

**Oral History Interview of
E. F. and Joyce Arterburn**

**Interviewed by: David Marshall
January 30, 2018
Lubbock, Texas**

**Part of the:
*Sports Interviews***

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The Sports History interviews encompass interviews conducted by members of the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library staff. They hope to document the evolution of sports and the role of sports in the social fabric of this region.

Transcript Overview:

This interview features E.F. and Joyce Arterburn as they discuss their backgrounds and their mutual interests in sports. In this interview E.F. recounts his football days, and Joyce describes teaching P.E. classes.

Length of Interview: 01:26:15

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Keywords

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David Marshall (DM):

The date is January 30, 2018. This is David Marshall interviewing E.F. and Joyce Arterburn. And I understand you go by the nickname Junior. Can you tell me your name—your full name?

E.F. Arterburn (EFA):

Elmer Forrest Arterburn.

DM:

Elmer Forrest Arterburn Junior. Okay. And what is your date of birth?

EFA:

6/15/29.

DM:

Twenty-nine. Joyce, how about you?

Joyce Arterburn (JA):

My full name is Joyce Anne Davis-Arterburn.

DM:

Okay.

JA:

My birthday is April 13th, 1933.

DM:

Okay. Sounds good. Let's just go ahead and start with Ranger. We'll go back and talk a little bit about Ranger. Were you born right there in Ranger?

EFA:

No, I was born in Oklahoma.

DM:

Oh okay.

EFA:

Drumright, Oklahoma.

DM:

Whereabouts?

EFA:

Drumright, Oklahoma.

DM:

Drumright.

EFA:

My father was a machinist, and somebody sent him down there in oil pit.

DM:

Was that oil field—was that boom still going on when you were little?

EFA:

No, it wasn't.

DM:

It was mostly over?

EFA:

Yeah. Had some pretty long days on—they call recall, you know.

DM:

From what you hear?

EFA:

Yeah. [Laughs]

DM:

I think they called that boom, you know they used to have billboards on the highway that said, "The boom that won the war." And they were talking about World War I.

EFA:

That's right.

DM:

So I know it was McCleskey Well came in in 1917, or something like that.

EFA:

Well they still had that. They were out north of the town, but they still had that oil well.

DM:

By the way, I heard that oil well—that Derek—got hit by a tornado. Did you ever hear that story?

EFA:

No.

DM:

Okay, well you never know where these things come from. [Laughs]

JA:

That's true.

EFA:

We spend a lot of time going around—circle there around that.

DM:

Well I bet your dad kept busy down there around Ranger, though.

EFA:

Yep, he kept busy. He'd been busy with five boys. [DM laughs] Everybody kept it going.

DM:

Well what was it like being the fifth child of five boys? And those boys were pretty tough? They all played football.

EFA:

Pretty tough. Pretty tough. We had some pretty tough times. They would wrestle the oldest. I was kind of young and they'd be pounding on him and I'd just be pulling them off. Pulling them off to keep them from killing them.

JA:

It was the oldest and the youngest against the other three.

DM:

It was the oldest and youngest against the other three? That's pretty good. [Laughs] When you got into school, well—as you were saying Joyce—he was really playing football real, real young, it sounds like, and a lot of wrestling and tussling around with the kids, it sounds like. But in Ranger schools, was football the main thing?

EFA:

Yes.

DM:

And athletics?

EFA:

Right.

DM:

Yeah, okay. You know I grew up in that area. I grew up around Weatherford, and it was the same way down there. It was all football.

EFA:

We had a few games with them.

JA:

Eastland and Cisco and Breckenridge.

DM:

Oh I can just imagine the rivalries, because those towns are so close! Especially Eastland ten miles away and then Cisco another ten miles. Y'all played them in school?

EFA:

Yes.

DM:

Were you all about the same size [EFA laughs] school? About the same size school, I mean?

EFA:

Yeah. We were probably a little smaller, but with oil fields and everything we had a few more people come in. So we had a few people that'd play.

DM:

Right. Was that oil field—I know it wasn't still booming, but was it still pretty steady work?

EFA:

Yes.

DM:

It was still an important part of the economy?

EFA:

Right. It kind of dropped out—petered out—before anything would be really good. But they had ran that—situation where we all played football. So they all did pretty well. And I came in and played well.

DM:

Did you always quarterback?

EFA:

Always.

DM:

From the very start?

EFA:

Very start.

JA:

Until he got to the Chicago Cardinals.

DM:

Yeah, but as a kid you always had the ball? Took the ball and—

EFA:

Right. Right. I always threw it pretty well.

DM:

Okay, so you were more of passing—

EFA:

Right.

DM:

—quarterback?

EFA:

And as I came in and a little later in the thing when they changed before the game in El Paso—

JA:

When De Weaver they started using the split-T, is that right?

EFA:

That's true. That's what happened, and why we were doing so well. We didn't do well, and of course I redshirted here at three years.

JA:

At Tech?

EFA:

At Tech.

DM:

At Tech. You were at Ranger Junior college first?

EFA:

Ranger Junior.

DM:

How'd you do in high school? How was high school?

JA:

It was good.

DM:

Guess you did pretty good to get to go to Ranger Junior College in football?

JA:

When those men came back from the service, well, they had a pretty good team at Ranger College, because it gave them a lot of people to pick from. And the guys were a little more mature.

DM:

Um-hm. Absolutely.

JA:

And he played quarterback there and played quarterback in high school. They did—somebody named Boone was the coach. I've forgotten his last name. But he—the community rallied around

the coach and the team and so they had a lot of civic things where they honored their players and things like that.

DM:

That's the nice thing about a tight community like that.

JA:

It is.

DM:

Tell me—while we're on this subject—go back just a little bit and go back and tell about him playing out in the lot with the sandburs—the stickers.

JA:

He told me that when he started playing football he was in the fifth grade, as far of them meeting to really play. And they played in a vacant lot. I guess that people in that little town had very small yards, so they didn't play in anybody's yard like kids do now, and they didn't have a park to play in, so they just played in a vacant lot. I think they played everything they played in that vacant lot, but it had lots of grass spurs in it, so they had to wear their shoes and whatever protection they could get to keep from having those grass spurs. Do you remember how those grass spurs were?

DM:

Oh yes, I sure do. Sometimes they'd get in there and they're hard to get out.

JA:

Yeah, and they break off and all that sort of thing.

DM:

And getting tackled in that stuff, you wouldn't just get it in your feet, it wouldn't seem like. You'd get it in your arms, and back, and everything else.

JA:

And when he was in high school they played—Ranger—played Weatherford and Eastland and Cisco and Breckenridge and lots other places. About that time when they—I guess it was when they came home from the war, that the Arterburn family played softball together. Daddy and the five boys. And they had a guy that worked for JR in the machine shop that was their pitcher. Now was that Simpson Day [?]?

EFA:

Yeah.

JA:

And he'd later—Mr. Simpson—later became the junior high—Hutchinson, JT Hutchinson junior high coach.

DM:

Okay. Uh-huh.

JA:

And he had a son—that Marvin Simpson—that played football for Lubbock High School.

DM:

Okay, this is Hutchinson right over here, isn't it?

JA:

No, Hutch is just off of Boston.

DM:

Oh it's way on over. Okay, I keep forgetting.

JA:

So then you want me to talk about the trip when he graduated from high school? Or—

DM:

Yes.

JA:

While he was going to graduate from high school in 1948 and there a lot of boys that had come home yet, so he—his coach took him over to TCU. I can't say that coach's name right now, but I will in a minute. Abe Martin. So when they got over there the coach talked to him a little bit, and then the high school coach and the college coach wanted to play a little dominos, so they sent him to just go have a little walk around the campus tour. They didn't have anybody to give him a tour, just, "Make yourself at home." So he went home kind of discouraged about that, and he went to Ranger College and said he'd like to play football, and they were hoping he we would. They needed a quarterback. So that was a good place for him to go, thinking that when he got out of there after two years that he would go somewhere else. By then Texas Tech had sent someone down to try to talk him into coming. He wanted to wear the red and black, so he headed up here and redshirted here.

DM:

And aren't we glad they talked you into it?

EFA:

Oh yeah. [Laughter] Ain't that good.

JA:

His mother and daddy loved coming because they could go wherever he went. Later when he played at the Great Lakes, they went to the Great Lakes to see him play.

DM:

Is that right? Good.

JA:

And I'm afraid I'll forget to mention this later, but while he was in the service at the Great Lakes, they played in a—like they would fly to San Antonio, they would fly to Arizona, and places like that—and his team played in the Salad Bowl in Phoenix and won.

DM:

Oh okay.

JA:

So he has a belt buckle that has a great big silver bowl on it.

DM:

Mm, golly.

JA:

So when he played for Tech they were in the Border Conference, but when he coached at Tech they got in Southwest Conference.

DM:

Right, right. By the way, where I work over at the Archives, we have all the Border Conference and Southwest Conference records. So all that information—there's a lot of information about you in there. [laughter]

EFA:

Well that's good. That's good. I haven't had a bunch of time. I was playing one place or another. I've seen that and leave it big enough to play in high school, they held back an English class so

I'd be able to go the next day. Then I went to Tech. I come in through my Junior College—came in from three years of—yeah—three years playing on—

JA:

To play three years at Tech. I mean, one year was redshirt.

DM:

Um-hm, right.

JA:

Where you're the dummy on the practice team.

DM:

But when you went to Tech, Dell Morgan was the first coach, but then De Weaver was the second coach. Can you compare those two? Can you give us a comparison?

EFA:

I tell you what, there was just one to comparison. [Laughter] Morgan had one coach, had two assistant coaches, and he played. When he had a workout, why he'd talk to every single player. He'd be down over there. And so it wasn't anything that really was good job. We weren't able to do to well, so that's why we got De Weaver.

DM:

Right.

EFA:

De Weaver came and he brought three of his assistants, and that's when I did very well with the split-T. Because I was fast and agile, and passed—little short passes, but not too long.

DM:

Well I was going to say, that's what I'd heard about you. That you were quick and agile as well as being able to throw.

EFA:

Well didn't throw all that well. I mean I didn't—

JA:

Long passes.

EFA:

—have the opportunity. We just ran the ball.

DM:

Quick passes? Yeah. Yeah. But you liked the split-T, huh?

EFA:

Loved it.

DM:

Didn't De Weaver pretty much—didn't he help invent that thing?

EFA:

No.

DM:

Oh, that was already done?

EFA:

No. some guys in the Navy got together and came in—Bud Wilkinson—

DM:

Oh okay.

EFA:

--Coached for ten years without letting anybody touch him, because it was new they didn't know what about it. And then they brought it down to us. We got the [Inaudible 0:15:12.4] it.

DM:

Okay.

EFA:

And so we had a good opportunity. So Morgan just wasn't—we didn't do much. He expected us to call the plays, and didn't tell you where to go.

DM:

Oh yeah. There wasn't much leadership there, huh?

EFA:

So I called—we played TCU first day that I played. We ran all guard play, and didn't score. Didn't score. And didn't score. So that was my—[laughter]

DM:

Well that was a lot to heap on your shoulders though. You know, if your coach isn't giving you any direction.

EFA:

Well that's why it was so good.

DM:

And you were young, too. You know, that was probably—was that your first year playing at Tech?

JA:

Yes.

DM:

Dell Morgan?

JA:

It was his second year at Tech, but it was his first year playing.

DM:

First year playing. Yeah, that's too much.

JA:

Then the next year he played for De. [Clears throat]

DM:

And then all of the sudden the records start really improving. Start having some good winning seasons. [Laughs]

EFA:

So it was—it was really—it's wonderful, because when he worked out they'd have something going all the time. All the time. You'd been fifteen minutes, they'd blow the whistle, you'd go do something else. And so they did such a good job.

DM:

So the training was good?

EFA:

Yeah. Morgan—you know he'd send—play fifteen minutes, sit down in the trenches. He had two assistants, so really it was just like night and day.

DM:

It sounds like Tech started investing a little more in the football program, if they were willing to pay some more coaching assistants?

EFA:

Oh yeah. When De Weaver brought those guys in.

JA:

One of them was named Jack Mitchell, and after Junior took a job at Oklahoma State Jack called him and said, "Would you come and coach with me at Kansas?" [Clears throat] Junior said, "I've already signed a contract. Nothing I'd like better than to coach with you, but I've signed a contract. I'm not going to leave." And then the next year he came to Lubbock to coach with De.

DM:

Oh good. [Laughs] That's pretty good. What year was it that y'all went to the Sun Bowl? Was that your senior year?

EFA:

Yeah.

JA:

January 1, 1952.

DM:

What a way to wrap up a football career at Texas Tech.

EFA:

Yeah.

DM:

Tell me a little bit about that. You were playing the College of the Pacific?

EFA:

Well I had the con—had a—

JA:

Concussion.

EFA:

Concussion.

DM:

Now we got the recorder going now, so just tell me the story again kind of quickly about how the two ends—what the two ends did.

EFA:

Well they just—that old guy that coached out there—he just said he wanted both of them come at the same time, so that one got the through the other. But their job was to put me on the ground. And so I went back to passing. I had two guys on—

DM:

They both got through.

EFA:

They both got me. Yeah. And so I got the concussion. And had to wait a while for that.

DM:

And we ought to mention at this point what kind of pads y'all had back then, because I bet you didn't have a facemask.

EFA:

[Laughter] That's right.

DM:

No facemask.

EFA:

You can tell I never played—that I didn't break a nose.

DM:

When did facemask came in—in the mid-fifties or so? Does that sound right?

EFA:

Yeah. It was a little bit later. First thing is they just sent a little piece of glass up there. But anyway.

DM:

And what about pads? I mean I've seen some pictures of the old football teams, and they have shoulder pads, but it doesn't look like much compared to what they have now.

EFA:

Yeah, they—we didn't take advantage of those improvements.

DM:

Yeah. You had shoulder pads though, right?

EFA:

Shoulder pads. We even had thigh pads.

DM:

Thigh pads. Did you have hip pads?

EFA:

Yep.

DM:

Did you have knee pads?

EFA:

Right.

DM:

Okay. Did you have a pad to protect your tailbone.

EFA:

No. [Laughs]

DM:

Oh really? Oh well that sounds dangerous. [laughs] Well, okay.

JA:

He played—when he was playing for De his senior year, [Clears throat] we played TCU here. That's the first time that Tech had beaten TCU, and that's also the night that we had our first date.

DM:

Oh really? Now what was the date? What?

JA:

Nineteen fifty-one.

DM:

Nineteen fifty-one. Okay. Do you remember the day and month?

JA:

Oh I think it was October, but I don't remember what. Do you remember the score like twenty four to eighteen or something like that?

EFA:

Yeah, nineteen and—

DM:

Wow. Exciting.

EFA:

It was nineteen to five, I think. You used to called it, he used to tell us not to score anymore. [Laughter] That was pretty hard, but to get to play TCU. That was the biggest school and we were the little school. And then running them too well. Getting beat, you know.

DM:

TCU had quite a reputation ever since Sammy Baugh, at least.

EFA:

Yeah. Yeah. They had a good team.

DM:

I guess the victory bells rung that night, didn't they?

JA:

Yes, they did.

EFA:

“Turn them on. Turn them on.”

DM:

Golly, that’s a memorable night then. Y’all’s first date, too.

JA:

We didn’t have a date when the game was going on, but after the game his mother and daddy were tired and went to the hotel, and so—I don’t know why he called me. But I had the date with another football player after the game. [Laughter] And he called and said that his roommate was going home to momma hen’s and that he was going to go with him, and they would bring his daddy’s car back for a week. And so he would talk to me on Sunday. I said, “Okay.” And then Junior called and said, how would I like to go to a movie with him? And so I did. And when Hollis came back the next day. He called me and said, “Before you say anything, let me tell you, the word’s already gotten around that you had the date with Junior last night. Do you have a date with him again tonight?” And I said, “Yes.” He said, “Well that’s okay. You two are a lot alike.”

DM:

Aw, nice. Yeah.

JA:

So—and we’re still friends with Hollis Davis, and he still comes back to some of the games. When we were in that Letterman’s Lounge at the north end where the big screen is now—when we were up there he used to come and sit with us and tell Junior, “Well you still owe me, buddy.” [Laughter] And so we had a lot of fun. And eventually Hollis lived in the same town that one of the guys—Neil Armstrong—that Junior coached with at Oklahoma State. He was—he and Hollis were neighbors. So he would tell us what was going on with their kids, and Junior and I were crazy about Neil’s little boys. Neil’s wife Jane taught Junior to pop popcorn on the top of the stove, and as it begins to pop, you sprinkle sugar on it and shake that pan real good to keep it from burning. We fixed popcorn for the Lady Raiders when they would go out of town for—I don’t know, what would you say? Fifteen years?

DM:

Really?

JA:

Or maybe closer to twenty.

EFA:

I don't know. A long time.

DM:

For the basketball team?

JA:

Uh-huh. For the Lady Raiders.

EFA:

Thirty sacks. You had a lot.

JA:

You had to have thirty sacks.

DM:

Thirty sacks of popcorn? [Laughter]

JA:

It took six bowls about that big around and about that high. He'd have to—

DM:

Oh my. But weren't they happy?

JA:

Yes, and he began to pop popcorn for the High Riders after I was their sponsor. And one night we were going to have a big party and so I told him, I said, "You don't think you could pop enough popcorn for about ninety girls to have popcorn, do you?" He said, "Well, I'll have to start on Monday for them to do that on Thursday." [laughter] So he popped popcorn all week. But the sugar on that popcorn, and putting it in a plastic sandwich bag, would keep it fresh.

DM:

Oh really, the sugar does that?

JA:

If you missed eating yours this week, you could eat it next week.

DM:

Right, good.

JA:

But anyway, that's kind of chasing the rabbit, but.

DM:

I like that.

JA:

Tell you how things led one thing to another.

DM:

Sure.

JA:

But some of those High Riders that came to the band this year came to him and said, "Mister, are you popping popcorn tonight?" [Laughs] "Not tonight, Darling."

EFA:

I finally had to give it up.

DM:

Right. Well you did your part. [Laughs]

EFA:

Yeah.

JA:

We got to where they would let us buy popcorn unpopped at the store, whatever the name of that was—wholesale. We'd buy a bag of unpopped popcorn about like that.

DM:

Wow. That's a lot of unpopped popcorn.

JA:

We wore two WearEver pans. [Laughter] And of course our grandchildren—our children and grandchildren—love it. When our daughter got married she lived on the other side of Overton right up here, and she would call and she would say, "Mom, is Daddy popping popcorn?", "Junior, are you popping popcorn?", "Yes." He wouldn't be. [Laughs] She'd say, "Well, I'll be over there in a minute." And she'd come across that schoolyard, come over and get the popcorn. Take it back home with her. That popcorn's pretty good for you.

DM:

Yeah. [Laughs] Well tell me once more—we weren't on the recorder yet—when you were telling about at the end of the game with College of the Pacific. That a lot of the boys—since this was in El Paso—a lot of the boys—the football team—pretty much went over to Juarez. But because of that concussion, you went and rested and recuperated a bit?

EFA:

They put me in the hospital.

DM:

Oh they did? Was that in Ranger?

EFA:

No, that was—

JA:

That's in El Paso.

DM:

In El Paso? Wow.

EFA:

They keep you—they had to keep you awake. So every time I had a concussion they spent the first ten hours keeping you awake.

DM:

Golly. Well how many concussions did you have?

EFA:

At least three. But wound up in hospital about three. But the rest of them? It was quite a few.

DM:

Yeah, okay.

JA:

Needed a little more equipment. And as a matter of fact, someone started an equipment company in Ranger.

DM:

Oh really? Okay. When you went on to the Naval training station, can you tell me a little bit about that? How you got over to the—You were a player and coach, right?

EFA:

Oh yeah.

DM:

Can you tell me how you got over there?

EFA:

Well it was—I had to go to the, oh—

JA:

Practice field. Gym.

EFA:

Yeah, you had to get the—well anyway, I wound up getting to go to the Navy. So I was working at—we had the **saving kids** [0:29:00.7]. So they asked me—they asked the group if there's anybody that had the experience. And so the next day I was over somewhere else.

JA:

He was over in Special Services the next day.

DM:

Well, I bet they were happy to hear, “This guy was over in the Sun Bowl.”

JA:

They weren't much happier than he was, because—

EFA:

So we had a good couple years there.

DM:

Good. What's it like being a player and coach? How does that work?

EFA:

Well they just do the best you can. Navy had some coaches. Trying to think of that kid from TCU. Anyway, they had a kid at TCU that was over there. He was a quarterback. But when I

came they let him do something else. So we—coach said, “Would you draw up some plays for me?” [Laughter] So that’s why I did coaching part way. Most of it was just playing and not—

DM:

Were you—what kind of formation were y’all running there?

EFA:

Well if I remember most of it was model-T. Two ends and then—

JA:

Split-T.

DM:

You were there maybe three years?

EFA:

Two years in the Navy. And then I played baseball at—after you get through the service, they get rid of you. They go—they have so many people they’ve got to keep rotating. So they rotated me out. And so I had a good experience. In the Navy, they said if you are going to get released within this many days of the month—well I didn’t fall in that. So the coach over at the—the guy that worked over there that coached some—asked me if I wanted to go over to the—

JA:

Baseball?

EFA:

No. Go over to try to get back out with the Pentagon. Big stuff.

JA:

Yeah, yeah.

EFA:

He said, “I’m going to fly over there if you want to come, I’ll let you.” So I said, “Sure.” So I’m sitting over there with nothing. Here’s all of these guys—

DM:

No insignia.

EFA:

So I ask the guy, I said, "I think I'd like to increase it. Do that again.", "Oh no. Not a chance," he said. Well when I got back the paper was red. Just another week or two and I'd have—missing a lot of time. When I got in the Navy, they send all kinds of jobs until I got on the drive, you know. They told us they were painted—the Navy—the waves. When the waves would come up—shushushushu—come back down, you know? They'd have a little thing going.

JA:

I guess they were on a little platform, and it would go—the ship would go up and down, and they're painting the outside of it. [Laughter] And so when the ship would go up and they'd paint, and then they'd go down, and when it'd come back up and they'd paint a little bit more.

[laughter]

DM:

That sounds exciting.

EFA:

It was something. I tell you, we had a good experience there. But that was just another two years of football.

DM:

When did you leave the Navy? What year would that have been?

JA:

About just before 1950—the fall of 1953.

DM:

Nineteen fifty-three.

JA:

He got out a little bit earlier, so he had a little bit of time to be at home. Someone from the Cardinals, Chicago Cardinals, had come up to the Navy base to see who was getting out and some things like that. So that's how he got connected with the Chicago Cardinals.

DM:

Wow, okay. Now we're talking about professional football? So did you have to go tryout, or did they already have—did you have enough of reputation, they just said, "Come play for us." Or how did that work?

EFA:

Well they just come up and say, "If you want to try out." And so we played for everything—like about ten games that we played in exhibition.

DM:

Really?

EFA:

And that's when I got another concussion.

DM:

Oh golly. And you were quarterbacking always, right?

EFA:

In Milwaukee. Yeah, well this particular time I play on defense. And a big ole pullback came off of a skinny one that was playing on the—Anyway, he took me out. Well I came back to and coaches were—players—were saying, "Hey." I was out of it. So I played one more play, and then I tackled a guy. Kept him throwing his pass.

DM:

Yeah.

EFA:

So that's—I got another time for—

JA:

Was that in Green Bay?

EFA:

Yeah. It was Green Bay that came over to—one of our workout—

DM:

Tried to what?

EFA:

We worked out—

DM:

Oh you worked out.

EFA:

—with one another.

DM:

With one another, I see. Okay. Well now in these games, with Chicago Cardinals and before that, did you play both ways? Did you play some—did you play quarterback and did you play some defense too? In the same game or did they—

EFA:

Well it really—we didn't do so much playing because—but my passing got taken out pretty quick. It's got a little dirty kid and he went. But anyway—

DM:

What'd you think about being with the Chicago Cardinals? Were those good days for you?

EFA:

Well there really wasn't a whole lot. Like I say, we had about ten games that we could play with other teams. Get it going, and when they got it going, why, that was a time that I had a concussion.

DM:

Right. Right.

JA:

After the Green Bay concussion then they released him.

DM:

Yeah, okay.

JA:

And he—we can't remember how—he found out about Cliff Spiegel, who was the new head coach at Oklahoma State. But Cliff had been coaching in the Canadian League, and so somehow they got them—someone told Junior to contact him and he did. That was a wonderful start, because they were great people.

DM:

Okay. I don't even have a record of that in front of me—him being with the Canadian League.

JA:

Cliff Spiegel?

EFA:

That was the Oklahoma State coach. And I didn't play. I was coaching.

DM:

Yeah, right, right.

EFA:

So I coached left for a year.

DM:

Okay. About the time after you left Chicago Cardinals they kind of went downhill anyhow, didn't they? They ended up moving to St. Louis and a couple other places since then. So with Spiegel, was your—where you began being a coach all the time?

EFA:

Right.

DM:

Okay.

EFA:

About the only thing that I did that we really had a—we're having a tough time. So they said, "Well you just go in the press box, and you call the plays." And we wiped them out. Went from losing, you know. Wasn't too long until De called. Wanted to come and see my coach up there.

DM:

De Weaver?

EFA:

Yeah.

DM:

Yeah, okay. All right. Now what year was it that you came to Tech?

JA:

Nineteen fifty-six.

DM:

Fifty-six. Okay.

JA:

We were here '56, '57, '58, and '59, and '60.

DM:

You were here coaching from '56 to '60?

JA:

Yes.

DM:

Isn't '60 about when you entered Southwest Conference?

EFA:

Yeah. We did during that time.

DM:

Okay.

EFA:

We flew back in one night, and we all celebrated.

DM:

Yeah.

EFA:

We met them at the airports, you know.

DM:

You had some pretty good football players come along during that time too, it seems like.
Wasn't that E.J. Holub era?

EFA:

And that E.J.

JA:

And I know this is boring you. [Indistinguishable whispering]

EFA:

Going both ways, and so he was a good one.

DM:

Yeah, yeah. Well what was your—how many coaches were on the staff at the time you were coaching at Texas Tech?

EFA:

Oh let's see. I think they were about five.

JA:

Maybe a little more.

DM:

And what was your emphasis? Were you working with the quarterbacks and the offense, or offensive backs or?

EFA:

Both. All the backs. But mainly quarterbacks.

JA:

When we were trying to get into the Southwest Conference—and we failed a few times—we went to the Weaver's house. We would all be there and we would be waiting to find out. And since they had been—since they turned us down one year, we went to the Weaver's house the next year. And they had a big picture of De above their fireplace, and he was a handsome man with the grey hair. He had taken a Pin the Tail on the Donkey and put it over that picture. [DM Laughs] So anyway. But we got in that time. She was a great asset, and of course she died not too long after they left Lubbock.

DM:

Yeah. What a big day for Texas Tech, though. Everything changed after that.

EFA:

Everything changed, yeah.

DM:

And it was all because the Border Conference did—you did so well in the Border Conference, too, you know.

EFA:

That's right. Course all those guys that left when De did got jobs. Head coaches. But—

DM:

You remember being lined up on the field in the fifties and playing Hardin-Simmons and old Sammy Baugh over on the opposite sideline?

EFA:

Yeah.

DM:

He was a guy that he was a football legend already, you know?

JA:

And while he was coaching Tech played TCU—I mean, Hardin-Simmons, and they visited. Later I had his daughter Francis in one of my classes.

DM:

Oh is that right?

JA:

And they—our son David wanted his—I said, “Francis, would you get your daddy to sign this little card for my son David?” She said, “Sure.” So she took it and had Sammy sign it for him. Oh, David just treasured that card. And then their son David came to Tech and he came down to First Baptist Church, and Junior was down there playing with some college kids in basketball in their activities building. They both went up for a rebound and David came down on Junior’s back and broke Junior’s leg.

DM:

Oh! Really? David Baugh did?

JA:

Uh-huh. He was a pretty good sized guy, but Junior was a hundred and sixty-five pounds. So anyway, we’ve had a lot of good talks about that. And then our neighbor played football at Hardin-Simmons, and Sammy Baugh was the coach there. So we learned a lot about Sammy.

DM:

That was an interesting—I interviewed him about twenty years ago. Went out to his ranch.

EFA:

He’s something else.

DM:

Yeah, he's a character. He was a character.

EFA:

He was going to that long game at—up there at night. Anyway, we played golf together.

DM:

Oh you did?

EFA:

And you talk about [whoosh noise]. And the ball went—zoom! But he was quite a guy.

DM:

Yeah, he loved golf. He told me, "I love golf. All you got to do is—it doesn't take a lot of thinking. You just hit that ball and go hit it again."

EFA:

That's right.

DM:

[laughter] Well now Hardin-Simmons was a big rival in those days, wasn't it?

EFA:

You bet.

DM:

In the fifties?

EFA:

We played them—Put the championship before we went out to the—we hadn't have beaten them we probably wouldn't have gotten that.

DM:

End of the season—you wouldn't have gotten into the Southwest Conference, you think?

JA:

They wouldn't have gotten to play in the Sun Bowl.

DM:

Oh in the Sun Bowl. Yeah, right. Yeah. Well the—[JA starts talking] Go ahead.

JA:

When J.T.—when De Weaver left we can't decide if they fired De Weaver or if they gave him a choice. We don't remember what happened then. But we just know that nobody had a job except one guy with J.T. King. And then he hired all his people himself. So that left all of us looking for jobs somewhere else. Junior could have gone to Stanford. They made an offer to him, but we had little children and we decided we'd just stay here. He went to work for Frontier Stamps, which was a stamp that—the food stamp—that Furrs gave. And he went to work for Preston-Johnson.

EFA:

I guess S&H Green Stamps.

DM:

Oh yeah. Well you're not as likely to get a concussion in that business, are you?

EFA:

That's right. [Laughter] That's right.

JA:

Not unless you throw yourself down. People would come and in the winter they would buy an electric blanket, and then bring it back in the late bring and say it wasn't working. "I'd like to trade it in for an ice cream freezer."

DM:

[Laughs] In the summertime.

JA:

Anyway. And he worked for them for five years. And then a man named Doctor Boze hired him to be Undergraduate Admissions. He went to school and got his master's degree while he was working. I said what his name was last night. Junior, do you remember?

EFA:

Oh it was Floyd Boze.

DM:

How do you spell that last name?

JA:

I think it's B-o-z-e. S.

DM:

B-o-z-e? Boze? Okay. How long were you in admissions?

EFA:

Well I was—five years. Undergraduate Admissions. And then fifteen years for Graduate Admissions. And so.

DM:

Yeah. What year were those? What years would that be? Five and fifteen?

JA:

Hmm, let's see.

DM:

I'm asking tough questions, I know. Just trying to get the chronology right.

JA:

Well, let's see. 1961 he was working for Frontier Stamps, because that's the year **Don** was born. And he worked for them for five years. That'd make it—

DM:

Sixty-six.

JA:

Sixty-six. And then—

DM:

So to '86, probably. Up to about '86 you were in admissions. You were in Graduate Admissions when I got into grad school. Thank you. [Laughter]

JA:

Well he really hated to leave Undergraduate, because he had had such a good time going to the high schools and talking to people. Help recruit them. But then they came and said they want him to be the Director of Graduate Admissions, and he said, "You know, I'm just happy as I can be here." And they said, "Let us say this: This is your invitation to come and you must accept." [DM Laughs] So he moved over there and he liked that. He had lots of good friends over there. Now, Tom Langford was a great man.

DM:

Um-hm. Yeah. I remember him.

JA:
He—

DM:
Wasn't he an English professor or something?

JA:
I think he had been and then he became the dean of Graduate Admissions.

DM:
Dean of Graduate School.

JA:
That's right. Of Graduate School. We had lots of fun with—he had really nice people that worked for him. Tom always took care of his people, and Junior always took care of his people. Junior used to hunt with Roy Turner and Dan Law, and he would kill quail. When we would come home those people would give them—give us—their quail, and Junior would clean them. And then we would have a quail dinner for the people that worked for Junior.

DM:
Golly, how nice.

JA:
So we had lots of fun doing that. I breaded quail. He cooked it—fried it. And we would have twenty people. We've lived in this house now for sixty-one years.

DM:
Oh is that right? Okay.

JA:
So if the walls could talk, you know?

DM:
Yes, I know. And it's such a great spot. Like I'm saying, it's like Maxey Park is your backyard.

JA:
Um-hm.

DM:
It's wonderful.

JA:

It came up and said, "Hello," one time and came in our house.

DM:

Who did?

JA:

The lake.

DM:

Oh it did! Yes. It has flooded, hasn't it? [Laughter]

JA:

Uh-huh. It flooded our house one time. In fact I had my dossier in the backseat of the car to be turned in the next day. I came home and the neighbor met me and said, "Joyce you had to leave your house up here at Glenda's, because you'll flood out and you can't get into your house.", "What?" So I walked down here with that man and came in and Junior was putting the legs of the chairs in sole cups, and the legs on the piano and things like that.

DM:

Yeah. That's pretty clever, yeah.

JA:

And I don't know why I thought this, but I thought it would come through the door. It came through the walls. So I went to the back and it was sloshy.

DM:

Was this—there was a real big flood in about maybe the late nineties? Or was this earlier that you're talking about?

JA:

This was '70, '71.

DM:

Okay, '71. Okay.

JA:

The year we had so many tornados.

DM:

Oh yeah. Um-hm.

JA:

That water just came and filled up that park and filled up that park and going further. So I called the next day and I told the man that was head of our department that I didn't think I'd turn my dossier in then and I'll just see him later. He said, "Don't come to school today. If your house is flooded take the day off." Oh I was so glad then. That was while I was sponsor of High Riders. And they—not that day—the first day after the flood—but the next day they came in shifts. And my birthday group fed them beans and cornbread and they came and we took all the curtains out. The carpet had to come out. So it was really a mess.

DM:

Other than that it's been nice living near Maxey Lake, huh? Do you keep a boat back here in your backyard just in case? [Laughs]

JA:

We should. Our biggest problem after the first day was it was beginning to go down and the pickups would come down the street real fast and just those waves would just come back into the garage and everything.

DM:

When it was flooding over there at Quaker—South Quaker—years ago, they had "No Wake Zones" posted out there like you see on a lake. "Don't drive fast because you'll throw a wake into our house." Golly.

EFA:

Yeah, that's what I had to—did. Hollered it, you know. "What in the world are you doing?!" [Laughter] "Oh I'm just driving this big truck out."

DM:

"Fast as I can." [Laughs] Joyce, tell us about you. Where are you from? Where were you born and how did you get out here?

JA:

Well, I was born in Shamrock.

DM:

Yeah.

JA:

And my mother and dad were the two teacher school in a little town. [Clears throat] So my dad took my mother to the hospital in Shamrock. So that's where I was born. But they dismissed school there, so we always celebrated my birthday real big, because we said if you let out school that was a celebration. Then my dad was an elementary school principal at Hale Center. And that's where I started school. My first brother was born there. Then, in 1939, we—my dad—got a job at Denver City.

DM:

Okay.

JA:

Which was a real step-up. We even got a car then. We had had to walk from our house to my grandmother's house in Hale Center the night my little brother was born, because he was born at home and they wanted me to be with my grandmother. So we did that. We moved to Denver City. Then of course World War came in '41, and my dad was one of the few men that was left in Denver City. So he got up early and worked at the oil refinery there and then taught school, and then worked a couple hours at the oil refinery after that. And so things were pretty tight as far as—Thank you.

DM:

Thanks.

JA:

It was what we could do. So we—during that time we came to Lubbock just to see a Dr. Mansell. To see about my brother who had asthma—how he was. See if we could get some help for him. When we walked in and went to the desk, the lady said, “Well Dr. Mansell's gone to the war. Let me see what I can do.” And so mother is seated just over on the coach. So we waited and she went back up to the desk and then she came back. She said—my brother that had asthma, I said, “Well what are we going to do, Mother?” She said, “We're going to see the doctor.” He said, “Are we going to wait until the war is over?” [DM Laughs] So anyway I was in the—I should have been in the second grade when we went to Denver City, but that's the year that they put in the twelve year system. And so I didn't go to the second grade and promoted to the third. And that really made me one of the smaller kids, because my birthday was in April and a lot of my class had birthdays in September and so forth. So they had their birthday to be nine before I came along the next year and was behind them, because they hadn't skipped a grade. So then I went through school there. It was a wonderful place. My dad had a great relationship with the community and that sort of thing. We had a nice church and we had no recreational facilities. No park and no swimming pool, so I learned to swim in Lake Brownwood.

DM:

Oh, okay.

JA:

We went down there to a town called Zephyr.

DM:

Yeah, I know Zephyr.

JA:

You know Zephyr?

DM:

Yeah.

JA:

Well that's where we went to see some friends and went to Itasca Weavers, and bought the material.¹ My mother and daddy reupholstered the inside of a car.

DM:

Oh wow.

JA:

It was worn out. Nobody had—

DM:

You do it yourself.

JA:

Yeah. Nobody could buy a car in the war. So that was good for us. Then in 1948 my dad took a job in Lubbock at George M. Hunt, which was down where the old Baldrige Bakery was on 19th Street. George M. Hunt was on 17th and about Avenue L. Three story building with the outside fire escape.

DM:

Okay.

¹ The Southwest Collection interviewed individuals related to the Itasca Mill and Weaver's Guild in 1971. See, for example, Gene Braley August 26, 1971.

JA:

And he would take us to school with him in the mornings in summer, and we would slide down that fire escape. Had lots of fun doing that. Then we would walk from there to our house, just off of University on 21st Street. But I was the first woman—Outstanding Athlete woman—at Lubbock High School. We talked a lady—a PE teacher—Thelma Wilson—into being our volleyball coach. We played volleyball and we traveled on the bus with the track boys. So we got to go play Odessa and things like that. She didn't know very much about coaching volleyball, so she just stayed with us and we sort of coached ourselves and had a good time. At Denver City I had lived in a house next door to an apartment house, where the lady who was the high school volleyball coach at Denver City had just graduated from North Texas. She and my dad kept the high school gym open in the summers for us to just come and play. So I wanted to be just like her. And so I thought that I would be a coach too.

DM:

Yeah, yeah.

JA:

I came to Tech and we didn't have a team, so—

DM:

What year did you come to Tech?

JA:

I started in 1950. Fall of 1950. Graduated Lubbock High School in spring of '50. We played—we had volleyball teams that played in the Junior High gyms, and they had a City League. We won the City League, so we wanted to go to Houston to play. A guy who was an insurance man named Ralph Cribbs saw to it that the—I don't know if it was the—I don't know which group of men it was in the Chamber of Commerce or whatever. They paid our way to go. We traveled in the car. We had several players. A funny little story is that I was—this was when that old gym was on the campus that had the big Double T painted on the stucco building.

DM:

Yes. Was that the Mule Barn, that you're talking about? They called it the Mule Barn?

JA:

Yeah, I guess that's it, don't you think? So we had a little locker over there and I shared a locker with somebody else. And so we were going to go to Houston to play volleyball, and I got my things out of the locker. We got down there and I had one of my shoes and one of somebody else's. But they didn't match. [DM Laughs] But nobody cared then. I certainly didn't.

DM:

They might have thought you were doing that on purpose.

JA:

Yes, they probably did. And this first time I had seen power volleyball. Before you had to do everything with your fingers. Now you doubled up your fist and hit it.

DM:

Pow! Yeah.

JA:

Yeah, well about the first time I got hit I was like, That's against the rules! No, that's what you call power volleyball.

DM:

The game changed.

JA:

It certainly did.

DM:

You had to start worrying about concussions then, huh?

JA:

That's right. That's right. And I'm telling you, there were some concussions when they'd fall back on the floor.

DM:

I'll bet.

JA:

But we didn't know how to defend it like they do now. So anyway, we along through school. I was a sophomore when Junior and I had our date. Then we went together for a while. Then he asked me if I would not go with anybody else, and I said, "Oh Junior. I'm just a kid. I can't do that." So he said, "Okay." So he went on and eventually went the Navy and all that sort of thing. But he wrote me a letter when I was a senior and he was stationed at Great Lakes. I had gone with Lucian Thomas, which—remember the jeweler that was in a wheelchair over on University?

DM:

Yeah, I don't really—

JA:

Thomas Jewelry?

DM:

Yeah, I remember the place.

JA:

Well he took some of us and we went to Florida to the Gator Bowl. When I got back my daddy said, "You have a letter from Junior Arterburn, but you have to find it. We've hidden it and you have to find it." [DM laughs] So I looked and looked and looked everywhere and I couldn't find it. So then I just sort of just flopped down on the couch, and as I did I saw the letter in the light fixture in the living room. So anyway, he came to Lubbock to see me. We started going out, and I went to Camp Mystic as a counselor. Well I went five semesters. And so he came to Camp Mystic to see me. Picked me up and took me over to Ranger to meet his family. I had a fabulous time. They all knew how to square dance, and his daddy knew how to call it. So we went to Strawn. You know where that is?

DM:

Yeah I do.

JA:

Is it Ms. Matheny?

EFA:

Um-hm.

JA:

Made raviolis, and we went down there and ate that. His daddy called square dance as I would go around with them. Leonard would say, "Take D's hand next." And D would say, "Turn around and go back to Leonard." Tell me whose hand to take next. So I said to my family when I got off, "I don't know if this will ever come of anything between Junior and me, but I'm not going to forget that family, because I had such a good time." [laughter] But I had—

EFA:

Mingus. Went down to Mingus.

DM:

Mingus? Yeah.

JA:

So we had a wonderful time.

DM:

Sounds like he played that just right.

JA:

Yeah. Get his family involved.

EFA:

And she's been working awful hard at teaching.

JA:

I taught at Denver.

EFA:

Thirty-nine years.

JA:

Was by the time I got through.

EFA:

Twenty-nine years.

DM:

You taught?

JA:

Thirty-nine years I taught.

EFA:

Okay.

DM:

Denver City?

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JA:

No, I taught at Denver, Colorado.

DM:

Oh you did?

JA:

East High School at Denver. This is just to tell you what a country bumpkin I was, the first day I was up there and they said, "Well this is how you do it." There were five women physical education teachers at East High School—that's how big that school was.

DM:

Yeah, that is big.

JA:

And five men—some of which were also coaches. So we had some classes that were co-ed. And so they said, "First you'll go to field hockey, then you'll go to square dance, then you'll go to tennis and you'll teach tennis two periods, and then we'll have lunch. You'll have a guidance class, and then you'll teach driver's Ed." And I'm going like, Holy smokes. What have I gotten myself into? So I knew nothing about field hockey. Tech had some field hockey equipment, but we had no one to teach us and so we just had that equipment there. So then I had tennis. We went out there and I came back in and they said, "Well how was tennis?" And I said, "Well we hit off the screens, because there's no cement out there." And there's this little roar of laughter with these other four women. They said, "Joyce, that's a clay court." And of course if you've seen a clay court, you'll know it's a pile of dirt. It was something else. But they said, "Oh those courts will be ready tomorrow." I think, No, there's no cement there. So anyway. I was really a country kid. But I knew a lot about folk dance. They had me teach everybody's class for a while.

DM:

Oh really?

JA:

So we did the Mexican Hat Dance.

DM:

Oh really?

JA:

Where, [singing] "Tadala-tadala-tada, tadala-tadala-tada."

DM:

Gosh that sounds like fun. A lot of fun.

JA:

It was lots of fun. Those kids were—they had taught them some folk dances in the past. Like they taught them to hula. I didn't know how to hula, so I thought that was great. But they didn't know anything about Mexican culture or things like that. So.

DM:

All dances from different cultures, though. How interesting.

JA:

So I had a really good time. But after about a week like that I could hardly walk. [Laughter] Just one hour after another teaching that folk dance. We had a great time. They were, of course, all very interested that Junior was playing football. When he quit playing football he came to Denver to see me. That was a great time. I met him when he was working at Oklahoma State. He drove to Amarillo and I drove with another girl that had gone to school at Tech named Jan Doggett. We met at a drug store in Amarillo. And we got to spend about two hours together and then I came on home. She stayed. She went to Pampa. He brought me home and that sort of thing. So that's how we worked everything out.

DM:

When did y'all get married?

JA:

We got married on June the 18th, 1955.

DM:

Fifty-five.

JA:

I taught one year in there and then Junior was out of the football scene and we went to Oklahoma State and I taught there.

DM:

And you taught there.

JA:

That was my first college job.

DM:

Okay. From there did you come to Tech?

JA:

From there we came to Tech.

DM:

And you taught at Tech for how long?

JA:

Well not—I guess counting the two years that I taught—one at Denver and one at Oklahoma State—I taught thirty-nine years.

DM:

Oh okay, so—

JA:

People said, “Why didn’t you stay until it was forty?” I said, “Well it was time at thirty-nine.” [DM Laughs] And Junior had already retired, and I said, “Do I have to retire when you do?” He said, “No, but you’ll know when.”

DM:

Now you taught PE?

JA:

Um-hm. At first I taught tennis, bowling and archery. I taught majors. They had two hour classes. Tennis, bowling, and archery all together. We taught the Lubbock Bowling Club. Had great people to work with out there.

DM:

Did you teach volleyball?

JA:

I taught volleyball.

DM:

Yeah. Okay.

JA:

I taught a couple of classes of basketball, tennis, bowling, archery, badminton. We had played badminton on the courts at Oklahoma State with some other couples and had a really fun time playing that. Then when we came to Lubbock I hadn't really planned to teach, but a friend of ours's wife was going to have a baby, and so they just wanted me to come and teach while she was gone that year. And so I did, and then—

DM:

Now where was that that you taught?

JA:

At Tech.

DM:

That was at Tech, too? Okay.

JA:

So then—well when we were at Oklahoma State they called and said they'd like to interview me to see if I'd like to teach at Oklahoma State. And so I did and they offered me a job and I said, "Well I can't tell you right now, because I've got to go home and ask my husband." They said, "Nobody asks their husband these days."

DM:

Golly, really?

JA:

I said, "I do. I know I can be a success as a teacher, but I'm going to see if I can be a success as a wife. I'm not going to put that in jeopardy." I went home and I said, "I know you don't really want me to teach, but would you let me?" And he said, "Of course. I'll let you do whatever you want to do." Then we came down here and I taught for Mary Anne Cobb, had a baby. And then I taught until we had children. We had David and Diana, are our twins. He coaches in Plainview now.

DM:

Oh, he does?

JA:

He coached—he played basketball and baseball at Coronado and he—

DM:

Well that's not surprising. Look at his parents. [DM Laughs]

JA:

So he coached at Coronado. He coached at Irons Junior High. He coached at the old—what is that school that was on North University? Oh. It's now where Carolyn Thompson is. That was such a basketball star at Tech. She teaches in that school, and now it is a school for people who are getting their GED.

DM:

Okay.

JA:

And she loves it.

DM:

Oh good. Yeah. What year were the twins born?

JA:

Fifty-eight.

DM:

Fifty-eight. Okay. And then you have a younger child?

JA:

Then we have Don, who is a teacher at Baylor. He's in the Family Therapy program. He played football and baseball at Coronado. John Dudley was the baseball coach, and was an outstanding man here when the baseball team that Don was on went out to eat after a baseball game. Some boys had walked their ticket, so John Dudley called Don and said, "Don, there's some boys on the baseball team—I don't know their names—but they walked their ticket, and if you would call a few of them they'd get the word around that they could go back and pay those bills or they would be off the baseball team." So that's what he did. So David's twin is named Diana, and she teaches in Rowlett. She's a reading teacher. Sixth grade reading teacher.

DM:

So education and athletics has continued in your family?

EFA:

It's a good schedule. Good—

JA:

Good program. Kept our kids busy.

DM:

Um-hm. Y'all have been very busy in the Baptist Church, too. From what I understand.

JA:

We have.

DM:

Always members at First Baptist. Yeah.

JA:

At first I—when we first moved here—my family went to Calvary Baptist. And then my parents retired and went to an Indian reservation—Apache Indian reservation in Arizona. At Globe. And they taught there—shoot, I don't know how long—but seven or eight years. Maybe six. They taught there long enough to receive Arizona's teacher retirement. So they had both Texas and Arizona—

DM:

Right, golly.

JA:

—after they retired here. And then they came back and Calvary Baptist had moved out there, so they joined First Baptist with us, so we got to see them often.

DM:

All right. How long have you been members at First Baptist?

JA:

Well Junior joined when he was in college, and then he joined at Stillwater. We did. And then we came here and I guess since 1956. That's going to be sixty years, isn't it? Somewhere in there. But he taught seniors in high school and I taught six year olds at first. And then as our children got older I went to the high school department and taught with him. Then when they got out of high school we started teaching with the college department.

DM:

Yeah, Sunday School teaching. Yeah.

JA:

I started teaching in the college department first and he would go to the service with the kids—early—and then I would go to the 9:30 worship service with college kids. Then I would come home after we taught Sunday School. I'd come home at 12:00 and Junior and the kids had fixed lunch. Then we'd go play tennis. So we had lots of fun with that. We've had a wonderful life.

DM:

It's been an active life.

JA:

Yep.

DM:

I love the way you were associated with Texas Tech. You were off somewhere else, came back to Texas Tech, stayed at Texas Tech. That's interesting. You just kept coming back to Lubbock.

EFA:

[Laughs] That's right.

DM:

Did you make the right decision?

EFA:

You bet.

DM:

Oh good.

JA:

It's a good place to be. Now you can see that we're both in the Texas Tech Athletic Hall of Fame. It says "Founder of High Riders" and I was the founding sponsor of High Riders.

DM:

Oh is that right?

JA:

So that's a little bit misgiving. But I guess I could have asked them to change that.

DM:

Oh no.

JA:

It wasn't worth it. But I thought that before you go, David, that I might give you just a little tour down the hall and show you some of the things that happened in our life.

DM:

Sure. Yeah. I'd like to see that.

JA:

Would you like that?

DM:

Sure, absolutely. Anything else y'all want to add on this recorder before I turn it off?

EFA:

You better talk about what you've been doing the last two months. With the girls—girls team you sponsored. School.

JA:

Talk about High Riders?

EFA:

Yeah.

JA:

Well, some—a girl that had been in my Sunday School class at First Baptist—and her name was—well the girl that she talked to—Lynn Travis is the girl that was in my class. And then she talked to Nancy Neil Hughes. And talked to a girl names Kathy Pate, whose brother was a High Rider—I mean, was a Saddle Tramp. And so they came to my office and said that they were going to start a new organization and they'd like for me to sponsor it. And so I said, "Well, let me think about it just a little bit. I need to ask my family." Because David and Diana were seniors in high school. So we talked about that and some guys had asked Junior to be sponsor of Saddle Tramps, and he was trying to decide what to do about that. He said, "I think our best bet is for one or the other of us to do it, not both of us, so why don't you do that?" So I said, "Okay." And I talked to them and we started it. Had a big rush and took about thirty pledges. Started with those three girls. And so I was the sponsor with them for twenty years.

DM:

Okay.

EFA:

High Riders.

DM:

Yeah, yeah.

JA:

After I had been their sponsor for eight years they gave me the diamond. And then—and they've done lots of good things for me. And then when I retired after thirty nine years, well my department gave me the Double T. So very thoughtful.

DM:

Right, right. Yeah. Well y'all've put a lot of your lives into Texas Tech. So I'm glad you get some recognition for it.

JA:

You know, from the time we had Dave and Diana, we had a crowd. We had kids next door, and kids next door, and kids next door. So one year I did a little fun thing like have kindergarten at home. We cooked outside. Everybody brought something. Diana came running in and said, "Mother, there's a leaf in our stew!" So I went out there. It was the bay leaf—

DM:

Bay leaf.

JA:

—that I'd put in the soup. But somebody brought a carrot—two carrots—and somebody brought the leftover green beans they had. We just put in that pot, you know. Oh we had so much fun.

DM:

Well it sounds like a good place to get some food. And if not popcorn and quail then something else. [Laughter]

EFA:

I did a lot of quail hunting, and we always enjoyed eating them. Tennis, I played tennis for my life. Anyway, but this is what Joyce is finishing up.

DM:

Yeah.

JA:
Yep.

DM:
Anything else y'all want to put on here?

JA:
No. The only thing else that I think of that I wanted to be sure to mention was that I worked for people that supported me, and one time—I didn't realize how much Margaret Wilson—

DM:
Margaret Wilson? Yeah.

JA:
She did so many things for me. She remembered my children's birthdays, to begin with. And then she was crazy about Junior and always wanted to know how he was doing and what he was doing and things like that. She took very good care of me in every way. I won an award for teaching one time, and there were five of us. Four men and me. And I know that it was because she liked my teaching and appreciated it, and so.

DM:
Very good.

JA:
We had wonderful times with college kids from the beginning. For a while we asked all the kids who came to Tech from Ranger—sometime during the semester—we would ask them to come and eat with us.

DM:
Oh good. Yeah.

JA:
And so we asked about four or five of them to come one time. This guy turned over his tea and [laughter] so I said, "It doesn't matter. It doesn't matter." We sopped it up and said, "Everything is okay." And he said, "Well, I'm just embarrassed. A kid like me." And I said, "My kids do it all the time." And they were like seven or eight. [Laughter] And so we did that. But we had—in those days they would let us have a football player to be—we would be the host family. And we did a lot of that, and had great times with those guys. We did pheasant on one Sunday, which was Super Bowl Sunday. And we had the guy come. His name was Dane Kerns. Is that right?

EFA:

That's right.

EFA:

That's right.

JA:

And he's now the principal, I think, at Wilson. I mean he's the superintendent at Wilson now. But anyway, he's a great big guy from Perryton. Huge guy. So we took all the furniture in here and put it on the patio in that January day, and we gave everybody a pillow. And everybody laid on the floor and watched the ball game. Well when we were at the table and we were eating that pheasant, this big baking dish that I had had about that much of pheasant dressing in that end and I just kind of jokingly said, "Dane, would you like a little more dressing?" He said, "Yeah, just give me what's left." [laughter] "Okay." I gave him what's left and he ate that. Well we're all in here on our stomach watching the ball game. He's lying on his back looking over at. "I shouldn't have eaten that last quail dressing." [laughter] Anyway, we would love to see him sometime.

DM:

But what—so nice to have all that interaction.

JA:

Yeah.

EFA:

Well it's good to have visited with you.

DM:

Yeah, really enjoyed that. I appreciate y'all talking to me this afternoon. I'll go ahead and turn this off. Okay.

JA:

Name is Lance White.

DM:

Lance Wyatt?

JA:

White.

DM:

W-h-i-t-e?

JA:

Um-hm. You see I have some new teeth and it's hard to say some words. But anyway he was in one of my classes, but he eventually became one of the assistant girls' basketball coaches. And we had wonderful fun with that basketball coach and with Lance White. And he's now assistant coach at Florida State in Tallahassee.

DM:

Um-hm. Wow.

JA:

And so we get to see him when Florida State is playing women's basketball down there.

DM:

Right. Oh isn't that great?

JA:

But it'd be great—He did lots of things with us. They lived at the same address across 34th and over to 42nd. Across the street from Candy Land. The same—he has the same address—3819 42nd.

DM:

Oh really?

JA:

So that's it.

DM:

[Laughs] Okay.

JA:

I appreciate you coming too.

DM:

Well, thank you.

End of Recording