

Bob Broilo
1006 N. 6th St.
Socorro, NM 87801

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New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Attn: Dr. Tanja Pietraß, Faculty Advisor to the Climbing Club
Socorro, NM 87801

Hello Dr. Pietraß,

I support the use of the Gymnasium to host an indoor bouldering wall. Such a facility will benefit Tech and the community.

I came to Tech in 1987 and graduated in 1993. During that time, I discovered the joys of rock climbing. Socorro has numerous excellent climbing areas nearby.

Unfortunately, it is not always possible to climb outdoors. The long night of winter makes it difficult to get to the rocks after class or work. Occasionally snow and ice also interfere. In the summer, insects and thunderstorms can limit access to the rocks.

New Mexico Tech already hosts a climbing wall up by the golf course pro shop. Since this wall is outdoors, it suffers from all the seasonal weather problems. A good, popular climbing area known as Box Canyon is only ten minutes from Campus, so this outdoor wall is not very useful. It's construction and structural soundness are excellent, but all the walls are dead vertical limiting its effectiveness as a training tool and enjoyment as a recreational facility.

An indoor area at the Gym would be useful in any weather conditions and be easily accessible to students without vehicles. It would foster interaction between Tech students and the community. It would attract more students to Tech, and give them more reasons to stay.

Thank You,

Bob Broilo
Electrical Engineer, VLA Site, NRAO

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