**HOMECOMING EDITION**

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON EX-STUDENTS' PUBLICATION

# the EXtra

NOV. '55

## AN OPEN LETTER FROM DR. TERREL SPENCER

I am proud to be a member of the United Citizens *team* seeking the offices of mayor and councilmen of the city of Houston.

I have been impressed by the sincerity and earnestness of this UCA team. We want to do a good job for Houston, a great city with growing pains and many pressing problems.

After many hours of meeting with my fellow candidates, I am convinced we can work together in a spirit of dedicated harmony. This means that each member of the *TEAM* is now speaking his mind on every subject, and will continue to do so when we are elected. It means, too, that every member gets a respectful hearing.

I earnestly solicit the vote of every University of Houston student and former student.

Sincerely, *Dr. Terrel Spencer*

Dr. Terrel Spencer

ROY HOFHEINZ

C. A. CHASE

G. W. "MIKE" HUNT

R. R. "ROY" ROYALL

DR. TERREL SPENCER

MRS. O. L. RASH

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**VOTE THE UNITED CITIZENS TEAM—November 19th**

Paid Political Advertisement

Dear Alumnus,

Each year that passes makes the annual Homecoming more important, more precious than the one which preceeded it. I hope that you share this sentiment with me, and that you will find it possible to participate in this, our finest reunion of all time.

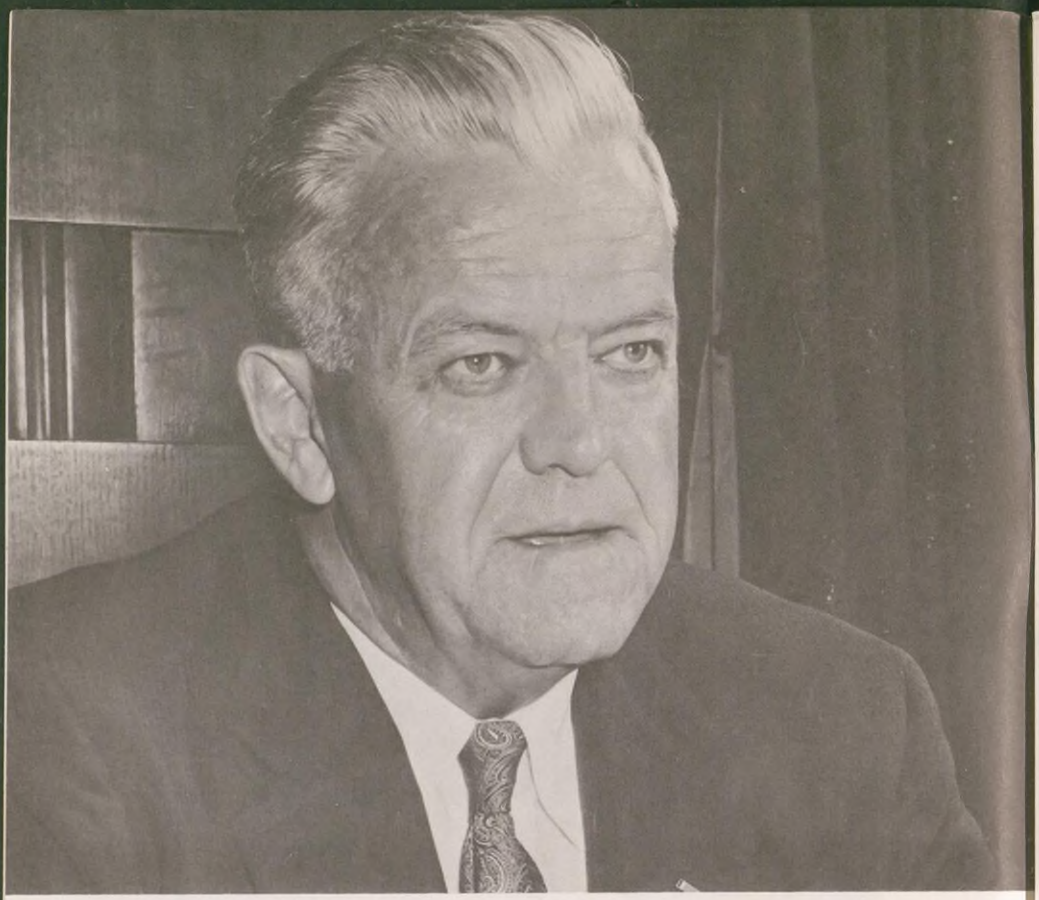
By nature and purpose, Homecoming is for you, the Ex-student. It is a chance to recapture, for a brief moment, the spark of youth, and enthusiasm that formed the best years of our lives.

My efforts as Chairman would have been fruitless without the wholehearted cooperation of my associate chairmen, and a baker's dozen of other loyal Exes. To them go my sincere thanks.

sincerely,

Hank

Hank Hudson
Chairman



**TO THE ALUMNI:**

**Please accept my hearty welcome back to the campus on the occasion of your tenth annual Homecoming.**

**The activities of the Alumni form an integral part of the total University program, and I would like to express my personal recognition and appreciation of this fact. You are the product by which our University shall be judged. Your interest and participation in Alumni affairs help assure that the judgment will be favorable.**

**I hope this year's Homecoming will afford me the opportunity to meet many of you for the first time, and to become better acquainted with those I met last year.**

**Sincerely,**

**A. D. BRUCE, *President***

# the EXtra

Owned and published by the University of Houston Alumni Association.

Associate Editors — Ralph Poling, Jack Wilson

Photographed — Firuz Makulu, Don Urbrock, UH News Service

ON THE COVER . . .

To Cliff Parks, well-known Houston architect and former UH art instructor, go the plaudits for the exceptional cover fronting this issue. Cliff has also lent invaluable help in the make-up and layout, for which the editors are grateful.

**Here's a hearty homecoming welcome alums . . .**

**FROM THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

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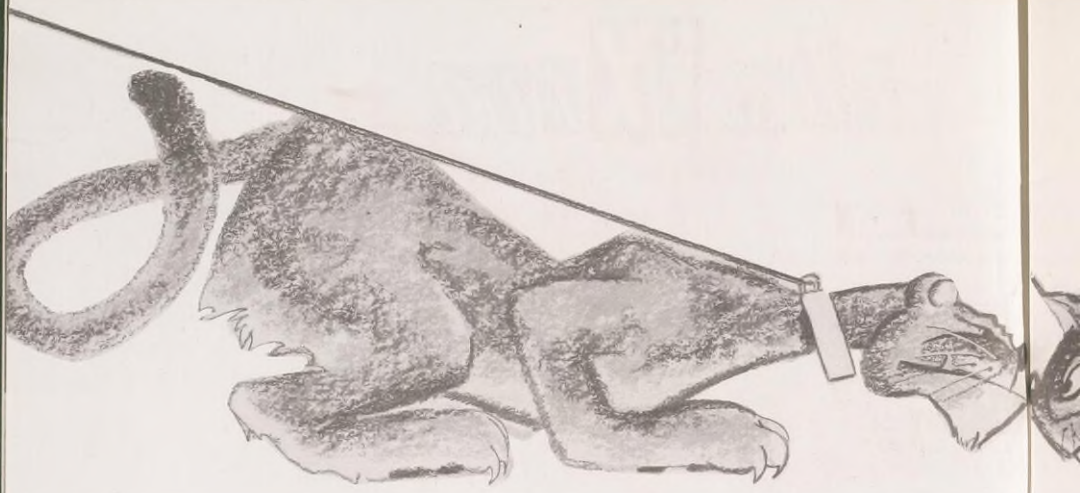
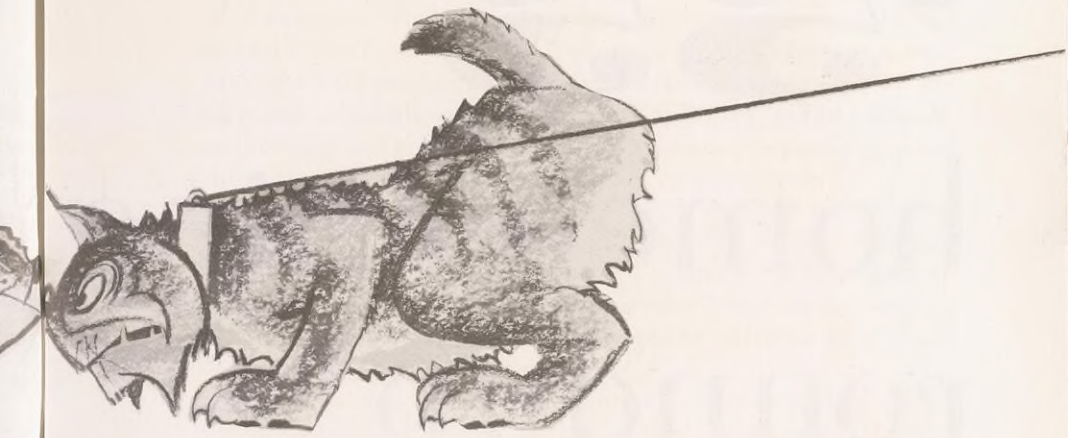


## Cougars Vs. Wildcats as . . . cats vie to

Football fans are sure to witness a great cat-fight in Rice Stadium on November 19, Homecoming Day. While neither team sports an earth-shattering record for 1955, the Cougars and the Wildcats will be out to break a tie and the two teams have always given fans an outstanding game.

The series started in 1951 when the Philadelphians travelled west to edge the Cougars on the short end of a 33 - 27 score. Fans still remember this one as the day Gene Shannon ran wild. Buck Miller opened gaping holes in the line on offense while Paul Carr and Chet Sugarek played solid defense, but to no avail.

Last year, at Philly, the Big Red got its revenge, trouncing the Wildcats 28 - 7. Most memorable moment in that game came as Villanova scored to go ahead, made their extra point. Then, on the kickoff to restart the game, Jimmy Dickey grabbed the ball on his own eight yard line and proceeded upfield 92



# BREAK tie!

yards for a touchdown. That record still stands in Cougar annals as the longest return of a kickoff.

There is no predicting just how the UH - Villanova game will shape up, except that both teams will be gunning for this win.

Bill Meek, after a great early season, has held some practice sessions with his three great fullbacks, Johnson, Mulholland and Carraway, alternating at LH and RH, as well as FB--and on a few occasions has had all three in the backfield simultaneously!!

Villanova sports a ponderous line averaging 212 pounds, with 10 lettermen up front and seven more in the backfield. With the exception of a 28 - 0 loss to Kentucky, the Wildcats have not been seriously outclassed, though losing.

So, there promises to be plenty of back-fence caterwauling as the bob-tailed and long-tailed cats meet for Homecoming.

# '55 homecoming roundup

Homecoming number ten will continue the University tradition of growing in size and quality. While 1955 plans are traditional in scope, every category within its framework has been expanded and upgraded. From the opening pep rally to the final "Good Night, Ladies," Chairman and loyal Exes have worked toward making this tenth anniversary celebration a never-to-be-forgotten reunion.

Former Executive Director, Johnny Goyen, has assembled an outstanding program for the Friday Pep Rally, at 11:00 AM in Cullen Auditorium. Ed Gerlach and his nationally famous collegiate orchestra will provide the musical background, and will feature the Alma Mater and the Cougar Fight Song as they are recorded for the Alumni Association on 45 rpm discs. Souvenir records will be available at the door.

Later, at 7:30, at the corner of Campus entrance #2 and Cullen Boulevard, Bonfire Chairman Bill Hollis will assemble the greatest number of Cougars ever to witness the annual Homecoming conflagration. Built by the APO Service Fraternity, the skyscraping torch will shine on special guests, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Cullen, President Bruce, Coach Bill Meek, his staff and the entire 1955 football squad. The new, expanded Cougar Band will be on hand to thrill the crowd with special numbers reserved for Homecoming.

After a night's rest, festivities move into the heart of downtown Houston for the largest, most colorful parade ever to hit the Bayou City. Chairman Ernie Mayeux will produce magnificent floats, courtesy of the various student organizations, antique autos, bands, marching units, a host of dignitaries and special guests including past presidents of the Association.

Then, at 11:45, Luncheon Chairman Welcome Wilson will assemble the group in the Varsity Room, College Inn, for an informal "Brunch". Space limitations of the room require all diners to make their reservations early. A short pre-game program will be held, and honored guests introduced.

Kickoff for the tenth annual Homecoming game comes at 2:00 PM and will find the Cougars facing the Wildcats from Villanova. The Philadelphians outscored the Big Red in '51 by the margin of 33 to 27. In 1954 the UH returned the compliment 28 to 7. The '55 meeting is the rubber game and should provide additional thrills to a great Homecoming program.

At the half-way mark in the game, under the direction of Roger Jeffery, Alumni VP Bill Swanson will handle the introduction of President Hal Berry for awards to the year's Outstanding Alumnus, and the announcement of the 1955 Homecoming Queen. All past presidents of the Association will form an honor guard for the honorees.

Immediately following the game, doors will swing open to welcome Exes at various club houses and private homes for "Homecoming Open House."

Dave Halphen has ramrodded this phase of the festivities, and his suggestion that Exes check for details with their various Fraternal, Social or Professional groups is a good one.

Capping the tightly scheduled day is the Homecoming Dance, this year in the Crystal Ballroom, Rice Hotel. Ed Gerlach makes his second appearance on the reunion schedule, this time strictly for dancing. Bill Sherrill and Gordon Hollan have teamed up to insure the success of the traditional dance. Tickets for this function are limited to five hundred couples, and probably all will be sold well in advance of dance time.

That's it. Make your plans early to be part of the tenth annual Homecoming.

# *10th* anniversary

The tenth anniversary of Homecoming is also the tenth anniversary of the Alumni Association in its present format. It was that long ago that President Oberholtzer recognized the essential nature of such an Association and provided a small budget to establish it.

An early "EXtra" proclaimed the group's intention to "locate and contact 20,000 Exes," and to knit them into a strong organization for the welfare of the University.

*mary ray curry*
*queen, '46*

Johnny Goyen was named Executive Secretary with offices in a trailer not far from the site of the recently completed swimming pool. Later the office moved to better quarters in the Rec building, then to a small room in the new Ezekiel Cullen building. Johnny left to become part of Houston city government. His replacement, Jack Wilson also made his contribution and moved into public work with Civil Defense.

Third on the list is 1951 graduate, Ralph Poling, who heads the group today, under the direction of the Alumni officers and board members. By this time the Association had outgrown its quarters and had moved into a suite directly opposite the University President's.

Meanwhile its aims, efforts and accomplishments had expanded under the direction of presidents Pat Foley, Charles Saunders, Jack Valenti, Tom Menefee, Roger Jeffery, Sherwood Crane and the present prexy, Joel "Hal" Berry.

Some very tangible products have resulted. A monthly newspaper has helped tie scattered Exes together. The School's loans and scholarship department has been assisted, a sound-and-color movie is being produced, the Oberholtzer portrait was purchased. Nearly thirty Alumni fraternal, social and professional groups have been established and serviced through the Association.

But, the "location of 20,000 Exes" is not yet a fact.

In fact, the goal has moved to 30,000 while the files have grown only to 13,000.

The Organization, while growing stronger every day, has not yet reached its potential in size, ability and benefit to the Alma Mater. It cannot reach its peak until a majority of its members back it solidly.

Are you with us?

## Coaching Staff Includes . . .

# 250 Coaches

With paid memberships well over the 250 mark, the UH Sideline Coaches Association easily represents the most active group within the Alumni ranks. And, that members - in - good - standing roster also makes the UHSCA the largest of its kind in the area, bar none.

The red and white capped football aficionados have met in groups averaging 200 each Wednesday this season, with Ladies' Night zooming attendance near the 400 total.

The "real" head coach, Bill Meek, and the "synthetic" head coach, Bill Sherrill, have combined their staffs to provide outstanding programs for the weekly gatherings. Local merchants, too, have lent their support to the Cougar Boosters in the form of door prizes, prognostications prizes, and other awards.

With the exception of three meetings each season, the UHSCA is strictly stag. Membership requirements are simple: you must be male, and

**The Jesse H. Jones Interests**

**Sponsors of This Page**

interested in Cougar football. The crowded condition of Oberholtzer Hall's Green Room each Wednesday night indicates there is plenty of interest.

The personality of Bill Meek has given added impetus to the ever-growing club. Despite his position as head coach, he is also the number one Cougar Fan. His enthusiasm and optimism is infectuous, his wit and drawl remind many of TV star Herb Shriner.

When the previous week's film reveals a Cougar making a great run, a hard block or a solid tackle, the most excited man in the room is Bill Meek. The fact that he has seen the film a dozen times previously does not seem to dull his appreciation for good football.

It's a great group--you ought'a join.

One Will Be Queen
Betty Monday
Juanita Hartwell
Joann Thompson
Carol Stevenson

GOOD LUCK!

COUGARS

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# Billboard

Just got the place swept out from last year's Homecoming, and here it is again. The years sure fly by, and that makes Homecoming all the more important. Billboard hopes you can make it, and that you meet a jillion of your old friends at the reunion.

Lots of Service news again this month: Second Looie William R. Neal, '55, just completed Infantry Officers Basic at Fort Benning. The same goes also for former footballer Edgar Willhelm, '55, and H. J. Burks, '54. Let Billboard be among the first to salute you, Gentlemen.

Arthur E. Long, '53, is a reports analyst with the Tokyo Quartermaster in Japan, having moved out of Ft. Knox.

Major Paul Rochelle is enrolled in the June 1956 class of the American Institute for Foreign Trade at Thunderbird Field, Phoenix.

And, Lt. Lee R. Smith was recently assigned as an instructor with the Medical Field Service School at Fort Sam.

Barbara Lewis, '52, now living in Brooklyn, has been awarded a March of Dimes scholarship by the National Foundation. Barbara will study at Tulane School of Social Work.

Joyce Starr is teaching 3d grade at Columbus, Ga. while hubby, Travis Starr serves Uncle Sam there. Thanks for the address change, Joyce, and the kind remarks about the EXtra.

Sam Halbert dropped by for a Howdy. He's with Stanolind at the Alvin Office.

Architect Clyde Jackson seen driving around the Sharpstown area looking at new homes. A pretty girl was helping him, but we didn't get the name.

Dave Haworth now launching out in a new direct mail advertising business.

Roger Jeffery, who claims he graduated from the UH in 1887, is now located in his swank offices in the City National. He's manager of the Houston agency for National Founders Life.

And, Vice Squad Detective Glenn "Pappy" Bond dropped in to lend a hand with this magazine. His police partner reports that Pappy can no longer get into his old uniform. Who says cops aren't nice guys?

Just a few of the Alums who have come by or phoned in for their Homecoming Dance tickets, Tom Menefee, Bob Seale, Arthur Renaud, Jean Collins, Larry Crane, Charles McKim, Foster Wick, John Chapman, Sam Sterret, Charles Saunders, and plenty more we can't remember. You better get yours now.

Homecoming Day is also election day and perhaps it will be the day when our divided Alumni will rejoin forces. Helen Gilpin and Bill Hollis are plugging for the old Gray Fox, while the Wilsons, Goyen, Sherrill et al, are behind their boy, Roy.

---

TOM
MENEFEE
'42

HARRY
MONTGOMERY
'40

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Sure would like to get your reaction to this magazine. Would you prefer something like this, four issues annually, rather than the monthly newspaper?

Happy Homecoming!


*May your 10th Homecoming be the best ever . . .*

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## Looking Back at the . . .

# the good ol' days

November 16, 1946 was the date printed on the tickets to the first Homecoming Dance. Hearts were young and most were gay as they trooped across St. Bernard (now Cullen) from High School Stadium to the dance in the Cafeteria (now called the Cougar Den).

Some hearts were not gay. The war, just over, had left gaps in the Cougar ranks. "Sentimental Journey" was the tune most often whistled and hummed.

Truman was president and the country still mourned the passing of F. D. R. Otis Massey was Mayor, and it was he who crowned the Homecoming Queen that year.

While World War II failed to return numerous students to the Campus, the GI Bill it created caused enrollment to swell to 8,000, and placed the UH as second largest in the State.

The opponent in the First Homecoming Game was North Texas, and the Cougars fell on the short end of a 7 - 3 score.

Jackie Jackson, Mary Ray Curry, Jean Sterret and Doris Moore were Queen Candidates in 1946, with the winner's banquet going to Mary Ray.

The title "the EXtra" had just been adopted for the Alumni publication and its editorial staff was Velma Whitaker and Maryanne Lord. Roger Bleike was business manager and Johnny Goyen was writing sports. Jack Valenti headed a column called "Still off the Beam", and mailed it in from the cloistered halls of Harvard.

Beautiful Elsie Roberts had just turned down a Hollywood contract to sign another contract as Mrs. James Rosborough.

The Roy Cullen building was brand new, and the spot now occupied by the Ezekiel Cullen building was a vast parking lot. Luxuriant woodland filled areas now known as the Engineering building, Architecture, Psychology, M. D. Anderson Library, the Swimming Pool, and the Power House. Law, Bates, Taub, Settegast and Oberholtzer Halls were mere gleams in a draftsman's eye.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools could not make up its mind on accreditation for the brawny, growing youngster that was the UH, and postponed its decision.

Grading and paving was continuing on the east campus in preparation for the installation of army barracks, converted into apartments for the seam-bursting enrollment. These same buildings, having served their purpose well, are scheduled for retirement this year, their tenth anniversary.

Louise De Young, forced to resign the Alumni Presidency in moving from the city, turned the reins over to Charles Saunders.

Fashion notes that year tell us, "Co-eds will be wearing two-piece peplum suits in the latest vintage hues! The pale amber glow of sauterne or the clear ruby of claret. With it wear a contour hat--the close fitting cloche that follows the smooth curve of your head . . . shoulder bag of saddle stitched cowhide . . . gloves to match."

Mrs. Jean Rosa, then as now an English teacher, reported an accidental drenching of a reciting student. A sink in the newly-created Photo department had overflowed, seeped through the floor, filled a light fixture in the classroom and finally deluged the unsuspecting student.

Yes, hearts were young and gay in 1946. Without question they were younger. But, it is hoped that hearts in 1955 are no less gay. We have all come a long, long way. May we look back with even fonder memories ten years hence.

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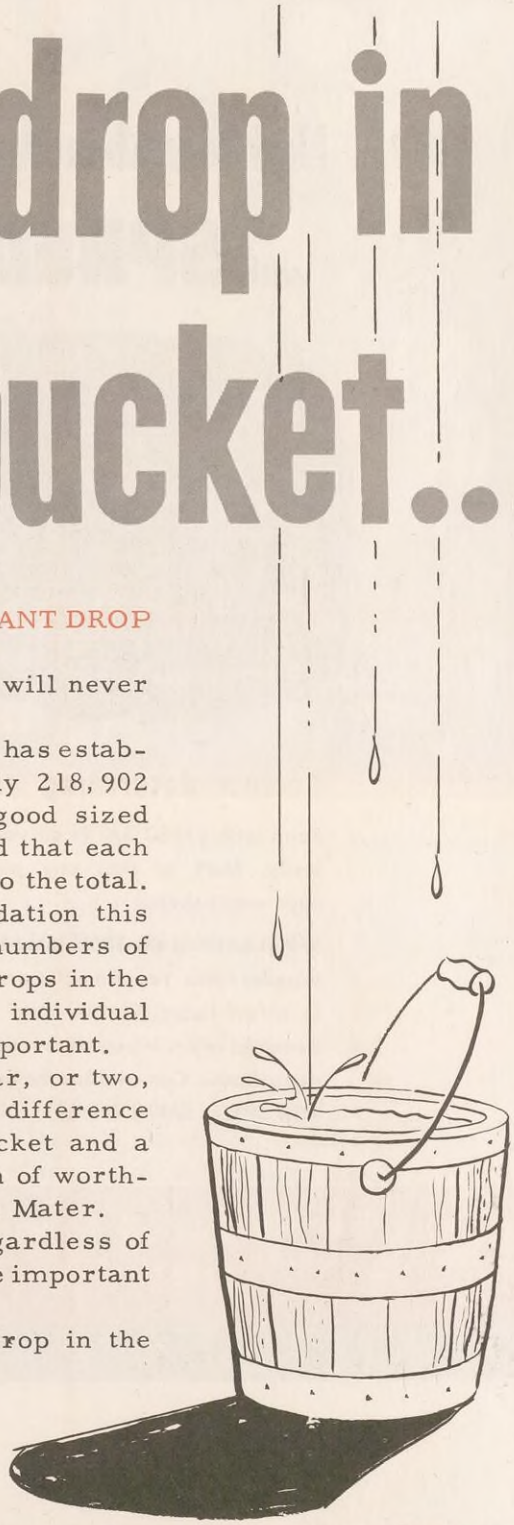
The UH Alumni Foundation this year is emphasizing the numbers of Alumni who place their drops in the bucket---the size of the individual drops is not nearly so important.

Remember, your dollar, or two, or three, will make the difference between a half-filled bucket and a really successful program of worthwhile benefit to our Alma Mater.

Your contribution, regardless of size, has never been more important than it is today.

Won't you put your drop in the bucket?



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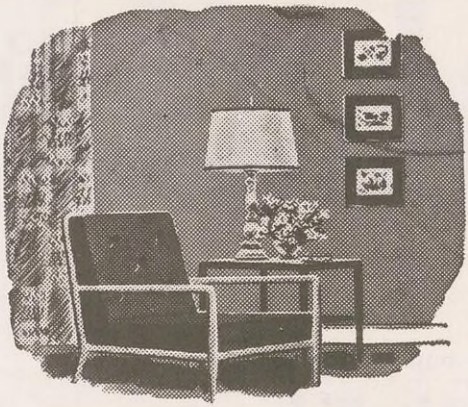

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One of the Alumni Association projects for this year was the production of a sorely needed recording of University songs.

Ed Gerlach furnished the music and the arrangements, Jack Wilson and Lillian Crittenden handled the business problems, and Cheerleader Barbara Lou Hicks (R) here shows her reaction to the disc.

Remember, it's Hi-Fi, Vinylite on 45 RPM, and it's yours for $1.25.

Call CA 4-1681, Extension 251, or write UH Alumni Association, 3801 Cullen Boulevard.

# Big Boldebuck Back for Basketball

Basketball Coach Alden Pasche announced that his University of Houston Cougars had elected Guard Lupe Lopez and Forward Jack (Pops) Foster co-captains for the 1955-56 season.

The Cougars, with seven-footer Don Boldebuck back for his senior year of competition, will began workouts November 1. Six lettermen from last year's squad were on hand, including Boldebuck, Lopez, Foster, Herb Hoskins, Jimmy Ash, and Andy McElveen.

Boldebuck needs only 291 points during the coming season to join the select list of collegiate players who have scored more than 2000 points in a college career. Last year he smashed Houston's all-time scoring records for both a single game and a regular season. In 25 games, Big Bolde rammed 606 points through the hoop for a 24.2 average.

Houston opens a 23-game schedule on December 1 against Sam Houston State at Public School Field House. Other than their 12 Missouri Valley Conference games, the Cougars have non-league affairs with Texas A & M, Kansas State, Oklahoma City, Trinity, and Texas A & I. In conference play, UH plays two each with Oklahoma A & M, Tulsa, Wichita, St. Louis, Bradley, and Detroit.


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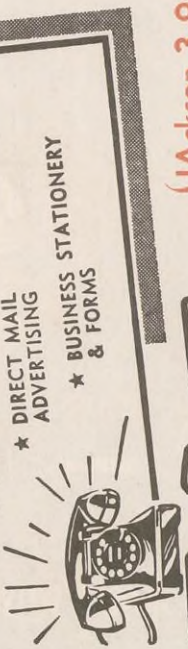

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