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Interview no. 306

H. E. Van Surdam

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UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

INSTITUTE OF ORAL HISTORY

INTERVIEWEE: H. E. VAN SURDAM (1881-)
INTERVIEWER: Dale L. Walker, Robert L. Shumaker, Nancy Hamilton
PROJECT: _____
DATE OF INTERVIEW: January 4, 1978
TERMS OF USE: Unrestricted
TAPE NO.: 306
TRANSCRIPT NO.: _____
TRANSCRIBER: _____
DATE TRANSCRIBED: _____

BIOGRAPHICAL SYNOPSIS OF INTERVIEWEE:

Founder of the Texas School of Mines, now U.T. El Paso.
Born in Hoosick Falls, New York in 1881; played football at Wesleyan University; coached football in Ohio; credited with inventing the forward pass in football.

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW:

Athletics in El Paso in the early 1900s; how started the Texas School of Mines in 1913; development of the symphony in El Paso; experiences as a football player at Wesleyan; experiences coaching and invention of the forward pass; officiating at football games; writing a sports column for the Hoosick Falls (New York) Standard Press and the Washington County Post since 1930.

40 minutes; 4 pages of notes on the interview