)

Carl F. Roth, structural engineer and politician, died in Downers Grove, Illinois, at the age of 68. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Roth obtained his BS degree in civil engineering from the University of Miami in Florida and a MBA degree from DePaul University in Chicago. In the 1960s, he worked as a structural engineer for the Portland Cement Association.

From 1973 to 1977, he was marketing director of Precast Systems, Inc. (PSI), in Chicago, Illinois, a cooperative non-profit company representing 40 precast concrete producers across the United States. The purpose of PSI was to perform engineering development and national marketing of precast building systems.

About the same time, Mr. Roth devoted his life to local and national politics, where he served a two-year term as mayor of Villa Park, a western suburb of Chicago. Later, he went into private practice founding Modern Project Management of Villa Park.

Dormitory Construction Incorporates Nitterhouse Hollow-Core Slabs

Nitterhouse Concrete Products, Inc., Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, has manufactured 229,000 sq ft (21274 m^2) of hollow-core slabs for four new dormitories at Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania. Designers and engineers chose precast, prestressed concrete because the material offers fire and sound resistance, a perfect choice for a busy college dormitory. The three three-story buildings and one four-story building are scheduled to open for the new school year in September 2000. Engineers also noted that using hollow-core slabs allowed for the erection of all four buildings simultaneously, keeping all trades active throughout the construction process.

Strescon Industries, Inc., a division of Oldcastle Precast, Towson, Maryland, provided 2232 precast, prestressed hollow-core slabs for the EZ-Storage facility in Bowie, Maryland. The 105,000 sq ft (9755 m^2) four-story structure represents the seventh EZ-Storage facility completed by Strescon and brings the amount of precast concrete erected in the seven storage facilities to 750,000 sq ft (69675 m^2).