

Tenth Annual Presentation

RICE ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME and DISTINGUISHED R MAN AWARD



7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1981

R ROOM

RICE STADIUM

HOUSTON, TEXAS

HALL OF FAME

"To be eligible to receive the Hall of Fame award, the recipient shall possess or shall have possessed, in addition to outstanding ability in sport or sports, other qualifications such as sportsmanship, character and integrity, and be one who has brought great distinction to Rice University; and shall have completed his athletic eligibility or service with the Athletic Department of Rice University at least five (5) years prior to his selection."

DISTINGUISHED R MAN

The qualifications for the Distinguished R Man Award are as follows:

Must be a member of the R Association.

Must have lettered in athletics at Rice.

Must have shown an interest in athletics at Rice after graduation.

Must be a graduate of Rice University.

Candidate must have led an exemplary life, well adjusted with respect to his personal, family, civic and public responsibilities and served his community in an outstanding manner.

Must have excelled and achieved distinction and success in his own chosen field of business or profession.

... From R Association By-Laws

PROGRAM

RECEPTION . . . *Honorees, their families, and officials of the R Association*
Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres

WELCOME

For the University

TRIBUTES TO HALL OF FAME HONOREES

Dr. Joseph Greenwood, '30

Ronnie Fisher, '61

John Sylvester, Sr., '36

Dr. Dave Roberts, '74

Gilbert Leach, '30

W. C. Treadway, '54

Closing Remarks

By J. D. "Bucky" Allshouse '71
President, R Association

Dr. Norman Hackerman
President

J. D. "Bucky" Allshouse '71
Chairman

Hall of Fame

Hall of Fame

Hall of Fame

Hall of Fame

Distinguished "R" Man

Distinguished "R" Man

Robby Shelton, '69

PREVIOUSLY INDUCTED

HALL OF FAME

*Philip H. Arbuckle, '06 (Chicago)

Percy Arthur, '35

*H. L. "Tony" Bell, '19

*Claude Bracey, '30

Louis H. "Smoky" Brothers, '36

*W. Edward "Mike" Brown, '17

*Emmett Brunson, '29

Frank Carswell, '41

Richard Chapman, '54

Bill Tom Closs, '43

*Leslie Coleman, '22

J. Tom Cox, '50

W. M. "Bill" Cummins, '48

Robert W. "Bobby" Curtis, '48

Joe W. Davis, '28

(Southwestern of Memphis)

Gilbert "Buddy" Dial, '59

*Eddie Dyer, '22

R. T. "Tally" Eaton, '36

Arthur C. "Art" Goforth, '42

*Cecil B. Grigg

(Austin College)

Frank Guernsey, '41

Fred Hansen, '63

Fred "Moose" Hartman, '41

Lou Hassell, '33

Bill Henry, '45

*Jake Hess, '32

Wilbur Hess, '35

King Hill, '58

Bill Howton, '52

John B. Hudson, '54

Weldon Humble, '47

David "Kosse" Johnson, '54

Dr. Gaylord Johnson, '21

Robert E. "Bob" Johnston, '62

*E. F. "Tiny" Kalb, '18

Huey Keeney, '49

*Lawrence M. Kingsland, '19

Bob Kinney, '42

*Chester F. "Smockey" Klaerner, '33

Don K. Lance, '58

Dr. Charles P. "Chuck" Latourette, '67

*Marion "Preacher" Lindsey, '22

Dick Maegle, '55

John W. Magee, '48

John R. "Bobby" May, '65

*H. Palmer "Peg" Melton, '24

*John McCauley, '36

Vern V. McGrew, '50

Jess Neely, '24 (Vanderbilt)

Hamilton J. Nichols, Jr., '47

Jack Patterson, '39

Kenny Paul, '54

James C. "Jess" Petty, Jr., '35

Dr. Walter E. "Ed" Red, '65

Kendall L. Rhine, '65

Don Rhoden, '53

Tom Robitaille, '59

*Carl F. "Buddy" Russ, '48

Frank Ryan, '58

Gene Schwinger, '54

Fred J. Stancliff, '26

*A. M. "Tommie" Tomforde, '17

*John "Big Heavy" Underwood, '22

*Wash "Little Heavy" Underwood, '27

Griff D. Vance, '20

Malcolm E. Walker, '65

Bill Wallace, '36

George Walmsley, '48

Joe L. Watson, '50

Gerald Weatherly, '50

John B. "Buddy" Weaver, '52

Dave Weichert, '37

James "Froggie" Williams, '50

Harry Witt, '33

*Eddie Wojecki (Trainer)

*Fred Wolcott, '40

DISTINGUISHED R MEN

1969 — Herbert Allen

1970 — H. L. "Tony" Bell, '19*

1971 — H. Malcolm Lovett, '21

Fred J. Stancliff, '26

Lou Hassell, '33

1972 — Emmett Brunson, '29*

John B. Coffee, '34

Weldon G. Humble, '47

George R. Miner, '50

Ralph W. Noble II, '48

Howard D. Fulwiler, '17

1973 — A. M. "Red" Bale, '36

1974 — Robert F. "Bob" Loughridge, '28

1975 — Dr. James Greenwood, Jr., '27

1976 — Harry H. Fouke, '35

1978 — W. C. "Speedy" Moore, '40

1980 — W. E. "Billy Ed" Daniels, '53

W. L. "Dutch" McKinnon, '29

Lyle L. Payne, '30

*Deceased



JOE GREENWOOD

He is now Joseph Harris Greenwood, M.D., retired since 1974 after a distinguished career of long medical service at famed Scott & White Clinic in Temple, Texas. About fifty years ago, however, he was an undergrad student at Rice Institute and one of the finest amateur golfers in all of Texas.

In fact, young Joe Greenwood was the Texas Junior Champion golfer of 1928, a title he won on the famous Brackenridge course in San Antonio while in his early years at Rice.

He played well for Rice in the spring of '28, but it was in the seasons of 1929 and 1930 that young Greenwood won his greatest measure of fame as a golfer and Owl athlete.

He was medalist for the Rice team that won consecutive Southwest Conference titles in those years. In '29 at the Rivercrest Country Club in Fort Worth with T.C.U. as host school, the Owls won the SWC crown by 11 strokes with Greenwood low man for Rice, and helped by Carl Illig, Dan Smith, and Harold Cohn. Forest Lee Andrews and Don Sturges also were on the squad that title year.

In 1930 it was Greenwood, Andrews, Illig, and Blake as the top four for a repeat championship while edging the always tough University of Texas by two strokes.

It was a "different world" than the present era of college golf where many of the top players go on to professional careers in sports. But the competition in the 1920's and 1930's was just as spirited and the golf was top notch among men who were to become doctors and lawyers and executives after college golfing days.

Our honoree on this occasion, by the way, has gained acclaim for his contributions in the field of medicine with his entire career at Scott & White in Temple after finishing UT Medical School at Galveston in 1934.

Dr. Greenwood kept his golf game in good shape for a long time after his Rice title team days while serving at the clinic. He was Temple Country Club champion and set a course record 67 in a tournament in the 1940's to raise funds for the Red Cross in the World War II era.

A career highlight was to tie for first in a pro-am best ball event at the Houston Open of 1930 with world famed pro Craig Wood.

Dr. Greenwood also treasures a letter from the beloved late J. T. McCants of the Rice Institute administration in 1928 congratulating him on his golfing prowess, but reminding of hopes he would be "bringing distinction to your Alma Mater in the more serious affairs of life as you have done now in a sport which we admire and enjoy."

This fine gentleman from a whole large family of Greenwoods who have served Rice so well in academics and athletics did as Mr. McCants suggested. He was president of the Bell County Medical Society, and served on the Scott & White Board of Governors for eight years.

Dr. Greenwood was born in Seguin on August 30, 1908. His father soon went to Galveston to become professor of Pediatrics & Clinical Pathology at the UT Medical School in Galveston. Then he came to Houston in 1913 to build a sanitarium. It was in Houston that young Joe Greenwood graduated from Central High in 1926, from Rice in 1930, and Texas Medical School at Galveston in 1934. There followed 40 years of medical service in Temple, and a lot of good times golfing!

As a star of one of Rice's earliest Southwest Conference title teams of any spot, it is a pleasure to welcome this man into the Rice Athletic Hall of Fame.



RONNIE FISHER

Rice has received considerable impressive recognition both on national and international levels through the years for its exceptional tennis players who distinguish themselves in business or professional careers after graduation.

Our honoree in 1981 for Rice Athletic Hall of Fame status is Ronald William Fisher, an All-American in 1961 and second team All-American in 1959. Ronnie Fisher is one of a long line of "name" netters to play for Rice, such as Jake and Wilbur Hess, Frank Guernsey, Bobby Curtis, Sam Match, Paul Como, John Pickens, Butch Seewagen, Mike Estep, Zan Guerry, Harold Solomon, and many more.

Fisher was a foremost "name" Owl at a peak period when Rice won team and individual titles in the Southwest Conference in almost routine fashion in the late 50's—early 60's era. He played 1958, 1959, skipped 1960 when he had a heavy study load, and had a big senior 1961 season when he made All-American, won the prestigious Rice Invitational singles title, and made the quarter finals of the NCAA.

Ron still plays the game, but his contributions now to tennis are more of an administrative nature than on court. Fisher has a position of distinction in tennis hierarchy as a regional vice-president and on the management committee of the powerful U.S. Tennis Association. He also helps in fund raising and support of the Owls' tennis program supervised by present Rice net coach Larry Turville.

When he isn't playing or serving as an administrator, Fisher is working hard at his profession since earning a BA in Mathematics at Rice in May of 1961. He has been with IBM in Houston for 16 years, and is now senior systems representative for the Data Processing Division of IBM in Houston. Combining his livelihood and love of tennis, Ronnie is a major contributor to a developing program for rating tennis players by use of computers for rankings information.

During and after his Rice years when he was at a peak as a player in his early twenties, Fisher had the thrill of playing a Wimbledon and in the U.S. Nationals at Forest Hills. He ranked in the national amateur top 20 in 1961 and a bit after graduation, he and Cliff Buchholz were in the national Top Ten for doubles play.

A Texan since age 2, Ronnie was born August 28, 1939 in St. Paul, Minnesota. His parents are M/M Louis Fisher, and they are avid fans who saw most of Ron's matches at Rice and those of younger brother Billy playing for UT-Austin. Billy is now in insurance in New York, while middle brother Bob, a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering with Lockheed, did not play competitive tennis. Although in his mid-seventies, the elder Fisher still plays in tournaments for players 70-plus in age.

The father's Fisher Construction Company built the Rice home courts, Jake Hess Tennis Stadium, as well as Rayzor and Sewell Halls on the campus.

Ronnie is married to the former Debby Canine of Corpus Christi, a UT honors graduate with an LL.B. from University of Houston Law School. She now is with Gulf Oil.

Fisher was state amateur champion for juniors (18-under) right after he finished his high school play at San Jacinto High of Houston. He was ranked no. 1 junior in Texas, no. 4 nationally.

Ronnie was recruited for Rice by the Owl coach of that time, George Richey. Coach Richey had two small children who accompanied him to virtually every match and workout at Rice. They became international stars of tennis a few years ago as the famous brother-sister duo of Cliff Richey and Nancy Richey.

Ron Fisher had many titles he won for Rice's honor as an undergrad, and he beat some world class players. Among his wins were ones over Chuck McKinley, Fred Stolle, Marty Mulligan, and Frank Froehling.



JOHN "LECHE" SYLVESTER

It is a circumstance of great pride when a university has TWO generations of star athletes from the same family. Our specific honoree on this occasion is John Sylvester, Sr., an all-Southwest Conference end for Rice Institute in the 1930's. It is noteworthy John Sylvester, Jr. became a star Owl end in the 1960's for Rice University.

This tribute, however, centers on the senior Sylvester, who still is known by the nickname "Leche" he brought with him from home town Brownsville at the southern tip of the USA to star in football at Rice under coaches Jack Meagher and then Jimmy Kitts. Although Brownsville was the "old home town," "Leche" was born in Monroe, Wisconsin on October 21, 1911.

A fine gridiron talent as an end, Sylvester was an Owl 3-letterman who made All-Southwest Conference in 1934 and 1935, and won Honorable Mention for All-America, with a Card of Merit from the Christy Walsh All America Board of Football.

The rugged Sylvester also had the honor to play in the famed Shrine East-West All-Star game in 1936 when that was a particular honor before the proliferation of post-season games of the present time. He also played two all-star games in Hawaii with a U.S. All-Star team in January of 1936.

Sylvester was one of many exceptional Rice Institute grid stars of that golden era for Owl football in the mid-thirties. Among his teammates were such "name" stars as Bill Wallace (National Football Hall of Fame in 1979), John McCauley, retired Rice athletic director "Red" Bale, retired University of Houston athletic director Harry Fouke, and many more.

The greatest thrill, perhaps, was to be a member of the first Rice team to win a Southwest Conference football title under Kitts in 1934.

Selection for the Rice Athletic Hall of Fame is based on a criteria of success as a citizen after graduation, as well as stellar performance as an Owl undergraduate athlete.

"Leche" Sylvester qualifies impressively on both counts. After his gridiron days at Rice, he went to work for what was then Humble Oil & Refining Company at Baytown in February of 1936. He retired in 1972 as Employee Relations Manager of Exxon Chemical's Baytown plant after 36½ years of service. Included in that period was two years duty as Employee Relations Manager for Esso Eastern's Vietnam and Cambodia Division plants in Saigon during the Vietnam War.

Since retirement from Exxon, Sylvester has been very active in civic service as Executive Director of the Baytown United Way, on the board of directors of the Baytown Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Urban Rehabilitation Committee. He also is treasurer of the Exxon Baytown Credit Union. Over the years "Leche" has been president of the Houston Personnel Association, as well as active in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Little League Baseball. He has been an active officer in Kiwanis, and helped organize the Goose Creek Country Club. The man just does not know how to slow down, and he is constantly helping worthy causes.

The Sylvester family is Rice all the way since lovely wife Lilian is Class of '35 of Rice, as well as second generation All-SWC end John, Jr. in the 1960's. But it might be noted Mrs. Sylvester, Jr. is a former Sweetheart of the University of Texas! Daughter Lynn is now Mrs. James A. Mashburn of Midland. There are five Sylvester, Sr. grandchildren.

Not only was "Leche" a top athlete, but he was one of the brightest students among the Owl gridders. So it was he had a unique "extra duty" when Rice teams had long train trips in those long gone but memorable days of the thirties. In order to pass the time favorably, Sylvester would tutor classes of the players on the train rides. It must have helped. Players from that era did well after graduation, as well as on the gridiron for the Rice Owls.



DR. DAVE ROBERTS

Qualified observers of the world of sports have contended over the years the most demanding activity of ALL sports is the pole vault in track and field. It can be presumed the athlete who sets a world record in this severe test of speed, strength, agility, discipline, etc. could claim to be the finest athlete in the world.

Rice University is proud that not one, but TWO holders of the world record in the pole vault were former Owls — Fred Hansen in the 1960's and Dave Roberts in the 1970's. It is perhaps also significant both men lived up to the goal of Rice to produce genuine student-athletes. Dr. Fred Hansen is now a dentist in Houston, and Dr. Dave Roberts is an M.D. practicing in Savannah, Georgia.

Now it is time for Dr. Roberts to join the elite list of Owl athletes named to the Rice Athletic Hall of Fame.

His qualifications are obvious. Dave set the world record of 18-8¼ in 1976 at the U.S. Olympic Trials in Oregon that stood as the world mark for a remarkable four years. He is also the only man in history to win the pole vault title outright in NCAA competition for all three varsity seasons.

Dave's last title was highly dramatic. In 1973 at Baton Rouge, where L.S.U. hosted the event, Roberts sustained an injury in Friday prelims. His last chance on a third try and it was all on the line for the title or to finish down in the field. He made it.

Roberts won the National AAU title with his first 18-foot vault. He won the Trials as a graduate in 1976, but was "only" third in the Olympic Games at Montreal in 1976 when he had to vault in rain and wind after foes had earlier attempts in better conditions.

The Roberts story began in the 1960's when he set a state high school record for Conroe High School. He had a Conroe teammate in Gary Butler, who was the state discus champion as well as a great record as a schoolboy end in football.

Both of these superior athletes pledged to Rice under the regime of the late track coach Emmett Brunson, and extended under Brunson successor Augie Erfurth in track, as well as grid coach Bo Hagan. Roberts became a national champion in track, and Butler became a second team All-America tight end under Bo.

On this occasion we recognize Roberts as one of the great athletes of Rice history, as well as one of the finest student-athletes in Owl annals. He was a major in anthropology and psychology, and stayed a fifth year for medical school qualifications while continuing his pole vault career. He continued to compete while a medical school student at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Dave was born July 23, 1951 and so is still on the "sunny side of 30." He grew up in a wholesome outdoor atmosphere as the son of a noted breeder of quarterhorses in the area north of Houston. He continued to develop as an athlete and student at Rice, where he was three times on the President's Honor Roll in the classroom. He took med school qualifying courses as a fifth year student while continuing his progress in the demanding field of pole vaulting.

He began his college career under the late great Brunson, and continued under Erfurth, now director of athletics at Rice, who coached the last Rice Southwest Conference title team of 1971 in a dramatic victory at College Station over the favored Texas Aggies.

Roberts stands as a classic example of an athlete who can also qualify as a top notch student.

It is with great pleasure we recognize him on this occasion as a new member of the Rice Athletic Hall of Fame.

GILBERT L. LEACH Distinguished "R" Man



There is no more loyal or hard working Rice ex with an interest in the athletic program for the university than this gentleman. His support goes back to the Jess Neely era when he was the alumni representative to the Committee for Outdoor Sports that supervised the entire athletic program. He was a charter member of the Owl Club and a vice-president in its beginning year. Mr. Leach has also been a vice-president of the "R" Association of former lettermen.

His recognition on this occasion is richly deserved, for Gilbert Leach has given much of his time and income to his alma mater, for whom he played some varsity sports before getting his BS in Chemical Engineering in 1930 and made the Dean's List twice. Mr. Leach is a Houstonian all the way! He is a fourth generation resident of Harris County. He attended old Central High before entering Rice Institute in the late twenties.

Most of his career was as an engineer after doing post-grad work at Carnegie Tech of Pittsburgh. He was a founding partner for the Metallic Building Company of Houston. He started the firm in 1946, and was its president from 1967 to 1972. Metallic was long identified as a sponsor for Rice basketball broadcasts some years ago, and Mr. Leach has worked on many fund raising drives both for the university as a whole and for support of the athletic program.

Mr. Leach in his career as an engineer has served from 1928 to the present for Gulf Oil, Universal Engineering, Freeport Sulphur Company, the Dow Chemical Company, refinery manager during

World War II for J. S. Abercrombie Company. He has been in the highly critical post of Southwest Industry Representative on the War Production Board, with the responsibility of allocating critical refinery equipment to plants on the entire Gulf Coast, plus Oklahoma and Texas points, to maximize aviation gasoline production.

You will see Gilbert Leach with his perennial friendly smile close to where the action is for Rice athletics, just waiting his turn to pitch in and make a contribution by service or funds or whatever means to help improve the overall image of Rice athletics.

Not only is this man active in service to his employer and his alma mater, but he is active in a variety of ways to help others. He is immediate past Chairman of the Board of Governors of the local Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. He was on the Board of the Metropolitan YMCA for Greater Houston for 24 years. He is a past co-chairman for key divisions for the United Fund drive in Houston. He was recipient of the Hall of Fame award for the Metal Building Manufacturers Association after serving as its Chairman of the Board. He also was recipient of the Scottish Rice KCCCH award, and is a Master Mason. Mr. Leach is a past director of what now is First International Bank.

This new Distinguished "R" Man belongs to Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, and lives near it in a comfortable residence just off Memorial Drive. He was an original member and a past president of the Memorial Drive Country Club. But his greatest interest is in supporting Owl athletics in all sports. Gilbert Leach is a man who earns the accolade that he "gets with the program!"

W. C. TREADWAY Distinguished "R" Man



In his earliest association with the school then known as The Rice Institute, this gentleman who is now a prominent and proper business executive was just a hard-nosed, tough San Jacinto High football guard. He was recruited for the Owls by that famous coaching duo of head man Jess Neely and line coach Joe Davis.

Treadway, a native of the small East Texas town of Huntington (13 miles east of Lufkin), was a Houston all-city schoolboy star in the late forties. He played for San Jac in what was the first football game ever televised "live" in Houston.

The sturdy Treadway was a very solid, dependable, rugged Owl who played on the 1953 Southwest Conference co-championship club that won the Cotton Bowl game over Alabama. He played a lot of football for Rice as a down lineman in that successful period for the gridiron sport at "The Institute," as it was often referred to by fans of that era.

His selection as a Distinguished "R" Man, however, is based not only on his athletic prowess, but even more so on the many fine contributions this man has made to his alma mater and to the community through the years.

Before becoming a business executive with Rice University and civic service W. C. became a high school football coach with the Houston Independent School District. He was head coach at Jones High of Houston and when his Falcons made the state quarterfinals in 1964, Treadway was picked as

high school "Coach of the Year" for the Houston area.

It was after that successful season that W. C. became associated with the American Amicable Life Insurance Company, and now he is full time into that field with considerable success.

Just consider that in a relatively few years as an insurance executive Treadway has won the Agency of the Year honors with his firm, has become a member of the insurance Hall of Fame, a member of the company President's Cabinet, and a member of the Million Dollar Round Table.

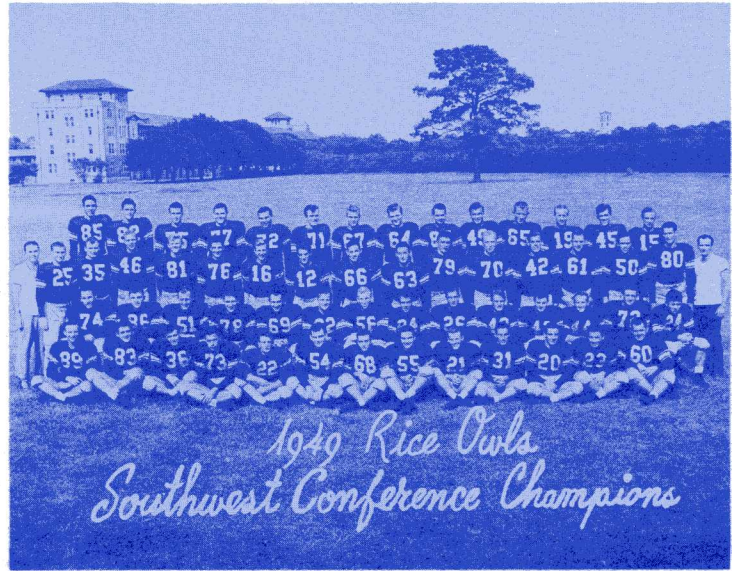
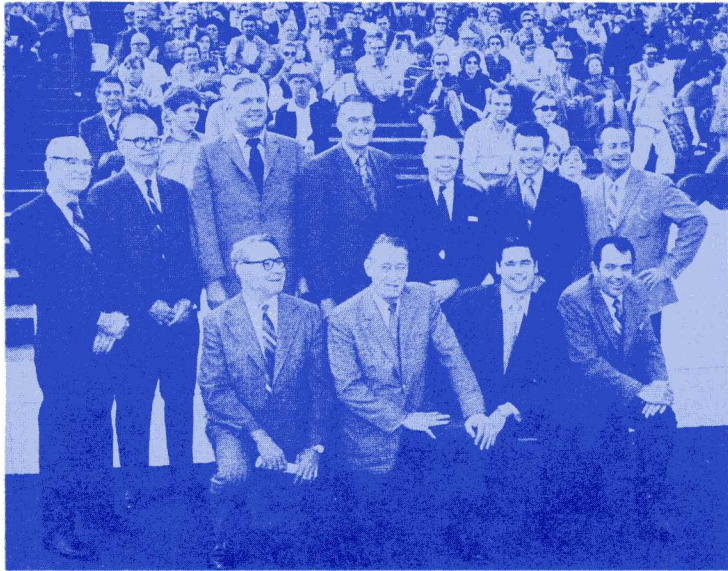
All the while, this active gentleman who gives so generously of his time for favorable causes has served for the American Cancer Crusade, the Red Shield Boys Club, Fun Football, Inc., the Houston chapter of the American Red Cross, and for several Methodist churches.

The former Owl guard also has given long and varied service to his alma mater, and particularly for the athletic program. He helped plan the present facility of the Owl Club at Rice Stadium. He became president of the "R" Association of ex-lettermen in 1974-75. He has been an official from director to President of the Owl Club. W. C. was a sponsor for the All-Sports banquets at Rice in the spring in 1979 and 1980.

He is president of Treadway & Associates helping with employee and benefit programs, based in Houston where Treadway (same as Owl head coach Ray Alborn) has spent all his career as a Rice player, then high school coach, before going into insurance.

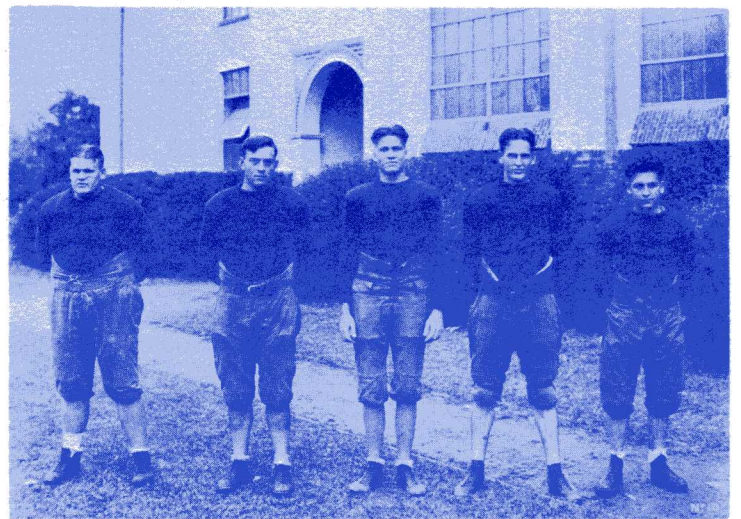
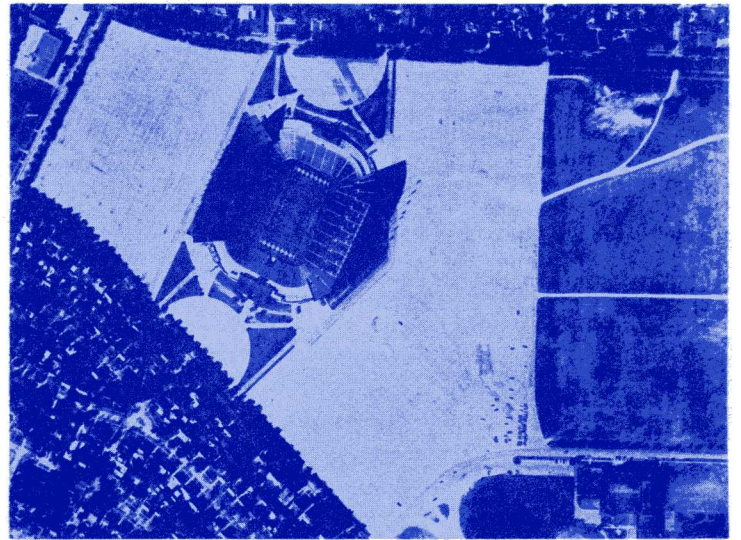
Treadway now is a very special aide to long time secretary-treasurer of the Owl Club, Fred Stancliff, Sr., for matters pertaining to that organization.

Treadway is married to the former Ginger Dobbs and they have six children, and two grandchildren.



Memories

A collection of Rice sports pictures of the past, including the first group of inductees for the Rice Athletic Hall of Fame on November 21, 1970 when they assembled at an Owl football game at Rice Stadium that afternoon.



A GREAT SPORTS PICTURE OF A GREAT RICE ATHLETE



Photo by Houston Sports Association

1981 Rice Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, former world record vaulter Dave Roberts, competing in the Astrodome in the 1970's.