

EXTRA

Alumni Association of the University of Houston



The
queen
contest
page 8

October 1957

Director's letter

This job at times presents a person with the opportunity to speak to a great number of people in one fell swoop. When an opportunity of this sort pops up it lends itself to crusading. Now crusades are not always popular, possibly because even the best of individuals will suffer a small twinge of conscience when spotlighted. Well, for what it's worth, **NOW HEAR THIS:**

This student body and this Alumni has the sorriest attitude in the world toward their Alma Mater. When the school song is played it seems to place a stranglehold on the vocal cords of the people mentioned previously. A beautiful melody and most appropriate words and 90% of you haven't enough pride to learn the words, much less "stand and be counted" when asked to sing.

Maybe I'm wrong but I can't stand there and be SHAMED by a rag tag bunch of boy-soldiers singing their song as if they had religion. No one's asking for the Norman Luboff Choir. Just sing, LOUD, so people know you're a Cougar and proud of it. I hear so much big talk about when we get into this or that conference or how great we are. Hell, we don't even have the right attitude yet!

The next time the Cougar Band plays the Alma Mater just stand up and look around you. At least have the courtesy to watch quietly while the loyal people sing.

Sincerely,
Ted

October — EXTRA — 1957

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Ted Johnson '58

Homecoming

Coach Hal Lahar



1957



Mighty like a rose: Gail Goodloe, a Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and Peggy Morris, an Alpha Delta Pi, make flowers for a Homecoming float.

The schedule for Homecoming weekend, a three-day celebration this year, will feature a number of innovations in the traditional schedule, designed to provide more activities for students and Alumni.

Activities will begin on the campus Thursday night prior to the October 26 Auburn Game at 7 PM. The evening's plans include a campus-wide exhibition of displays constructed by student organizations, the presentation of the Homecoming Queen by Alumni Association President Johnny Goyen, the annual bonfire and a giant pep rally.

The displays will be built on a mobile principle so that they can be moved from the campus to Rice Stadium for showing at the game. All organizations recognized by Student Government may participate in the contest. First, second and third place winners in the contest will receive trophies from the Alumni Association.

The Queen will be presented at the beginning of Homecoming festivities instead of during the halftime ceremonies of the Saturday game so that she might reign over the entire Homecoming weekend.

Richard Coselli, president of the student body, will present the Queen, selected from five finalists, to the Alumni at the pep rally. Then, President Goyen will make the general presentation. Coach Hal Lahar, his staff and the 1957 Cougar football team will be honor guests at the pep rally.

Faculty members who have been at the University for 20 years will be presented with plaques during the bonfire ceremonies. Following the bonfire, all members of the faculty are invited to a coffee in the Faculty Club in honor of 20-year award winners.

Friday night an Alumni-student dance has been scheduled at the Sylvan Beach ballroom. Ed Gerlach and his stage band will provide music for the dance, which will cost \$3.50 per couple. The Queen will be

presented with a keepsake watch by Ben Noble Jr., Alumnus, during the evening.

Saturday afternoon fraternities and sororities will hold open houses for their Alumni. An open house for Alumni will be held at Alabama Catering Service at 2020 Kipling prior to the game Saturday night by the Association.

The Outstanding Alumnus for 1957 will be presented during halftime ceremonies at the game. The Outstanding Alumnus—who was Attorney Charles Saunders last year—and President Goyen will be the honor escorts for the Queen and her court, which will be composed of the four Queen finalists. Coselli will make the presentation to the grandstand audience.

Other halftime activities will include a giant spectacular staged by the Alumni Association with the cooperation and direction of James T. Matthews, director of the University Band.

There will be an exhibition of fire twirling by the University majorettes, led by Head Twirler Gloria Hunt, who was named Miss Texas last year.

The floats built by campus organizations will be displayed on the field and the groups judged sponsors of the best three floats will be announced.

The Alumni Open House will be resumed after the game and will be followed by the annual Alumni Breakfast. There will be a refreshment charge at the Open House and the Breakfast will cost \$1.50 per person.

Jack Moree is the general Alumni Homecoming chairman. Bill Hawthorne is chairman of the bonfire committee; Bob Owens is in charge of the halftime activities; and Homer Jackson is chairman of the Open House and Breakfast. Ralph Poling is in charge of the faculty coffee and the committee which will judge the student exhibits.

Buddy Reinicker is Homecoming chairman for the student body.

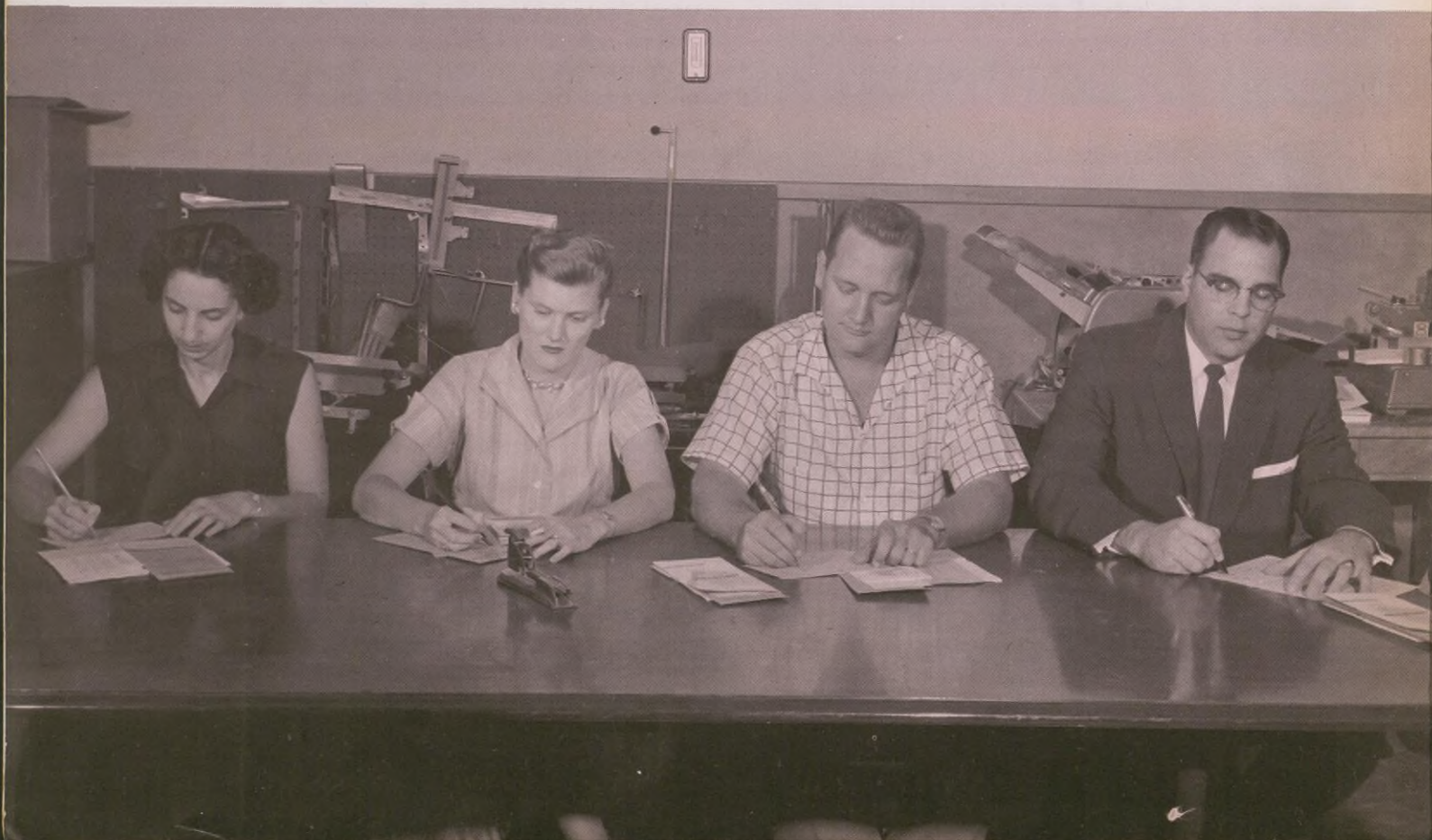
For the record

The average gift and total gifts in the 1957 Alumni fund drive have already passed any previous record as this year's drive draws to a close.

The average pledge to date has been \$11.11 as contrasted with last year's average pledge of \$3.45. The total donations—including cash and pledges—as the EXtra went to press was \$9509.50 from 866 Alumni.

All sections of the drive are now completed except the direct mail section which was designed for out of town Alumni and persons who had no available telephone number. The first mailing in this division went out late in September; the second mailing was being sent out as the EXtra reached its deadline.

It's Mrs. Carol Williamson '51 (second from left) and part of her administration staff for the fund drive. If a few more Exes volunteer to help with the fund drive, Chairmen Toomey figures it will hit \$25,000. Other workers pictured are Wanda Butler, '43, Don Williamson '50 and Wes Chism '51.



In a report to the Board of Directors, John J. Toomey and Joel H. Berry Jr., chairman and co-chairman of the drive said:

"In past years many methods have been tried to find the key to a successful fund drive. In some instances, we have met with reasonable success, in others we weren't so successful. In the past a lot of stress has been placed on the number of contributors rather than dollar volume. We have maintained that ours was a young Association and our people were not in a position to give much money.

"It was our intention when we started our fund drive this year to make a concerted effort to contact every alum in our files. The stress was to be on both number of contributors and dollars. We also felt that a number of methods could be tried, trying to develop a pattern that could achieve the greatest amount of results with the least effort, so that a definite pattern for future years could be established."

There were four sections in this year's drive. The special gifts section included a list of approximately 200 who the Association felt could possibly give \$50 or more. Personal solicitation included all past contributors in the Harris County area.

A telephone solicitation section was set up for all Alumni in the files in the Harris County area who had never contributed. Direct mail was intended for out of town alumni. All sections except direct mail were closed by October 4.

Of the 200 cards in the Special gifts division, 111 were received back with a total pledge of \$4602.50, which breaks down into an average pledge of \$41.46.

One hundred seventy-seven Alumni pledged \$1572 in the personal solicitation campaign. Average pledge was \$8.88. Three hundred two Alumni pledged \$2140.50 in the telephone solicitation section.

Results in the telephone solicitation section were unexpectedly good, Ted Hendricks, executive director of the Association, said. However, the fund drive workers were disappointed in results of the personal solicitation, which fell much lower than had been anticipated.

In concluding their report to the Board of Directors, the drive's chairmen said: "We are convinced that there is a tremendous potential in our Association. If we could develop a hard core of 100-150 people who would dedicate a small amount of time to our association each year for the fund drive, we feel that a minimum of \$25,000 a year could be easily raised."

The final report on this year's fund drive will not be presented until April 1, 1958, the close of the fund year.



A report for the Board: Fund drive co-chairman Joel H. Berry and President Johnny Goyen.

1957 fund drive passes all previous records with an average pledge of \$11.11



Television here and elsewhere

*University television men: Roy Barthold
and Patrick Welch.*

KUHT, the University's educational television station, performs a dual service. It serves, of course, the community and the students of the University through special quality of programming and by offering college credit courses via the living room TV set.

But it offers a vital service directly to the television industry as well, providing a steady supply of competent young men and women. Each year KUHT-trained University graduates are able to take up responsible positions, both on and off camera.

KUHT is part of the University's Radio-Television-Film Center which is directed by Dr. John Meaney. After receiving his doctorate in English from the University of Texas in 1951, Dr. Meaney became an associate professor of English at St. Edward's University in Austin and began shooting films to be used for educational purposes by the University of Texas.

Realizing the potential use of films in education, he decided to enter the industry and accepted his first job at a commercial station, KEYL, in San Antonio. Later he studied at the NBC-TV Institute at Northwestern University. He came to the University in 1953 and in 1957 was named director of the University Center.

Dr. Meaney is now in Europe on a Fulbright grant, investigating television and film techniques there. In August of this year he assisted Dr. Richard I. Evans of the psychology department in filming two of the world's foremost psychologists — Drs. Carl Gustav Jung and Ernest Jones — as a part of what is expected to be a long project for the Fund for Adult Education.

While Dr. Meaney is away, Patrick Welch, chairman of the actual academic side of the program, is acting director of the Center. Roy Barthold is acting manager of KUHT.

Welch came to the University in 1950 after he received his master's degree from the University of

Tulsa. His primary responsibility, as chairman of the radio-television department, which comes under the College of Arts and Sciences, is to keep academic standards up and to directly oversee the actual function of teaching.

He must be certain that the facilities of KUHT are used in the best way possible for students who must receive practical experience before graduation.

The objective of the department is to send educated people into the industry, not simply equip specialists for employment. It is, however, the policy of the department to provide broad experience in all phases of TV and radio operations, production, announcing and directing for men and women who are interested in these fields, either professionally or as corollary training for an allied career.

Welch became interested in broadcasting in 1946 when he started to the University of Tulsa, following his Air Force discharge. A speech major in college, he wanted to be a professional actor and appeared in 14 three-act plays during his university days.

However, when he started to work on his master's, he decided to teach. He went to work in radio and television because he liked it and thought it was a good way to finance his graduate study. He did dramatic and announcing work on radio and was a TV announcer in Tulsa.

Welch took a two-year leave of absence from 1954-56 to work on his PhD at Ohio State University. While there he worked at WBNS in Columbus. All work on his PhD is complete except his dissertation which is titled, "Historical Development of Audience Participation Programs on Radio and Television Networks to January, 1957." He expects to receive his doctorate in June.

In 1950 Roy Barthold, KUHT's acting manager,

1953
1954-55
1957-58
1957-58
Schwarzwalder
meant
Ray - Welch

decided to take a few courses at the University. He had been in the advertising business for 20 years and thought he should become better acquainted with the field of television.

While he was taking night courses in 1951, he became acquainted with Dr. John Schwarzwalder, then chairman of the radio-television department and right in the midst of planning the opening of KUHT.

"Too bad you don't have your degree," Dr. Schwarzwalder commented, "because we certainly could use you when the station opens." Barthold didn't lack much work toward completion of a degree. He had studied previously at Hamline University, but his last stint as a fulltime student had been in 1923. So with a 27-year gap between his junior and senior years, he became a fulltime student at the University and took his degree in 1952.

When KUHT, the first non-commercial educational television station in the world, went on the air in May, 1953, Barthold was on hand as program coordinator.

His transition from advertising and promotion to TV was a smooth one. He had done TV work in connection with advertising, and, of course, both mediums are filled with all-important detail work.

Both Welch and Barthold are in firm agreement on the importance of the dual purpose of the University television operation.

"What is taking form here is a University in which the best instruction will be available to an unlimited number of students — perhaps the nation's most significant attack on two urgent problems of higher education: the shortage of qualified instructors and sheer lack of classrooms," Barthold said.

Themanyears that the University's radio-TV department has been in operation have produced a number of graduates who have gone on to success in commercial television. Probably typical among them are KPRC's Bill Atkinson and KTRK's Bill Slater, both of whom are well up on the ladder to successful careers.

Bill Atkinson got into television by a somewhat indirect route. During World War II he went to Rice as a civil engineering student under the wartime Navy program.



Atkinson



Slater

Deciding that slide rules and blueprints weren't for him, Atkinson enrolled at the University after the war and worked toward a BBA degree. He went to work for KPRC in production while a student and became interested in television.

"I want to get as much experience as I can on both sides of the camera," Atkinson said. "It helps to be familiar with both."

Atkinson is now a director at KPRC and has handled almost every kind of assignment the station has to offer. He has been a cameraman, utility man, actor and announcer. He is also active in commercial films made for such companies as Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and Continental Oil Company. A few years back he had a role as a gangster in "The Houston Story," a feature film shot in Houston by Columbia Pictures.

Born in Danville, Va., in 1923, Atkinson started playing in various dance bands in Camden and neighboring Philadelphia. He also took part in local stage productions both as musician and actor.

While a student director at KUHT, Atkinson was a cameraman at KPRC. When an opening as a director came up at KPRC he was ready to step in since he had plenty of experience behind him.

Atkinson has been directing at KPRC for three years now. He has also been cameraman on several network shows that originated in Houston. Among them were the Wide Wide World, Steve Allen and Dinah Shore telecasts from Houston.

A cameraman and director at KTRK since his sophomore year in 1954, Bill Slater has worked in almost all phases of television production. At present he divides his time between camera work and directing at KTRK, and has the immediate goal of becoming a full time director.

Slater first became interested in radio-TV during his high school days in Victoria where he emceed several talent shows broadcast over the local station.

Entering the University in 1952 as a radio-TV major, he launched into television work with an enthusiasm that hasn't diminished since. He soon became a student director, took part in drama department stage productions, and was appointed chief announcer at KUHF, the University's FM radio station.

KTRK then hired Slater as a utility man, that is, he had the job of manipulating booms, mikes and cables in the studios. He soon advanced to cameraman, however, and began to expand his activities. Still holding his full time status as a student, he put in several hours a day at KTRK.

Since graduating from the University in August of '56, he has been on the full time staff of KTRK. At first working exclusively as a cameraman, he was soon directing several shows, as well as filling in as an announcer.

To choose a queen

There were 13 candidates nominated for Homecoming Queen and only five places on the campus ballot. So, the 13 nominees put on their best cocktail dresses and smiles and appeared before a board of Alumni for preliminary judging. The judges—Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ellis, Bill Sherrill, Carol Williamson and Don Tomasco—narrowed the group down to five—Betty Moody, Nancy Stanley, Jan Ellis, Ann Arthur and Nancy Bartels, one of whom will be elected Homecoming Queen in a campus-wide election prior to the October 26 game with Auburn. But what happened at the Homecoming Queen contest is typical of most campus beauty contests. The air of nervousness, the swish of party dresses is as traditional and expected as the hush before the bonfire is ignited.

A variety of expressions before the judging begins.





The judges . . . some pleased . . . some not so pleased.

Who me? Announcement of winners brings smiles to five finalists.



A smile because this is the minute that counts.

It's all over but the student voting.



NEWS IN BRIEF

"H" association

The "H" Association will hold a cocktail party in honor of the 1947 football lettermen preceding the Oklahoma State University game November 19.

Following the game, the association will hold a dance to which all "H" Association members are invited.

Recent activities of the group included a father-son day in honor of the parents of University football players which was held when the Cougars met the University of Miami in the first game of the season and a dance.

R. G. (Rags) Ragone is president of the association and Bill Swanson is vice president. Wes Chism is treasurer and Sid Frink is secretary. The Board of Directors is composed of Billy Myers, Manor Smith, Jack Foster, Jack Gwin, Jack Baines and J. D. Kimmell.

The association, composed of ex-lettermen at the University, is host to the annual Spring Game Barbecue.

Fiesta staff

Jon Campbell, graduate radio-television student, will serve as general chairman of the 14th annual Frontier Fiesta, which will be held April 21-26, 1958.

The committee staff includes Joe Suttles, vice-chairman; Buddy Fuller, director of advertising; Jim Stallworth, director of promotion; Bob Dunson, director of purchasing; Howard Perkins, director of grounds; Bob Susseen, director of public relations; Robert Pacini, director of special events; and Willie Burns, director of production censors.



R. G. (Rags) Ragone

Lost palm

A lost palm tree — a 12-foot one — was recovered by the University after a three-day disappearance.

The tree was presented to the University by a group of Miami supporters during halftime at the Miami-Cougar game which was held at Rice Stadium.

Following the game, a maintenance man from Rice Institute picked up the tree, thinking it had been discarded, took it to his home, located 14 miles out of Houston, and planted it in his yard.

The search for the tree began when University maintenance men failed to find it when they went to pick it up at the stadium Sunday.

After the mystery was solved, the Rice employee agreed to return the tree to the University. It has been re-planted in front of the KUHT film building, facing Cullen Boulevard.

New Club

Organization of a Parents' and Friends' Club at the University of Houston has been announced by Mrs. Dunbar Chambers, 3990 Inverness, chairman of the steering committee.

The new association will be formed at a meeting on the campus Saturday, October 26, the day of the UH-Auburn football game. Membership is open to the parents of students and to other friends of the University.

The program for parents will include a campus open house Saturday morning, which will be followed by lunch and the organizational meeting.

Working with Mrs. Chambers in the organization of the new association are the following committee members: R. E. (Bob) Smith, Judge W. J. Barnes, Mrs. Homer L. Bruce, Jr., Lee Blocker, Harry Webb, the Rev. D. D. Dibbins of Katy, Mrs. Bessie Ebaugh, A. J. Farfel, M. M. Feld, Dr. James Greenwood, Jr., Dr. T. N. Hatfield, Dr. Alfred R. Neumann, Dr. J. W. Williamson, Charles Fleetwood and Mrs. Pauline Moore.

Annual staff

Charles Aycock, editor of the 1958 Houstonian, has completed his staff.

Associate editors are Sunny Tucker and Nancy West. Tom Powell is sports editor and Wayne Houston is art editor. Class editor will be Beverly Powell and Danny Jones has been appointed photo editor. Delores Holly has been placed in charge of the outstanding students section.

BILLBOARD

Billboard has received your vote of approval if the replies to our questionnaire of last edition are a fair sampling of opinion.

The magazine idea, by the way, met with general approval with a few dissenters popping up here and there. The most favored features, other than Billboard, seem to be the Alumni and Faculty series, general news and sports news.

The suggestions which you sent in will receive consideration in future issues of the EXtra. *Caroline H. Hill* '49, for instance, says she wants to hear more about the present problems of the University.

Jim Bentley '51 thinks Billboard items should be classified by class year and, furthermore, volunteered to gather news from a six-state area if we supply him with news and addresses of exes in those states. Jim was recently appointed editor of TeleFilm Magazine and continues his association with KRON-TV in San Francisco as program manager and film buyer.

No sports fan is *Nell Tribble Bartlett*, now with Del Mar Junior College. She wants more news of the drama, art and music. But, on the other hand, *Carroll B. Case* '52, now teaching photography at Warren High School in Downey, California, is in favor of sports coverage.

We liked the note from *Caroline M. Ivy* who said "Indeed, yes!" in expressing her pleasure with the switch from newspaper to magazine. Caroline signed off with this cheery message: "Keep on keepin' on."

Birth announcements: young *Robert Wynn* was born to the *W. C. Buschardts Jr.* on June 25. *Charles R. East* '54 and wife welcomed their second child and second son, *Charles Scott*, to their household on September 15. It was a girl, *Susan Jane*, for *Jack Dashner* '55 and spouse on September 7.

Fred H. Ramer '56 is working as a research engineer for Autonetics in Downey, California. *James Scholl*, now a mechanical engineer in Pampa, writes that he wishes he had paid more attention to prefixes and suffixes during his college days.

Arthur D. Neumeyer writes from Manitowoc, Wisconsin, that he would like to see the scores of Cougar sports events published in the EXtra. It seems that the Manitowoc journals often neglect the Cougars and Arthur is left in ignorance.

James D. Edwards '56 has opened an office for the practice of optometry at 7110 Lyons Avenue in Denver-Harbor addition. *Henry Allen Hill* '53 received his PhD from the University of Minnesota in August.

Military Notes: *Pvt. Gene K. Smith* '56 recently began the second phase of six months active military training under the Reserve Forces Act program at Fort Sam Houston. *Lt. Richard R. Scott* '56 completed a four-month primary flight training course at Gary Army

Air Field.

Pvt. Richard F. Rejmaniak '57 finished a radio operator's course at the Army's Armor Training Center at Fort Knox. *Lt. Rodney K. Carpenter* '56 graduated from the Antiaircraft Artillery and Guided Missile School at Fort Bliss. *Capt. Joseph B. Starker* '50 completed a 31-week advanced course at the Fort Benning Infantry School.

PFC Fred Cochran Jr. participated in the firing of the NIKE missile at Red Canyon Firing Range, New Mexico. *Pvt. Bobby J. Rogers* '53 is a clerk in Headquarters Company of the 1st Battalion in Korea. *PFC Wayne Thomas* '55 completed a summer tour of military installations in southern Germany as a member of the 8th Infantry Division soldier show, "The American Way of Music." *PFC James C. Ameel* '56 attended a five-day religious retreat at the Army's Far East retreat site near Seoul.

Nine more engineering exes qualified for professional registration at a recent meeting of the Texas State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers. They are *B. C. McGlaun*, *William T. Kittinger Jr.*, *Edward E. Bratton*, *Hubert Fellers*, *Clyde V. Petre*, *W. F. Laycock*, *Dan W. Lewis*, *Robert H. Ralston* and *Robert F. Tennant*.

Bob Edens '49 and spouse *Evelyn* '51 named their little girl *Nancy Ann*. Born in June. The Edens are in Fort Worth now.

More military news: *Fred Cochran* '56 has been upped to private first class. *Grayson K. Jackson* '55 just got his silver bar. He's assistant sports officer and baseball coach at the US Army Port of Embarkation at Bremerhaven. *Harvey Echols* '55 graduated from jet pilot training school at Webb Air Force Base.

PFC Lewis E. Brooks '56 is at Fort Gordon, Georgia. Second *Lt. Donald N. Merchant* '56 is at Fort Slocum, New York. *Pvt. Garland F. Swearingen* '56 recently completed radar operator training at Fort Bliss.

Gene Gaines '54 is the new name in the Popular Photography magazine staff box. The other half of the Gaines duet, *Karen (Childers)* '55 is on the editorial staff of Esquire.

Basketball-ex *Herb Hoskins* '55 and *Jo Ann* expect their second child in December. Their first heir, *Mike*, is in the 2-year-old class.

Martha (Cooper) Lundholm '49 is living in Sacramento, California, with husband *Chuck* and their two offspring, *Lisa*, 3½, and *Andy*, 15 months.

Best dressed category: *Eulah Pullen*, '51, is wearing her alumni decal "with pride" on her Plymouth. Eulah reports that she's now director of Texas Eastern School of Nursing.



Gene Shannon, readily identifiable by his famous No. 24 jersey

Was Shannon really great?

*by Jack Scott
Athletic News Director*

Get out of a cluttered office and sit down to a peaceful cup of coffee in an almost deserted Cougar Den, and some chubby little character, carrying a cup of the same explosive, breaks the late afternoon quiet. First, he scrapes a chair across the floor, dragging it back some six feet in order to plant all of himself confidentially close to your right elbow.

As if shattering your little world isn't enough, now he's got a question. "Say" inquires this unsponsored Mike Wallace, "... was this Gene Shannon really great?"

You stare in shocked silence, then slowly compose yourself with an attempt at reasoning. This guy is either (1) a newcomer in Houston; (2) a Cougar fan of very recent vintage; or (3) a clarinet player in the UH band from 1949 through '51 who couldn't play by ear, fixed his music in the holder atop his horn, and thus never saw a down of football during the era of the fabulous kid called "Finney." Obviously, he couldn't be anyone as "in on the know" as—well, say the alumni director.

By now, one of the porters has fed a few nickels to that multi-colored monster against the wall, and the joint is crawling with "tenderness" supplied by Tennessee's sideburned dancing boy. In this setting Ed Sullivan couldn't build up Jim Thorpe as anything more than a pretty fair country athlete. So you promise this escapee from the nearby slenderella that Shannon's greatness will be the subject of your next piece

in THE EXTRA.

But where do you approach a story on a guy who gained 1.43 miles from scrimmage in 397 rushing attempts, scored 34 touchdowns, and never had a bad day in 31 games.

In order to direct your attack on certain games, talk to qualified football observers who saw Gene play most of those 31 games. First of all, Athletic Director Harry Fouke, who has seen more UH football than anyone. He recalls the Salad Bowl first, then mentions games against Villanova and Louisville.

Eight more calls to other local observers and some of Shannon's teammates, and the list now has grown to include Texas Tech, Oklahoma A&M, Baylor, Tulsa, St. Bonaventure, and others. Thinking first that your idea was not so good in the first place, suddenly comes the realization that it proves more conclusively than ever that Shannon was truly in a class by himself. Because the people who saw him most can't get together on which was his best performance, it's pretty obvious that Shannon didn't have any bad ones.

Everyone first mentioned the 26-21 Salad Bowl win over Dayton, but few of them had seen it. Fouke responded with "I just don't know. He had so many of them." On second thought he hit on the school's only bowl appearance, then allowed "but the Louisville and Villanova games seem to stand out in my mind."

You next buz George Richardson, an ex-gridder who now past-times at Smith Chevrolet. His cheery greet-

ing leads you to believe that there still are some brand new 57's in the warehouse that are moving at unbelievable savings in an attempt to clear storage space for the new 58's. George has never been one to hold back on sports opinions, so he digs into the question without hesitation. "Shannon" he mused carefully, "would be a brilliant boy today with any ball club." Before George can go further, you guide him back to the original question—which game George? "Just going on write-ups and films" he continues, "I'd have to go with the Salad Bowl, but of the games I saw, I best remember him against Texas Tech."

The orderly files you keep finally yield the Tech game sheets after a struggle, and sure enough, Gene had had one of those typical "Shannon days" against the Raiders. Maybe you can remember that one, since it was in Houston. Through three quarters it was a scoreless ball game. Gene had run all over the field, but first one thing and then another had kept the Cougars from getting that ball into the end-zone. But, under fourth-quarter pressure, that sweet number 24 whipped off tackle, pointed out a few blocks for Buck Miller, Frank James, Randy Owens, and Jack Chambers, and turned it on for 32 yards and the TD that won 6-0. As a ball carrier that day, Shannon had gained 126 yards of UH's total 166, and our next most effective back had gotten 19.

Frequently, Shannon becomes the subject of conversation among the railbirds who gather behind our Little Red Fence (and 900 feet of canvas) around the practice field. Occasionally someone will challenge the calibre of opposition Gene ran against, never remembering that he didn't have any J. D. Kimmel's, Dalva Allen's, or Donnie Caraway's blocking for him, either.

So, to satisfy even the most cynical, we go back to 1950 and 1951 when the youthful Cougars attempted to kill a bear with a switch, namely the Baylor Bear.

With a roster that included three players who were to make All-America, one should be willing to accept Baylor as a reasonable test. They were quarterbacked by Larry Isbell, the line was flanked by Stanley Williams and anchored in the middle by Bill Athey. Those are just three reasons why we were paddled 34-7 like a bad little boy who gets out of bed at night to go in where the grown folks are talking.

Baylor led 21-0 at the half, and if you made the drive to Waco, at this point you were asking yourself—why? Though we were hopelessly out of contention late in the third quarter, Shannon was reluctant to accept defeat without a scrap. So he took a pitchout from Bobby Rogers and legged it 68 yards to the goal line. His 90 yards rushing that day led all ball carriers in the game, and Houston's net yardage was 105.

True, those same Baylor Bears managed to shut out the Cougars on Cullen Day in 1951, but they couldn't

stop the lad from Freeport. In fact, Gene improved on his 1950 performance by gaining 93 yards (more than half of UH's net), and, as usual, was the game's leading rusher.

We are attempting to keep this from becoming a statistical report, but please forgive a quick glance through the remaining games of that '51 season. Mind you, these figures represent Shannon's efforts on a team that won only five of the ten regular season games.

After Baylor, the Cougars headed north to Detroit for their first Missouri Valley Conference game in history. Houston won 33-7 and Shannon personally outgained the Titans 183 yards to 106. In that 6-0 win over Texas Tech, it was Shannon 126 yards and one TD, Tech (with Bobby Cavazos) 186 and no score. Tulsa was the nation's leading offensive team the following week, and Houston didn't hurt its standing by allowing 555 yards total offense. But Shannon tried. He turned pass receiver that night to gain 144 yards running and receiving. Tulsa won 46-27, but Shannon carried three Bobby Clatterbuck passes into the end zone.

Against Hardin-Simmons in a wild 35-27 victory, our candidate for all-everything averaged better than 10 yards per carry (8 for 81), and caught a 33-yard pass.

Villanova set us back 33-27 that year, but Shannon outgunned 'em with those long strides 148 yards to 134. In a desperate effort to win that one, he scored three times and caught three passes from Clatterbuck for 83 more yards.

His 117 yards in the mud at Wichita bettered the Shockers' 73, and his 154 the next week was more than the whole Louisville team could muster (129). He kept his 100-yards-a-game clip intact the next week with exactly that number rushing (40 more receiving), while Oklahoma A&M was gaining 88 as a team.

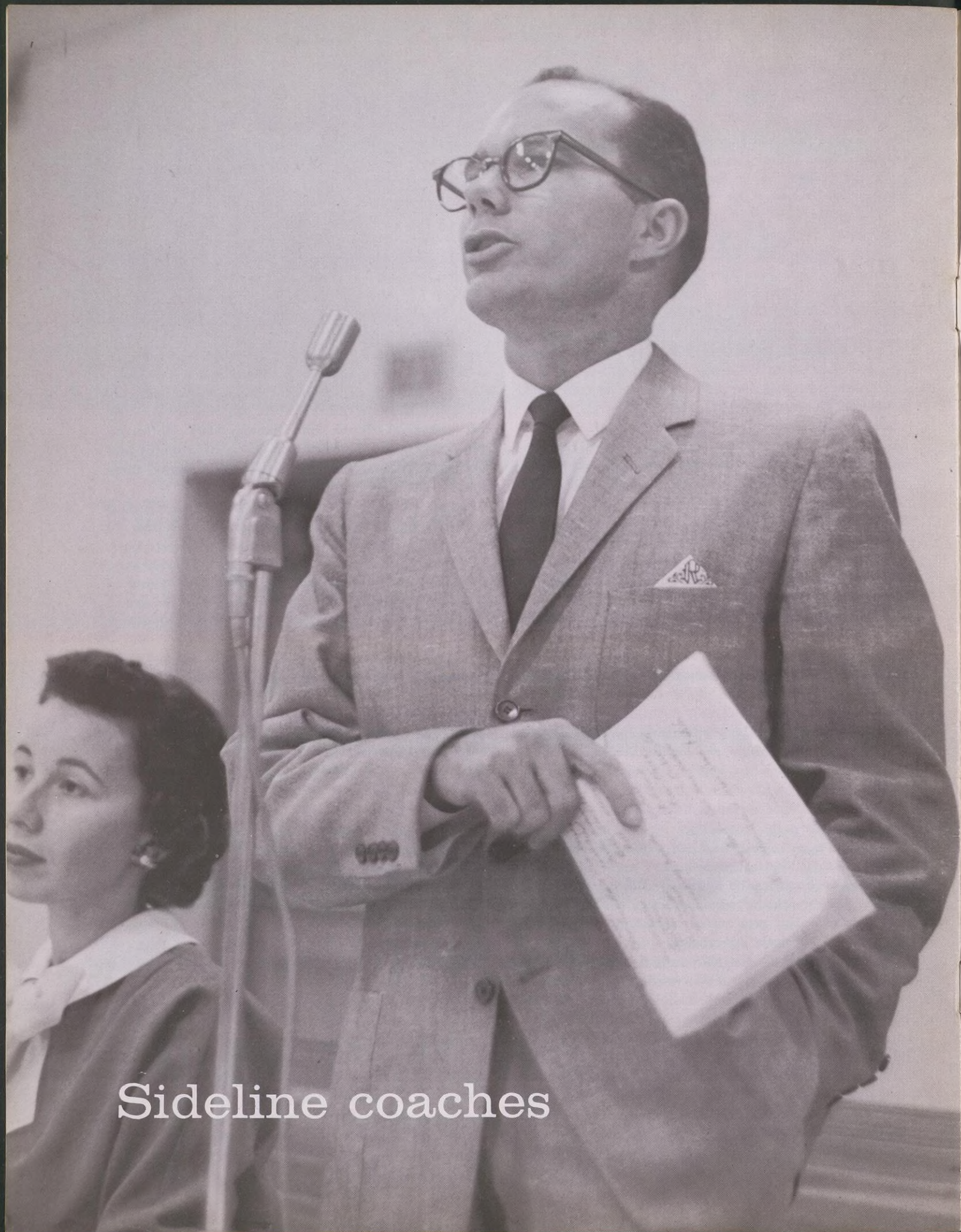
Shannon was injured before the season finale with North Texas, and had to leave the game after four carries for 11 yards.

In the ten games including the Salad Bowl that Shannon was physically able to play as much as the coach allowed, he outgained the entire opposition on six occasions.

His performance against Dayton alone would make another magazine piece of considerable length. Briefly though, he carried 28 times (school record), gained 175 yards (third in all-time school records), and made the national All-Bowl team.

At this point our file on Shannon has grown until it weighs almost as much as the subject himself. Realizing that thorough interpretation of these statistics, clippings, brochures, and other data would ultimately result in something approaching GONE WITH THE WIND (in length, only), we must finally do what we've tried to avoid—turn to the record book

Continued back page



Sideline coaches

When the Cougar football team hits the field each week, there's one group of fans that can tell the players without a program.

In fact, this group, the Sideline Coaches Association, is second only to Coach Hal Lahar and his staff when it comes to knowing what to expect from the Cougars.

The Sideline Coaches — with a total membership of 350 — get together once a week for a dinner meeting in Oberholtzer Hall during football season. During the evening's program, Coach Lahar introduces the coach who scouted the team to be played that week.

The scout relays detailed information on what to expect from the opposition. Coach Lahar fills the Sideline Coaches in on the condition of the Cougar players, changes and the probable starting lineup for the coming game.

Following the Coach's talk, the Sidelineers get a chance to ask him specific questions. Then, the Coach shows a film of the preceding week's game and gives a commentary on the film.

As a result of these weekly sessions, the Sideline Coaches, who count a number of ex-football players in their membership, can be termed a group of serious and expert fans.

Door prizes are awarded at the weekly meetings. The Sideline Coaches also compete with each other in a weekly Purple Poop Sheet contest, in which each member scores the games of the coming week as he sees them.

Mosk's awards a shirt each week to the first place winner and Levitt's awards a \$5 gift certificate to the second place winner. At the end of the season, points are totaled and the over-all winner receives a suit from Mosk's.

Memberships are \$7 per year plus \$1 for each dinner attended. However, from three to five free memberships are awarded each week from a Kitty Fund, which is made up by 25 cent contributions from Coaches who

wish to participate in the drawing.

Women are excluded from membership but the association holds three ladies' nights during the season and the ladies are always invited to attend the final banquet of the season.

Walter M. Rainey Jr. '49, this year's Head Coach, had a direct hand in organizing the Sideline Coaches back in 1948. The group was formed at the request of Jack Valenti, then Executive Director of the Alumni Association, to emphasize the Cougar team and coaching staff. Cougar rooters were tired of taking a back seat to Rice in the Quarterback Club, Rainey recalls.

Rainey and Jim Sibley '48, now in the Air Force, served as co-chairmen for the first Sideline Coaches Association season. The group held weekly meetings downtown until 1950 when the organization moved its meeting place to the campus.

The Sideline Coaches are mainly Alumni of the University, but include persons with no affiliation with the University except an interest in the football team.

The Association has several projects underway, including the creation of an athletic scholarship fund to be administered by the University.

Each year they present outstanding lineman and backfield player awards at a banquet at the end of the season. The association co-sponsors the end-of-the-season football banquet with the Alumni Association each year. This year the Coaches sponsored a barbecue for the freshman team at Pin Oaks Stables.

Head Coach Rainey's staff of officers includes Harold Collins, who is Assistant Coach, a Board of Directors composed of Albert Cecil, Lavel Isbel, Philip Allin, Roger Bleike Jr., and Harry Montgomery. Ted Hendricks, Executive Director of the Alumni Association, is Executive Secretary of the Sideline Coaches.

New officers are elected at the final meeting of each year.

The head coach of the Sideline Coaches,
Walter Rainey

Shannon continued

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Here, in ten pages of six-point type, is eleven years of University of Houston football.

In six of the ten categories under a heading entitled RECORDS BY INDIVIDUALS, the name Gene Shannon appears 33 times. Under sub-heads such as LONGEST PLAYS, RUSHING, TOTAL OFFENSE, PASS RECEIVING, KICKOFF RETURNS, and SCORING, the entire research for these records became a simple matter of comparing every back UH has had for 11 years against the great Shannon. More times than not, it was Shannon by a comfortable margin.

The section leads off with RUSHING. The first entry goes like this:

MOST CARRIES IN A GAME: 28

Gene Shannon, 1/1/52, Salad Bowl, UH-26,
Dayton-21

Gain: 182 Loss: 7 Net: 175 TD: 4

It's easy enough for one player to have run with the ball more than any other player in a school's history, but the other 32 entries by Shannon's name in the record book indicate why he was called on so frequently. His 6.22 rushing average for three years was reason enough.

This matter of Shannon in the record book ends on a rather explanatory note four pages later. Under SCORING, the third subhead is: **MOST SCORING IN A CAREER: 204 Points.** You know, of course, the holder of that record, but the tell-tale story here is the data in parenthesis. Here you will find that he still holds the scoring record despite the fact that he never made, nor even attempted, a point-after-touchdown or field goal. It was all in six pointers.

It would suffice to leave the records here, but it would also be unjust. Because, back in the middle of the fine print is the story in terms still more conclusive.

On page 48, the bold face reads **TOTAL OFFENSE** (rushing and passing). There you will find that Shannon did not run the most plays in either a single season or in a career. But, immediately below those lines you will see that he *did* gain the most yardage in both categories though he didn't complete a single pass during his career. And not included in total offense are his 658 additional yards as a pass receiver.

His 2,507 yards, just rushing, leaves him nearly 300 yards ahead of any player, though his 397 carries is 134 plays less than the career standard.

Therein lies the reason why the veteran railbird behind the Little Red Fence will politely suppress a grin when the over-enthusiastic backer reports that "We've got a kid down in Ingleside that runs just like Shannon."

Homecoming

A snarling bunch of Southeastern Tigers from Auburn, Ala., with almost as many wins in recent years as stripes on their backs, will provide the opposition for Coach Hal Lahar's football team in the 12th annual Homecoming Game, Oct. 26.

The Tigers served notice early this season that they are the team to beat for the Southeast Conference championship by blanking the first two conference teams they faced. Tennessee was erased 7-0 and Kentucky fell 6-0 to the team that finished third in the nation in offense and seventh in defense in 1956.

Houston fans don't have to be reminded of another shutout that Auburn recorded last season when UH fell to the Alabamans 12-0. Only a sensational goal line defense that withstood five Auburn threats in seven attempts kept the game from turning into a rout.

With four wins, five losses, and two ties now on the UH record books for homecoming games, an upset of the highly-touted Tigers could bring the all-time homecoming record to the .500 mark for the first time.

Boasting All-American Jimmy Phillips at end and Tommy Lorino, an All-American candidate at half-back, plus the heaviest and toughest line in the Southeast, Auburn could easily be the best team to face UH this season.