

# ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-2009-0001

HLC DATE:

February 23, 2009

PC DATE:

March 24, 2009

APPLICANT: Amy Michelle Paris-White

HISTORIC NAME: McMillen-Falk House

WATERSHED: Waller Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 4213 Avenue D

ZONING FROM: SF-3-NCCD to SF-3-H-NCCD

SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from single family residence, neighborhood conservation (SF-3-NCCD) combining district to single family residence – Historic Landmark, neighborhood conservation (SF-3-H-NCCD) combining district zoning.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION: February 23, 2009: Recommended the proposed zoning change from single family residence, neighborhood conservation (SF-3-NCCD) combining district to single family residence – Historic Landmark, neighborhood conservation (SF-3-H-NCCD) combining district zoning. Vote: 5-0 (Myers and Rosato absent).

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended the proposed zoning change from single family residence, neighborhood conservation (SF-3-NCCD) combining district to single family residence – Historic Landmark, neighborhood conservation (SF-3-H-NCCD) combining district zoning. Vote: 9-0.

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The house is listed in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984) but without a priority for research.

CITY COUNCIL DATE: April 23, 2009

ACTION:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1<sup>ST</sup> 2<sup>ND</sup> 3<sup>RD</sup>

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The ca. 1916 house is an excellent example of a transitional Craftsman-style bungalow, and is associated with Bibb Falk, UT's baseball coach for many years.

**Architecture:**

One-story rectangular-plan pyramidal-roofed frame bungalow with a front-gabled partial-width independent porch on plain square wood posts; 1:1 fenestration. The house has a one-story rectangular-plan addition to the rear.

**Historical Associations:**

The house was built ca. 1916 by Luther McMillen, a contractor who owned several lots in the vicinity. The 1914 city directory does not reveal any houses on this site; the 1916 city directory shows houses at 4211, 4213, and 4215 Avenue D, but they are all listed as vacant. By 1918, the house was occupied by Edward G. and Elsie D. Wood; he was the office manager for Texas Bitulithic, a paving contractor. Luther M. McMillen and his wife Maud, are listed as the owners and occupants of the house from 1920 through 1922. Joseph B. McClung, a clerk, and his wife Roxie, are shown as the tenants here in the 1924 directory; Newton A. Moore, and his wife Lee Belle, rented this house in 1927 while he was attending the University of Texas. John L. and Exa Robb rented the house from 1929 until around 1933; he worked as a lineman for the Western Union Telegraph Company. Frank E. Evans, and his wife Lenna are listed as the owners and occupants in 1935; he worked as a carpenter, and she was a nurse. Joel J. and Mary Cloud rented the house from 1937 to 1940. The 1940 city directory shows Cloud employed by the County Auditor's office. Otto L. and Clara Willbanks rented the house in 1941; he was a plater for the State Highway Department. The 1942 directory shows the house rented by Emil W. Peters, a carpenter, and his wife Louise. Gus Falk, a fireman for the Houston and Texas Central Railroad, and a railroad car inspector, purchased the house in 1942. Gus and Christine Falk's children Bibb and Elsie, are listed in city directories as residents of the house from the 1940s onward. Elsie Falk worked as an office secretary and stenographer for insurance adjustment bureaus in the 1940s. Gus Falk and his wife Christine had both been born in Sweden, and met after both had emigrated to the United States. Prior to moving into this house, the Falk family had lived at 1408 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Bibb Falk (1899-1989) was born in Austin, and served as the head baseball coach for the University of Texas from 1940 to 1967; under his leadership, the team won two National Championships (1949 and 1950) and 20 Southwest Conference championships. Prior to becoming coach at UT, Falk played professional baseball, replacing "Shoeless Joe" Jackson in 1920 with the Chicago White Sox after Jackson was banished from baseball after the infamous World Series gambling scandal. After 8 seasons with the White Sox, during which he was second only to Babe Ruth as the top batter in the American League, Falk was traded to the Cleveland Indians, where he played until his retirement in 1931. He went on to coach a minor league team in Toledo, Ohio, then returned to Austin. He took over UT's baseball program in 1940 when Billy Disch, Falk's former coach, retired. Falk retired in 1967 with a record of 478 wins and 176 losses. His contributions to UT baseball and winning record earned him national recognition; Disch-Falk Field, UT's baseball stadium, was named for him and former coach Billy Disch in 1975. Bibb Falk died in Austin in 1989 at the age of 90.

**PARCEL NO.:** 02200602070000

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Lots 3 and 4, Block 23, Hyde Park Addition No. 1.

**ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT:** \$4,577 (owner-occupied); city portion: \$1,113

**APPRAISED VALUE:** \$376,269

**PRESENT USE:** Single-family residence.

**CONDITION:** Excellent

**PRESENT OWNER:**

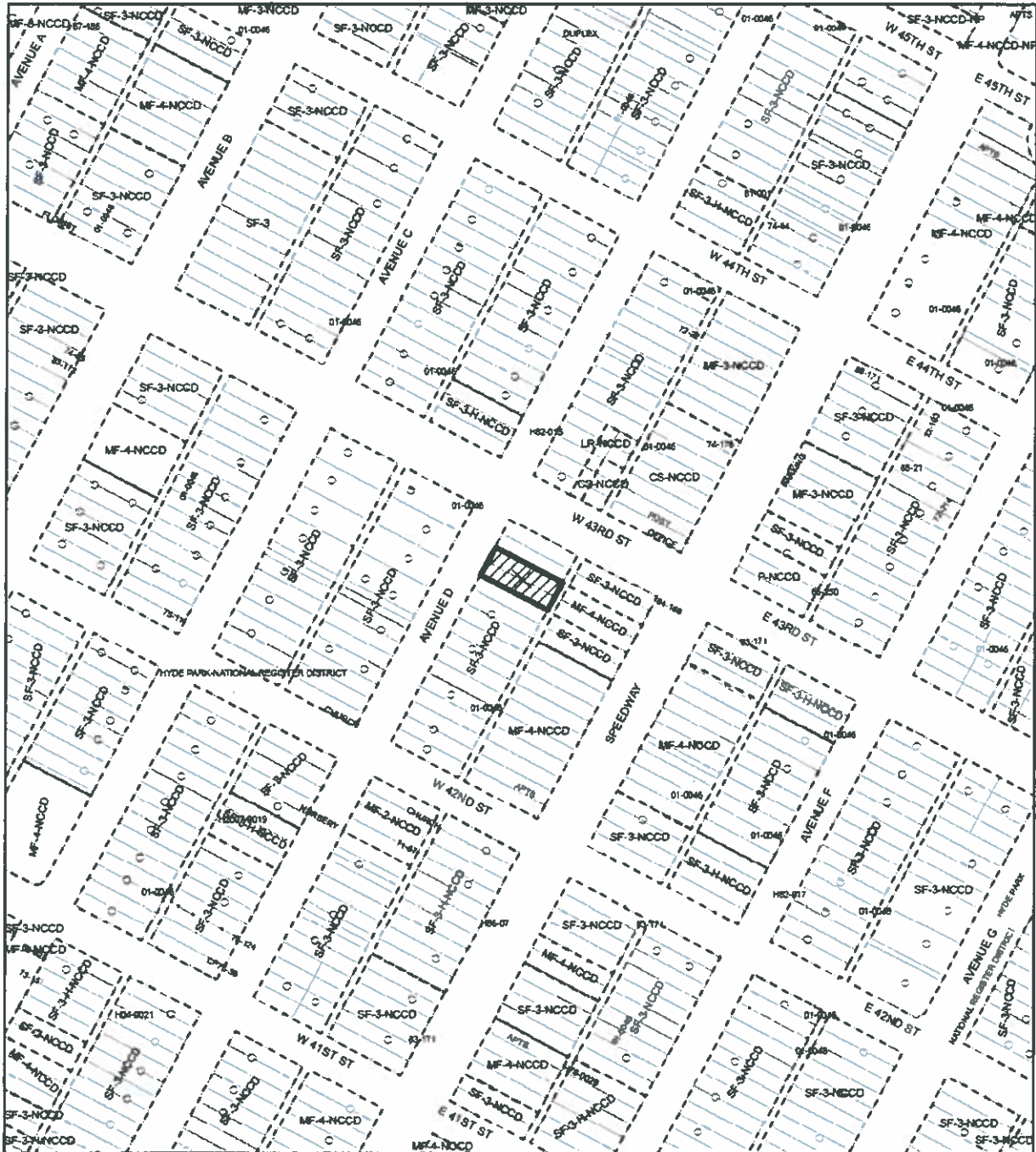
Douglas and Michelle Paris-White  
4213 Avenue D  
Austin, Texas 78751

**DATE BUILT:** ca. 1916

**ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS:** A one-story rear addition was added to the house by the current owners in 2008.

**ORIGINAL OWNER(S):** Luther McMillen (1916)

**OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS:** None.



1" = 200'

SUBJECT TRACT

ZONING BOUNDARY

PENDING CASE

OPERATOR: S. MEEKS

#### HISTORIC ZONING

ZONING CASE#: C14H-2009-0001  
 ADDRESS: 4213 AVENUE D  
 SUBJECT AREA: 0.000 ACRES  
 GRID: J25  
 MANAGER: S. SADOWSKY

This map has been produced by G.I.S. Services for the sole purpose of geographic reference.  
 No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.



4213 Avenue D  
McMillen-Falk House  
ca. 1916



OCCUPANCY HISTORY  
4213 Avenue D

City Directory Research, Austin History Center  
By City Historic Preservation Office  
January, 2009

1987	A: Bibb A. Falk, owner Retired B: Vacant
1981	Bibb A. Falk, owner Retired
1976	Elsie M. Falk, owner Retired  Bibb A. Falk Retired
1969	Elsie M. Falk, owner Retired  Bibb A. Falk Retired

1963	<p>Gus H. Falk, owner No occupation listed</p> <p>Elsa M. Falk No occupation listed</p> <p>Bibb A. Falk Coach, University of Texas</p>
1958	<p>Gus H. Falk, owner No occupation listed</p> <p>Elsa Falk No occupation listed</p> <p>Bibb A. Falk Coach, University of Texas</p>
1953	<p>Gus H. Falk, owner No occupation listed</p> <p>Elsie Falk No occupation listed</p> <p>Bibb A. Falk Baseball coach, University of Texas</p>
1949	<p>Gus H. and Christine Falk, owners No occupation listed</p> <p>Bibb A. Falk Assistant baseball coach, University of Texas</p> <p>Elsie M. Falk Office secretary, General Adjustment Bureau, 405 Capital National Bank Building</p>
1947	<p>Gus and Christine Falk, owners No occupation listed</p> <p>Bibb A. Falk Coach, University of Texas</p> <p>Elsie Falk Stenographer Fire Companies Adjustment Bureau, 405 Capital National Bank Building.</p>
1944-45	<p>Gus H. and Christine Falk, owners No occupation listed NOTE: Bibb and Elsie Falk are not listed in the directory. This directory was published when Bibb Falk was serving in the military during World War II.</p>
1942	<p>Emil W. and Louise Peters, renters Carpenter</p>
1941	<p>Otto L. and Clara Willbanks, renters Plater, State Highway Department</p>

1940	Joel J. and Mary M. Cloud, renters Employed by the County Auditor's Office
1937	Joel J. and Mary Cloud, renters No occupation listed
1935	Frank E. and Lenna Evans, owners Frank: Carpenter Lenna: Nurse
1932-33	John L. and Exa Robb, renters Lineman
1930-31	John L. and Exa Robb, renters No occupation listed
1929	John L. and Exa Robb, renters Lineman, Western Union Telegraph Company
1927	Newton A. and Lee Belle Moore, renters Student, University of Texas
1924	Joseph B. and Roxie McClung, renters Clerk Also listed is Esther McClung, no occupation stated.
1922	Luther F. and Maud McMillen, owners Contractor
1920	Luther F. and Maud McMillen, owners Contractor NOTE: The address is listed as 4211 Avenue D.
1918	Edward G. and Elsie D. Wood, renters Office manager, Texas Bitulithic Company, paving contractors, 607 Scarbrough Building. NOTE: The house is listed as 4211 Avenue D.
1916	Vacant
1914	No addresses are listed on Avenue D which correspond to this house.

Receipt No. \_\_\_\_\_

Application for Sewer Connection

Nº 3166B

Austin, Texas, 5-22 1916

To the Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Division, City of Austin, Texas.

Sir:—

I hereby make application for sewer connection and instructions on premises owned by

at 4213 Avenue D Street,

further described as Lot 3-4 Block 23 Outlot Division

subdivision Plat. 84, which is to be used as a

In this place there are to be installed fixtures. Plumbing Permit No.

I agree to pay the City of Austin, the regular ordinance charge.

Depth at Prop. Line. \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully,

Stub Out } In alley  
Connected } (connection)

Texas Alley Co.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Connection Instruction 6" Sewer in Alley

A562

Sewer connection application for 4213 Avenue D (1916). The lot and block numbers correspond to the legal description of the current house.



# WATER SERVICE PERMIT

Austin, Texas

Sec. B4

No. 3862  
**INDEXED**

NW II

Received of \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address 4213 Ave. D.

Amount No record of old service - if service is in Ave D. stop

Plumber and not copper - renew with copper Size of Tap \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Connection 1-16-54

Size of Tap Made 3/4"

Size Service Made 3/4"

Size Main Tapped 6"

From Front Prop. Line to Curb Cock 14'

From S. Prop. Line to Curb Cock 6'

Location of Meter front

Type of Box lock

Depth of Main in St. 3'

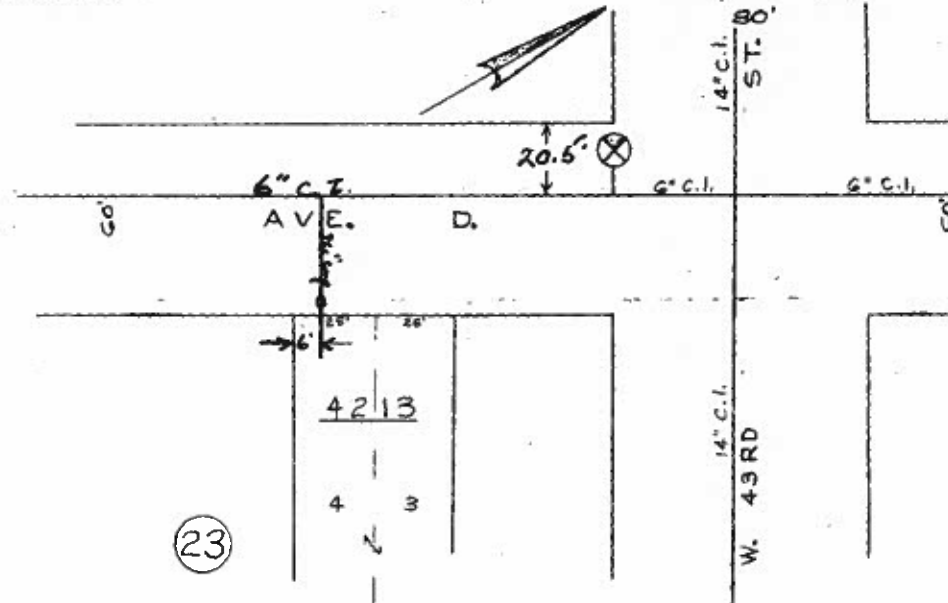
Depth of Service Line 3'

From Curb Cock to Tap on Main 26'

Checked by Engr. Dept. 2-15-54 RD

No. Fittings	Size	Corp. Cock	Elbow	St. Elbow	Bushing	Reducer	Lead Comp.	Nipples	Union	Plug	Te	Stop	Box	Lid	Valve	Job No.	Req. No.
1	3/4"	1	1				29' Pipe 3/4" cop.					1				197-3295	

**INDEXED**



Water service permit (1954)

Mr. Gustav Harald Falk married Christina Johnson in 1892. Both had been born in Sweden, he in 1869 and she in 1863, and they met only after they had come to this country. Mrs. Falk was a twin.

Mr. Falk worked variously as a fireman on the E. & T. C. Railroad and later as a railroad car inspector. Still later he served as a machinist at the Littlefield Building.\*\* The family moved to Austin in 1891 and lived here from that time on.

There were six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Falk: Elsie, Nellie, Arthur, August, Collie (christened Carl), and Chester.

The family lived for forty years in a home built for them by Mr. Oscar Kunz on a lot sold to them by Mr. Kunz at 1408 East 2nd Street across the street from the Lyman J. Bailey home. Originally the house had only three rooms; later a half story was added. In 1942, the Falks moved to 4213 Avenue D and Miss Elsie Falk and her brother August ("Ribb") still live there. Chester E. Falk and his family live at 1204 Fernwood in Austin. Collie lives in San Antonio.

Mrs. Falk died in 1952 at the age of 87 and Mr. Falk died in 1963 at the age of 94. Their daughter, Nellie Falk Engblom, died in 1918, leaving a two-day old infant daughter. Arthur ("Art") died in 1961.

As long as Mr. Falk lived, he longed to visit back in Sweden. However, he was never able to manage such a trip. Mrs. Falk had no such desire.

Hanging in the living room of the home is a small mirror which once hung in the Falk home in Sweden and was later sent to the Austin family. There are numerous other keepsakes from Sweden, including pieces of silver and exquisite linen pieces, candlesticks, and pictures of the old home place and of members of the family back there.

There are six grandchildren: Chester, Jr., Clemmie, and Ann Marie Falk; Carl and George Falk; and Nellie Engblom.

(Based on an interview with Miss Elsie Falk in October 1966)

\*\*For several years he was employed as Water Supply Operator under the Texas State Department of Health. A copy of his license is in this folder.

# THE HANDBOOK OF TEXAS Online

[return to handbook view](#)

**FALK, BIBB AUGUSTUS** (1899-1989). Bibb Augustus (Jockey) Falk, major league baseball player and longtime baseball coach at the University of Texas at Austin, was born in Austin on January 27, 1899. As a boy he sold peanuts and worked as a batboy at the local Texas League<sup>qv</sup> ballpark. He graduated from high school in 1916 and enrolled at the University of Texas in 1917. He played football well enough to earn All-Southwest Conference honors as a tackle in 1919 but became even better known as a baseball player under William J. (Uncle Billy) Disch.<sup>qv</sup> Falk was undefeated as a pitcher and batted over .400 in all three of his varsity seasons, thus leading the Longhorns to a 57-14-1 record overall (29-3 in Southwest Conference play) and three conference championships.

In the summer of 1920 Falk signed with the Chicago White Sox, who gave him a \$3,500 contract. The Sox, defending American League champions, offered to send him to the minor leagues, where he would be assured of playing regularly, but he elected to stay with the "big club" instead. He saw no action until just before the end of the season, in September, when the Black Sox scandal was revealed and eight Chicago players were banished for throwing games. Falk replaced the great Joe Jackson in left field and gave a hint of his batting prowess to come, by batting .294 in two games.

During the 1920s Falk became one of the best hitters in the American League, though he lacked the home-run power of contemporaries like Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. He also earned the nickname "Jockey" for the way he mercilessly "rode" opposing players. Falk became a regular in 1921 and batted .285 with eighty-two runs batted in; the next season he batted .298 with twelve home runs and seventy-nine runs batted in. After the 1922 season he accompanied a group of major league stars on a barnstorming tour of Japan, China, Korea, the Philippines, and Hawaii. In 1923 he batted .307, beginning a streak that saw him top the .300 mark in eight of his last nine major league seasons. In 1924 he finished third in the American League with a .352 batting average and after the season toured Europe with the White Sox and the New York Giants of the National League. Falk fell to a .301 mark in 1925, but drove in ninety-nine runs for the second year in a row; that season also marked the major league debut of his younger brother Chet, a pitcher who spent three mediocre seasons with the St. Louis Browns of the American League. Falk enjoyed his best statistical season in 1926, with a .345 batting average, eight home runs, and 108 runs batted in, and led American League outfielders in fielding percentage. He batted .327 in 1927, but in 1928 managed only a .290 average in ninety-eight games. Following that season the White Sox traded him to the Cleveland Indians for catcher Chick Autry. In 1929, his last year as a regular, Falk rebounded to bat .312 with a career-high thirteen home runs and ninety-three runs batted in. For the next two years he saw only part-time duty, but batted .325 and .304 and earned a reputation as the best pinch-hitter in the league.

In 1932 Falk served as player-manager for the Toledo Mud Hens of the American Association; as such he batted .321 as a part-timer. After the season he retired from active play. He spent the 1933 and 1934 seasons coaching for the Indians and for the

Boston Red Sox, respectively, and in 1935 returned to Austin as a scout for the Red Sox.

In April 1940 he replaced Disch after the first conference game of the season, when a heart ailment forced Uncle Billy to step down as coach. Falk led the Longhorns to their twentieth conference championship in 1940 and to another pennant the following year; in 1942, however, Texas A&M University beat Texas in the last game of the season to win the Southwest Conference<sup>97</sup> title.

Falk enlisted in the Army Air Corps in September 1942 and was stationed at Randolph Field in San Antonio, where he coached a service-league championship baseball team and served as trainer for the Randolph Ramblers football team, one of the best in the country. He returned to the University of Texas in 1946 and guided the Longhorns to three straight conference titles. In 1949 and 1950 Texas became the first college team to win back-to-back national championships.

Falk remained at Texas until 1967, compiling a 478-176 record (278-84 in the Southwest Conference). During his twenty-five years as coach the Longhorns won fifteen conference titles outright and tied for five more, and Falk's crusty demeanor and salty vocabulary became legendary. Once, when asked to assess the potential of a young player, Falk responded, "You can't make chicken salad out of chicken [bleep]." Several years later, after his retirement, Falk and his successor as Texas coach, Cliff Gustafson, were discussing the changes in the sport over the years. Gustafson asked Falk what he thought he would hit against modern pitching. Falk paused, then replied, "Oh, about .270 or .280." Gustafson, surprised by Falk's uncharacteristic modesty, asked, "There's that much difference?" "Hell, no," Falk answered. "But I'm seventy-five years old."

Falk was elected to the Longhorn Hall of Honor in 1962, the Helms Athletic Foundation College Hall of Fame in 1966, the College Baseball Hall of Fame in 1968, and the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame in 1988. In 1975 the University of Texas honored Falk and his former mentor by naming its new baseball stadium Disch-Falk Field. Falk was hospitalized with a heart ailment in May 1989 and died on June 8 of that year in Brackenridge Hospital, Austin.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:** *Daily Texan*, August 13, 1948. Wilbur Evans and Bill Little, *Texas Longhorn Baseball: Kings of the Diamond* (Huntsville, Alabama: Strode, 1983). Bill Little, "The Bibb Falk Story," *Texas Longhorns Stampede*, March 1989. John Thorn and Pete Palmer, *Total Baseball* (New York: Warner, 1989). Vertical Files, Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin.

*Martin Donell Kohout*

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Last Updated: January 17, 2008

The Daily Taxon -  
May 11, 1967.

# After 50 Years in Baseball Falk Ends Legendary Career

By MARK LONGFORD  
On July 3, 1966, Augustus Falk, Longhorn baseball coach for a quarter of a century, will retire. No longer will the "Bibber's" old adjectives, "vintage" and "classic" come to mind when one thinks of Falk. Dismissing generations of fans, players, and sportswriters, Falk's winning streak exemplifies 50th Falk, the coach. Time has carved out the living legend of 50th Falk the man.  
Like all loyal Longhorns, Falk delights in making the Texas Aggies look ridiculous and inept. In a baseball game at College Station in 1919, he did just that.  
As the Longhorns batted, "Luffy" Falk had looked the Aggies in a pre-feldamental thing, while at bat he already had gone two for two that afternoon. The partisan spectators had been restless and impatient throughout the game, and they had directed their vehemence directly at Falk.

FALK STIFFED up to the plate for the third time and closed a high, hard drive over the right field wall. As he trotted leisurely down to first base, the stands grew quieter. As the "Bibber" continued on to third, the noise from the crowd lowered to a whisper. When he reached third, Falk slowed to a walk and continued in to home plate. By this time, the stands were completely silent.

Directly in front of home plate, Falk stopped and surveyed the stands with disdain.

"What's the matter with you guys?" he yelled. "Ain't you never seen a big leaguer before?"

That game was the genesis of 50th Falk's future.  
IN THIRTEEN years as a player for Texas, Falk batted left and never lost a game as a pitcher. What became known as the "Black Sox scandal" about the home ball world after the 1919 season when eight Chicago White Sox players, in collusion with gambler Dave the World Series to the Cincinnati Reds. The subsequent homecoming by the White Sox created several hard-fought vacancies. Though he had a year of college eligibility left, Falk signed with the White Sox and landed a trade for Chicago.

He had been a pitcher at Texas, but when he reported to Chicago, Falk demanded to be shifted to the outfield. He took full advantage of his batting prowess. At first, the Sox manager refused.

Then one afternoon in 1920, the manager slipped Falk into the lineup as centerfielder.

"OH MY first time at bat, I hit a home run," Falk recalled. "The next time up, I hit another home run. The third time I was up, I got a single. I didn't get a hit my last trip to the plate, though," he smiled. "The pitcher got clever and walked me."

Falk from then on became an outfielder.

A clipping from the Austin American of July 12, 1920, summed up another of Falk's accomplishments: "50th Falk has gotten 16 hits in the last seven games. He is the leading hitter of the American League with an average of .371. Babe Ruth is coming to second place."

THE COLORFUL baseballer accrued many nicknames through the years. "Luffy," "Whiskey," and "the Bibber" among others. One he earned during his years in the major leagues was "Jockey" for while in his own day-out he constantly chided and made verbal fun of opposing batters. And umpires.

During one particular game, Falk was at bat and the count was three and two. Just as the pitcher started his wind-up, Falk stepped out of the batter's box. He explained to the umpire that the wind had blown dust into his eyes.

"It seems funny to me," said the ump, "that you players are always getting out of your eyes and we umpires never do."

"That's because," Falk replied, "you guys always have your eyes closed."

He has been here ever since.  
An April Falk fan, Walter Brown, former University sports news director, said of the coach who is a personal friend and a personal rival. "This . . . always limited the desire to put him in the big leagues. Every time 50th Falk was big, he was gone."

A good example was his decision to end his own career in the major while still on top. He had a .331 lifetime average for 13 years and is rated one of the greatest of all defensive outfielders. But when he began to slow down, he quit playing.

"I was honest 50th's dignity," commented an old friend. "To be anything but a big leaguer. 50th never had much patience with mediocrity."

This season marks Falk's 50th year in baseball, and the 32-year-old coach hasn't slowed at all.

Harvey Wall, longtime All-American pitcher on Falk's 1945 and 1946 national champion teams, said of the crusty Falk's coaching techniques. "He never had a kind word or compliment for anyone. This . . . keeps his players determined to show him he is wrong."

Never at a loss for words, Falk has a crusty comment for any occasion.

In a 1953 game with TCU, for example, the Longhorn star outfielder hit a game-winning home run over the center field wall, only to be greeted by Falk's "You're gonna learn to pull the ball one of these days."

When congratulated to December, 1961, on his selection to the Texas Hall of Fame, the "Bibber" remarked, "They ran out of those big awes. Now they're down to the next level."

LAST YEAR, when the Southwest Conference baseball race

ended in a four-way tie, Texas winning the right to compete in the NCAA playoffs by virtue of a vote cast. Falk commented nonchalantly. "It figures."

But perhaps the most interesting of Falk's irrepressible personality was witnessed after the last game of the 1966 season. The University of Texas had to host the Texas Aggies in the final two games of the season to which the conference trophy.

TEXAS BASKED by the Aggies in the first game but trailed in the second 2-0. There were two out in the bottom of the sixth. Somehow, two Aggies managed to reach base. The next batter up was Paul Stahr, All-American first baseman, who specialized in hitting the "long" ball. Falk called time.

He told Stahr that if the pitcher tried to walk him intentionally, to step in there and take a swing at the ball anyway.

The pitcher did. Stahr did. But Stahr was over-anxious. Unusually a line drive, home run batter who pulled the ball well, the left-handed Stahr punched a high pop fly out into left field. The ball game was all but over.

BUT THE BALL got up into the wind. The Aggie leftfielder and the centerfielder clumped out under it, waiting for it to come down. The ball seemed to float down, and watching it descend, the Aggie outfielders moved back, then moved back some more. Finally they had backed up all the way to the fence and the ball barely dropped over for a three-run homer that won the game and the championship.

And as Stahr rounded the bases, Falk was in the dugout, shouting for all the world to hear. "He did exactly what I told him to do."

Austin History Center

AF- Biography  
 ① FALK, Bibb Augustus, 1819-1924

FALK, Gustav Hall 10, 1911

BIBB FALK, Bibb



BIBB FALK  
 Players honor him.

## Dinner for UT Coaching Great Tonight His Players Pay Tribute to Bibb Falk

Hundreds of players who followed his guidance to 26 Southwest Conference baseball championships in 25 seasons will honor former University of Texas coach Bibb Falk Friday night at the Terrace Motor Hotel Summer House.

Social hour observance for Bibb Falk Appreciation Day is at 7 p.m., with dinner and formal ceremonies to follow at 8 p.m.

Crackball English will be master of ceremonies for the

occasion and principal speaker will be Morris Frank, salaried Houston newspaperman and widely known in the Southwest for his humor.

Falk, an outstanding Longhorn baseballer and twofold before departing the UT campus in 1920 for professional baseball, compiled a lifetime 477-177 win-loss record after returning to the Forty Acres as diamond coach in 1928. His 1928 and 1929 teams won

national championships and also other squads under his tutelage competed in the College World Series.

The 68-year-old Falk, who compiled a .315 batting average in a dozen American League seasons at Chicago and Cleveland (from 1920 through 1931), retired last May after guiding his last UT team to a co-championship with Texas Christian. He was succeeded by Cliff Gustafson, another of his former players (1928, 1931, 1932).

Chairman of the Bibb Falk Appreciation Day Committee is Wayne McDonald, a member of the 1928, 1929 and 1930 teams. Other committee members are Max Alvis, Billy (Booster) Andrews, Harry Bergman, Travis Echert, Betty Robert, Charlie Gorta, Tom Hamilton, Grady Harlan, Bobby Leyer, Charles Munson, Bob Roche, David Skinner and Don Watson. Alvis is a student infielder with Cleveland, Hatten is field manager of the Houston

Astros and several other committee members went on to major league diamond careers.

C2

Austin American-Statesman

Sunday, April 8, 1968

Austin History Center

### Sports two

## Bibb Falk at 90: Sole survivor of the '20 White Sox has vivid memories of the grand game

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following is taken from a story written by Bill Little, director of the sports information office at the University of Texas. Little is co-author of the book *Kings of the Diamond on Texas Longhorns baseball*, announced the team's games and has known former Texas baseball coach Bibb Falk for years.

Former University of Texas baseball coach Bibb Falk, who turned 90 this year, is the only survivor of the 1920 Chicago White Sox, where he took Shaulan Lee Jackson's place in left field after the 1915 World Series season.

Falk had hit over .400 for Texas in 1918-20, and was undefeated as a pitcher. In the summer after his senior year, he signed a contract with Chicago.

Sox Manager Ed Gibson offered to let Falk go to the winter leagues, where he would have a chance to play, but Falk chose to stay with the big club.

"I said, 'Now, I had just as soon stay up here and watch these guys the rest of the season,'" Falk recalls.

Rumors had started that Chicago's loss to Cincinnati in the 1919 World Series had been fixed, and Falk said he asked pitcher Ed Cicotte, "What's this all about that ball game? And he said, 'Well, that's a lot of bull.'"

After Cicotte, Jackson and others were exposed as having taken money to throw the Series, Falk said, "I never saw those guys again. They were screwed up in the courts after that."

Rookie Falk replaced Jackson, playing errorless ball in seven games and batting .354.

"We had to rebuild the club," Falk said. "Otherwise, I would have been down in the bush league trying to work myself up from Wheeling (W.Va.)." Falk would spend 12 years in the major leagues, finishing with a career average of .314 in 1,354 games.

In 1924, he hit .351, finishing second to Babe Ruth for the American League batting title, and in 1928 he batted .348, with 43 doubles, eight home runs and 108 runs batted in.



UT's Dietrich-Falk Stadium bears the name of the longtime Texas baseball coach.



Falk signed with the Chicago White Sox after starring for the Longhorns.

"Ruth and I played the same position, and in those days you let your glove in the field when you came in," Falk said. "I would get his glove and stroll the fingers with a dead bird or something, and when he would pick it up, I would see him coming out."

"They called me 'Jockey,' because I would ride certain players on the other teams that I knew."

Falk said.

Still, despite the jockeying with Ruth, the two respected each other. In his autobiography, Ruth maintains that Falk, a .287 lifetime fielder, made one of the three greatest catches he ever saw. Falk says Ruth is the greatest player he ever saw.

Falk was traded from Chicago to Cleveland in

1928. He left there after hitting .304 in 1931 to become player-coach at Toledo in the American Association, where he batted .321 in his last year in professional baseball.

Falk had made his off-season home in Austin, where he grew up, and in 1940 his old college coach, Billy Dietrich, got sick and asked Falk to help him coach the Texas Longhorns. After Dietrich's health forced him to give up coaching, Falk was named to succeed him.

In 25 years of college coaching, Falk's overall record was 478-176. His teams won 20 Southwest Conference titles and two national championships — in 1949 and 1950 — finished second in 1953 and third in 1947, 1962 and 1963.

He retired in 1967 and was replaced by a former pupil, Cliff Gustafson, who now has the best winning percentage in college baseball.

The Longhorn baseball stadium, Dietrich-Falk Field, carries his name, and he is a member of the Longhorn Hall of Honor, Texas Baseball Hall of Fame, Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame and Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

It was Gustafson who offers one of the better stories about Falk, an event that occurred years ago as the two men watched the major-league Texas Rangers work out for an exhibition game with the Longhorns.

"You know, the game must have really changed from the big-league days we all think about," Gustafson told Falk.

"Now there are pitchers who throw the ball 100 miles per hour, they play night ball, they have rigid travel schedules ... that's got to take its toll. Coach, you were a lifetime .314 hitter in the big time. What do you think you'd hit, say, in today's major leagues?"

Falk thought a minute. "Oh, about .270 or .280," he replied.

"There's that much difference?" said a surprised Gustafson.

"Hell no," said Falk. "But I'm 76 years old."

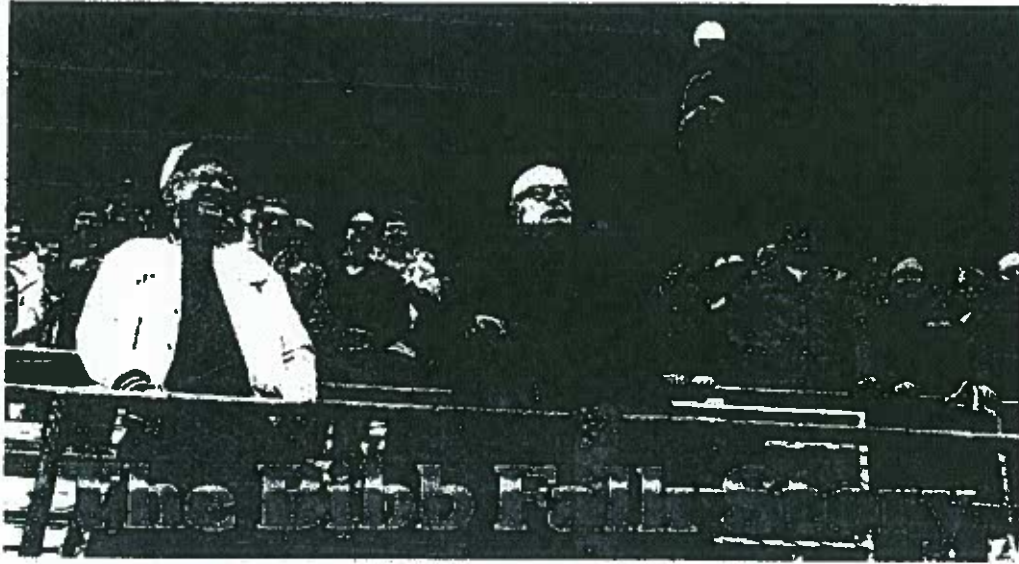


AF-BEUG BIBB FALK

FALK, Gustav Harold, 1867-1963

THE  
LONGHORN  
ALBUM

(1) FALK, Bibb Augustus  
1877-1974  
1 of 7



Fabled alumnus Bibb Falk threw out the first pitch at last year's Varsity/Alumni Game.



Falk is the only living member of the 1920 Chicago White Sox.

BY BILL LITTLE

**T**hrough the mist you can see him...the lanky boy scrambling for the ball, grasping for the prize that would give him admission to the game.

Life was simple then. It was only a few blocks to the fairgrounds, with the baseball field in the middle of the old race track.

There had been no World Wars. The Great Depression was 20 years away. It was a time of street cars, of trains, and of new-fangled automobiles.

The young boys knew the game. Get a foul ball, and you had a free ticket to see the big boys play.

In a far away shipyard they were building an "unsinkable" boat called the Titanic.

The newspapers carried the box scores from the Big League games, with names like Cy Young and Christy Mathewson.

The state Capitol Building was less than a quarter of a century old, and Oklahoma hadn't even become a state.

But for the strapping young man with the keen eye and big-for-his-age hands, the summer only meant one thing: the time for The Game.

His name was Bibb Falk.



Falk batted over .400 each year of his UT career.

"There were four boys in my family, and we were all fans. They had the Texas League park — or whatever league they were in — down in my part of town. We called it the Tenth Ward then, and the ball park was down in the nineteen hundred block of East First Street.

"They had a fairground there. They had a race track out in the middle, and the ball park was inside of that track. The grandstand was across the track, and it covered the races and also baseball.

"It was about five or six blocks walking down there every day. They used to let you in if you had a foul ball over the fence, and I used to get in like that. Then the older I got, I started hustling peanuts in the grandstand. And I used to keep bats for a team or two just to be around them. So I got around those pros way back then."

Bibb Falk turned 90 years old on January 27.

He is almost two-thirds as old as the City of Austin, and he is arguably in better financial condition. And though

trouble with his knees and ankles has him using a walking cane from time to time, he is in remarkable shape.

His rapier wit is as sharp as ever, and only an occasional cobweb clouds a memory that can tell of 90 years of living.

He is the only survivor of the 1920 Chicago White Sox — the team that would forever change the face of the game of baseball.

Bibb Falk had played baseball in high school in Austin, and Billy Disch, the Longhorn coach who will forever be known as "Mr. Disch," convinced him to come to Texas and play ball.

"Mr. Disch saw me play in high school, and he's the one that got me to come out here, or I never would have even come out to The University. My dad was a railroad man, and I probably would have been working on a railroad," says Falk.

His career at Texas as a player was outstanding. He hit over .400 each year in 1918, 1919 and 1920, and he was undefeated as a pitcher. In the summer after his senior year, he signed a profes-

sional contract with Chicago of the American League. The manager, Bill Gleason, offered to let Falk go to the minor leagues, where he would have had a chance to play. After all, the White Sox, despite a surprising loss in the 1919 World Series, were the most feared team in baseball. Falk chose to stay with the big club.

"I said, 'Naw, I had just as soon stay up here and watch these guys the rest of the season,'" Falk remembers.

All season long, rumors had been flying of the unthinkable; that somehow, Chicago's loss to Cincinnati in the 1919 World Series had been fixed.

"They kept writing about it and kept bringing it up all summer," Falk remembers. "And I asked (Ed) Cicotte once, 'What's all this about that ball game?' and he said, 'Well, that's a lot of bull.'"

But while the team was off for two days during the last week of the 1920 season, the scandal broke. The baseball world reeled as Cicotte, Shoeless Joe Jackson and several other of the great names of the game were exposed as having taken money to throw the Series. They were banished from baseball. The "Black Sox" would forever live in infamy.

America's game — and its heroes — were no longer pure.

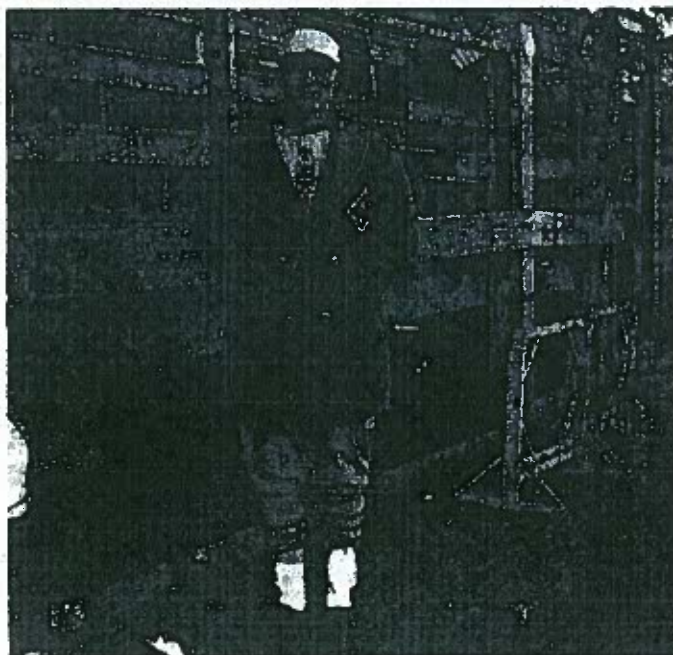
"Cicotte was the guy that broke down and told the story," said Falk. "He got \$10,000 for throwing the game. They put it under his pillow. Jackson was a great ball player, and I really don't think he knew how to throw a game. He only hit .350 in the Series. He just went in because of some of those guys that he knew. He just followed the leaders.

"I never saw those guys again. They were screwed up in the courts after that."

The remnants of the team went to St. Louis to finish the 1920 season. Playing in the place of the famed Shoeless Joe Jackson in left field was a rookie named Bibb Falk.

"I had one good break in pro ball...and that was it. We had to rebuild the club. Otherwise, I would have been down in the bush league trying to work myself up from Wheeling," Falk said.

With that break began a major league career that established Falk as one of



Mr. Billy Disch, who began the Longhorn baseball coaching legacy, convinced Bibb Falk to come to Texas.



the great hitters in the game. He spent 12 years in the Big Leagues, finishing with a career batting average of .314 in 1,354 games.

His teammates and his opponents read like a Who's Who of the greatest names the game had ever known. There was Al Simmons and Walter Johnson and Tris Speaker and Casey Stengel. Luke Appling and Home Run Baker and Ty Cobb and Eddie Collins. Joe Cronin and Jimmy Foxx and Lefty Grove and Charley Gehringer. Waite Hoyt and Red Ruffing. Lou Gehrig and Babe Ruth.

Baseball, the game that had begun for him down on East First Street in Austin, would take him around the world.

Charles Comiskey was president of the White Sox and John McGraw was manager of the New York Giants, and in 1924 following the World Series, the two friends took their clubs to England to play before the King.

"They lined out a baseball diamond in that big stadium over there," Falk remembers. "We all lined up before the game. The King...George the fourth or fifth or sixth or somebody...I don't know what his number was...came by every guy and we were introduced. We weren't supposed to reach out our hand or anything, just bow. And his son, the one that married that American woman, was right behind him. His wife, the Queen, was up in the stands, and she waved her hand down at us."

The teams played several games in Europe, going to Birmingham, England, Dublin, Ireland, winding up in Paris, France.

"Then we caught the boat and came home," Falk said.

How long did it take you?

"Riding a boat? Four or five days. Then coming back we hit a storm and we were a day late getting into New York. We had to stand by a day against the wind...against those waves," Falk

said.

But the visit from the King was secondary to a previous trip Falk took.

"One of the best trips I made was to Japan, China, Korea, the Philippines and Hawaii and all that," he said. "We had players from both leagues. It was

ling me. They called me 'Jockey,' because I would ride certain players on the other teams that I knew," Falk said.

Still, despite the jockeying with Ruth, there remained a mutual respect between the two. In his autobiography, Ruth maintains Falk made one of the

### BIBB AUGUST (JOCKEY) FALK

Born January 27, 1888, at Austin, Tex.

Height, 6.00. Weight, 180.

Throw and bat left-handed.



Manager, Toledo, American Association, 1932; coach, Cleveland, 1933; coach, Boston Red Sox, 1934-35.

Year	Club	League	Pos.	G.	A.B.	R.	H.	2B.	3B.	HR.	RBI.	B.A.	P.O.	A.	E.	F.A.
1888	Chicago	Amer.	OF	7	77	1	5	1	1	0	2	.204	5	0	9	1.000
1889	Chicago	Amer.	OF	153	588	62	167	31	11	5	42	.288	228	6	13	.288
1890	Chicago	Amer.	OF	171	623	58	144	27	1	12	79	.294	253	10	19	.293
1891	Chicago	Amer.	OF	87	374	44	94	18	0	8	26	.281	142	3	8	.281
1892	Chicago	Amer.	OF	120	428	77	128	27	8	8	39	.321	223	20	10	.319
1893	Chicago	Amer.	OF	124	403	69	121	29	9	4	39	.301	200	18	14	.299
1894	Chicago	Amer.	OF	150	546	60	109	43	4	8	100	.295	238	15	3	.293
1895	Chicago	Amer.	OF	148	528	70	178	39	6	9	82	.297	279	22	9	.298
1896	Chicago (A)	Amer.	OF	68	285	32	63	18	4	1	27	.290	164	9	1	.291
1897	Cleveland	Amer.	OF	128	430	68	123	30	7	13	34	.280	219	19	14	.274
1898	Cleveland	Amer.	OF	82	191	34	62	12	1	4	26	.228	84	6	3	.267
1899	Cleveland	Amer.	OF	79	101	20	49	13	1	2	22	.264	83	1	2	.268
1900	Toledo	A. A.	OF	79	340	42	79	11	1	5	45	.251	140	4	6	.260
Major League Totals				1394	4636	656	1463	306	50	69	785	.314	2324	130	88	.297

Traded to Cleveland Indians for catcher Martin Antry, February 22, 1928.

Biographies of Great Stars of Baseball C.C. Spink & Son, publishers of The Sporting News, St. Louis

an all-star team. We had me and Amos Strunk from the Chicago White Sox and Luke Sewell and Old Hoss Stephenson out of Cleveland, and we had about six off the World Series. Joe Bush, Herb Pennock, Waite Hoyt, George Kalley and Casey Stengel and one other player from the Yankees. We had a New York newspaper man and a Big League umpire. There were about 25 or 26 of us on the trip.

"You had to ride by boat, then, too. It took us 10 or 11 days just to get from Vancouver to Yokohama. That was the fall of 1922. We were gone three and a half months."

Falk earned his place in the Big Leagues in first class fashion. In 1924 he hit .352, finishing second to Babe Ruth for the batting title. In 1926, he batted .345, with 43 doubles, eight home runs and 108 runs batted in.

He was playing with the greats of the game.

"Ruth and I played the same position, and in those days you left your gloves in the field when you came in. I would get his glove and stuff the fingers with a dead bird or something, and when he would pick it up, I would see him cuss-

ing me. They called me 'Jockey,' because I would ride certain players on the other teams that I knew," Falk said.

Falk was traded from Chicago to Cleveland in 1929, and he left Cleveland after hitting .304 in the 1931 season. He was a player/coach at Toledo in the American Association in 1932. His career as a player in the Big Leagues was over.

He had been one of the finest fielders in the game, leading the league as an outfielder with a .992 average in 1926, making only three errors in 350 chances.

While Falk was in the Big Leagues, he would make his off-season home in Austin. There, he would watch his old coach, Billy Disch, record success after success. In many ways, the two were opposites. Mr. Disch was strict; Falk had the ways of the Big Leagues.

"Mr. Disch didn't drink, and you didn't smoke around him and you didn't chew tobacco around him. He'd search the uniforms and if there was any chewing tobacco in them, he'd take up the uniform.

"He was just a clean cut man like that. He used to manage over at St.

Edward's, and then he was in pro ball, too. He used to play at Galveston and Fort Worth with Branch Rickey in the Texas League. He was coaching part-time and they wanted a full-time coach over here, and they went and got him. He came over here, I believe, in 1911. He had been playing pro, so naturally he knew all the angles. He knew all the ABCs. He could teach you how to bunt, how to field and everything else. He worked 'em out and made them go through fundamentals. You learned how to play the game," said Falk.

Falk was a scout for Boston in 1938, and in early 1940, his old coach — the man who had started him in the game — called him one more time.

"Mr. Disch got sick, and he asked me to help him," Falk recalls. "I didn't like scouting, and my 'money' job had run out, so I decided to do it. I needed a 'paying' job."

Disch had suffered a strained heart muscle and was required to give up actual coaching, so Falk was named field coach.

Bob Rochs, the veteran UT Athletics

Department top hand, was the manager of that first team.

"It was quite a change," Rochs said. "Mr. Disch was very straight laced, and Bibb was Bibb."

Schooled in the ways of the Big Leagues, Falk set about the business of winning on the college level.

At 90, he steadfastly maintains that his memory fades, and yet when you bring up great moments in the UT history during his tenure, he is quick to elaborate.

Like Pete Layden's home run in the bottom of the 10th inning to beat the Aggies in 1941.

"I think he had two strikes on him, too. He was a good hitter."

And the insertion of Buddy New, a little used left-handed hitter who had a homer and a double, as Texas came from 9-2 down to beat A&M, 11-10, for the league title in 1962.

"He was a left-handed hitter against a right-handed pitcher, and he was a pretty good hitter. The guy wasn't striking everybody out, so he was gonna hit it. Sometimes they come through and sometimes they don't. And he thought he could hit him. He didn't go up there scared."

In all, until he retired after the 1967 season, Falk's teams won 20 Southwest Conference and two national championships in 25 years of coaching. His overall record was 478-176, and in collegiate play only his record was 435-152.

His teams qualified for NCAA competition 17 times and advanced to the College World Series 11 of those years. The Longhorns won it twice — in 1949 and 1950 — finished second in 1953 and wound up third in 1947, 1962 and 1963. His Horns won the Series the second year it was

played, in 1949, and then claimed the first title at Omaha when the CWS began its love affair with the Nebraska city in 1950.

While it is not his nature to put the "best" label on anybody, there is little doubt that one of his favorite players was a talented athlete named Bobby Layne.

"I would have to say Layne was my best pitcher," said Falk of the late NFL star. "He never lost a college game. Trouble with him, though, he was crazy as hell. He would win according to what he had to do. If you gave him a five or six run lead, he'd win 10-6, or something like that. But if we had a 1-0 game, he'd shut 'em out. That's the way he did A&M...pitched a no-hit game against them. He'd liable to have been out playing 18 holes of golf that morning. And the trouble with that was, they were walking 18 holes. They weren't riding a bicycle."

When Falk decided to retire in 1967, Darrell Royal chose one of Falk's pupils — a successful high school coach named Cliff Gustafson — to succeed him.

Toward the end of his career, Falk could see the limit of games imposed by the Southwest Conference as a limiting factor in national success.

"The more you looked, the more you saw the West Coast teams up there (at the College World Series). They were playing a lot more games," he said.

Gustafson took over in 1968 and began a strong recruiting campaign and a push for more games, a battle he won with the 1969 season. The Southwest Conference, which had limited its teams to a 30-game schedule, suddenly allowed 42 with the addition of double-headers.

"But I don't know how he's done it," Falk says admiringly of his successor. "When I gave the program to him, I had 21 scholarships. Now all he has is 13. He has to do a lot of juggling when all he has are 13 scholarships."

An NCAA rule limiting scholarships to 13 was passed in the early 1970s.

Even though Gustafson has achieved financial rewards through baseball and accolades far beyond those given to Disch and Falk, his mentor harbors no hard feelings.



Falk oversees batting practice during his final season as coach while all-SWC outfielder Pat Brown awaits his turn.





Among Falk's tributes has been his 1982 induction into the Longhorn Hall of Honor.

"Somebody's got to lay the groundwork for those who come after them. Mr. Disch started it, I continued it, and now Gus has it," he says.

The tributes to Falk are many, not the least of which is the sharing of the name of the stadium, which was opened in 1975. He is a member of the Longhorn Hall of Honor, the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame, the Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame and the Texas Sports Hall of Fame. About the only honor he hasn't received is the national Baseball Hall of Fame.

"I didn't deserve it," says Falk modestly. "Yeah, I hit .314, but there were guys who played a lot longer who hit .350, and they aren't in it."

Those who know him would disagree. They love to tell the stories — some truth and some fiction and some fiction that the years has made truth.

Legend has it, for instance, that Falk, after having been razed by the Aggies at Texas A&M for an entire game, belted a home run, and when he got to home plate he faced the hostile — now quieted — crowd and exclaimed, "What's the matter? Ain't you ever seen a big leaguer before?"

"All I did," Falk said more than 60 years later, "was tip my hat when I got to third base after hitting a three-bagger. But I don't remember what I said...."

One of the best Falklorian stories had it that the gentlemanly Mr. Disch was telling his team after a victory that "the

Good Lord was on our side today."

"Yeah," the story goes Falk said, "but old Falk took over in the ninth."

It is true that he has continued his exercise and physical conditioning so that he is in remarkable shape for a man of even 60, much less 90.

As a coach, he was recognized as the greatest fungo practice hitter ever. He would start a fielder running to left field, and just as the ball dropped out of his reach, he would chase him back to right, again timing the ball to drop just beyond his reach.

Each spring, for it seemed every spring, he would wait for a warm day and step up to the plate for batting practice.

And after a show that brought the admiring glances from his charges, he would hit one over the fence and quit until the next year.

The superb left-handed hitter did that until the 1960s, when he was over 60 years old.

"I might have got up there to show somebody something," he recalls with just the slightest trace of justified boastfulness in his voice. "Swing hard; hit easy. I'd probably keep hitting up there until I did hit one out with that short right field fence and then I'd quit. I didn't take just one swing."

Those who knew Falk as a coach remember the corner office in old Gregory

Falk is recognized as one of the greatest fungo practice hitters.

Gym, and a bat yellowed with age and dirty from hundreds of hands. With that bat, Falk would teach almost every visitor to his office. He would have you holding it, adjusting it.

As Falk spoke just a few days after his birthday in the modern UT Athletic Offices at Belmont Hall, it didn't take long for him to use his walking cane to demonstrate how to bunt and how to hit. He was still teaching those who would listen.

Today there is a routine: a morning call to the stock broker, coffee at Rooster's at 12:30, a rubdown and a





Striking a familiar pose, Falk barks out instructions to his troops.

steam from Carl at mid-afternoon, and on a warm day, a ball game.

"No, I didn't plan it that way; it just happened. I don't have anything else to do at that particular time, so I just keep doing it. When you get old and retired like me, hellfire, it would run you crazy staying at home 24 hours a day when you are 90 years old, for Christ's sake. Nobody to talk to but yourself, and he won't answer," Falk said.

Still, of all the birthdays, the 90th was significant.

"Ordinarily, 90 is one of those stopping points on your way up. Seems like 90 is kind of a bad one, because it seems like going 91 or 2 or 3 you look at that obituary column and they have a lot of

room in there," he said.

The surroundings of the game have changed a lot since Bibb Falk chased foul balls early in this century. There are lights, artificial surfaces, physical conditioning routines, radio and television.

Still, when he comes toward the park that bears his name, it seems there is a little extra bounce in the step.

"You may think so," quips Falk, "but I am just going to another contest. I'm just glad I live in a town where there is a college with a game and a nice place to play."

And as to the ultimate question, "Why is baseball America's past time?", there is a Falkian answer.

"I guess it is because it is one of our oldest sports."

Not too poetic, there.

"The fans like it. They keep paying to see it."

Pragmatic, but still lacking the essence of life.

"Kids start playing it when they are young...."

His voice begins to trail.

"I like it because I'm making a living at it. I'm fooling the public," he said.

As the old man rises to leave, the windmills of your mind turn slowly to the little boy and the foul ball. Then he's in the Big Leagues...now he is sitting in that old wool uniform at the end of the bench at the park with the cliff in center field. The hands, crinkled with age, are young again, and the cane becomes a bat. The steel eyes are looking at you as a teacher, even as they did to so many who learned the game, and a lot about life. The ankles and knees, slowed now, are honed. The slightly stooped shoulders are straight.

And you know.

He has steadfastly avoided pointedly answering questions on the secrets of

During his 25-year career, Falk led his teams to two CWS titles and 20 SWC championships.







Falk discusses ground rules with umpires Tex Aulds and John Mazur and with Houston Coach Lovett Hill prior to Falk's final game as UT coach.

life, and the meaning of the game.

But in his life, all has been timing. The swing of the bat, the jump on the ball, the right place at the right time.

Almost always in a suit and dress hat, Falk is a fixture at his park. He still understands the game better than any man in those stands, and better than most on the field. This remarkable man spans most of organized baseball as we know it today. And inside the crust is a well-disguised soft heart.

Everybody is still nicknamed "Lefty," and most will get a friendly jab with any conversation. There are "studs" and "mullets," and the former is good and the latter is an endearing term, but it is still a second-rate fish. If Falk regrets leaving the game those years ago at Clark Field, he doesn't show it. In fact, he didn't the day he left.

After a heartbreaking loss to

Houston that ended Falk's Texas career in 1967, his successor, Gustafson, dutifully waited outside the Longhorn locker room. He had come to meet some of the players who would be back next year, but when the game ended in defeat, Gustafson stayed respectfully outside the locker room, allowing Falk time for a final farewell.

When the man who had coached Gustafson 15 years before, the man who had been Texas baseball for most of 27 years, came out, Gustafson searched for the right words to say.

"Tough one, Coach," he said.

"Hell," replied Falk. "I didn't want to take those mullets to Omaha anyway."

Years afterward, Falk, Gustafson and UT Assistant Coach Bill Bethea were watching the Texas Rangers work out in preparation for an exhibition

game.

"You know," said Gustafson, "the game must have really changed from the Big League days we all think about. Now there are pitchers who throw the ball 100 miles per hour, they play night ball, they have rugged travel schedules...that's got to take its toll. Coach, you were a lifetime 314 hitter in the big time. What do you think you'd hit, say, in today's major leagues?"


Falk thought for a while, and then said, "Oh, about 270 or 280."

"There's that much difference?" said a surprised Gustafson.

"Hell no," said Falk. "But I'm 75 years old."

Some things in life are temporary. Some are durable.

Bibb Falk is eternal.

For him, there will always be another game. 

FAULK, Gustav Harold,  
1867-1963



BIBB FAULK  
Quarter century closer



CLIFF GUSTAFSON  
New UT era beginning

AF-Biography  
(1) FAULK, Bibb Augustus  
1867-1963

American-Statesman  
May 7, 1967

AF-Biography-FAULK, Bibb A. South San's Gustafson To Be Successor

# Longhorns' Falk Announces Retirement

Am. St. 5/7/67

By GEORGE BREAKEALE  
Sports Staff

A legend in college basketball coaching Saturday announced his retirement from The University of Texas. He will be succeeded by a man who has accomplished almost superhuman winning feats at the high school level.

Bibb Augustus Falk, whose Longhorns figured in 20 Southwest Conference championships, won two national titles and competed in the NCAA playoffs a dozen other years, revealed his retirement plans Saturday. One of his former players, 36-year-old Cliff Gustafson, who has won six Class AAA state titles at South San Antonio, will succeed him, effective July 1.

The 68-year-old Falk, one of only three coaches UT has had in 57 years, compiled an overall 25-season record of 479 wins, 178 losses, 275 victories and 84 defeats in SWC play. His only losing years were in 1935 and 1936 and the only other third-place finish in 1943, 1959 and 1964.

Falk announced no future plans following his retirement, other than to tell a well-wisher Saturday that "I'll probably be hanging around the drug store this time next year."

"My coaching philosophy is to play good, sound defensive basketball, try to develop good pitching and capitalize on other people's mistakes," Gustafson declared. "I think that philosophy has been the key to Coach Falk's record at Texas. When I was playing for him I heard him say many times that most games are won on other people's mistakes."

Gustafson's coaching credo has netted 11 district championships at South San Antonio, state titles in 1954, 1957, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965 and a third place state finish in 1963. His Bobcats are 21-0 for the 1967 season, have clinched their District 11 AAAA zone title and own a 37-game winning streak.

Over nearly 14 seasons, Gustafson's record is 237 wins and 85 losses. He is also athletic director at the school.

"Much coaching philosophy is based on the type of situation," Gustafson said, "and college coaching is a considerably different situation from high school. College players are more advanced and have better skills. I know I'll have some adjustments to make, but fundamentals are important — in high school, college or the major leagues — and I plan to stress them, just as Coach Falk did."

From long range, Gustafson anticipates pitching as one of the chief problems of the 1968 team — the same problem Falk faced, and solved for a championship, in 1967.

"I know coach Falk is optimistic about what is returning

in the way of pitching experience," said Gustafson.

One year of pro baseball — in the West Texas-New Mexico League in 1953 — is also in the Gustafson history.

"I got an assistant coaching job at South San in the fall of 1953, with the understanding that I could report back to professional ball early in 1954," he said. "But the head baseball coaching job opened up and the superintendent and I had a long talk and we decided that my future lay in coaching."

The jacket slipped over Saturday with Gustafson's appointment. His own accomplishments as a 10-year stand by William J. Birch (1911 through 1929) and the Falk reign, which was interrupted from 1943 through 1953 when Blaik Cherry substituted while Falk was in service.

Falk, an outfield star for Birch's 1919 and 1920 teams, signed a professional contract with the Chicago White Sox in 1929 and played a dozen years in the American League, compiling a .314 career average, including a fine .323 figure in 1934. After ending his playing days in 1933 he coached and scouted in pro ball until called back to UT in 1940.

The Falk legend began that year with a 20-4 championship team, continued with national champions in 1949 and 1950, a runnerup in 1953 and NCAA third place finishers in 1962 and 1963.

HF-BIOG.  
FALK, Gustav Harald; 1869-1963  
(1) FALK, Bibb Augustus, 1899-1989

Austin History Center

June 9, 1989

Austin American-Statesman;



1987 staff file photo  
Bibb Falk, former major-leaguer  
and UT coach, died Thursday.

## Former UT coach Falk dies

Baseball legend led Longhorns to 2 national championships

American-Statesman Staff

Bibb Falk, 90, who went on to major-league baseball stardom in the 1920s from the University of Texas and later won two national championships and 20 Southwest Conference titles as Longhorn coach, died Thursday night at Brackenridge Hospital.

Falk, who is survived by a sister-in-law and six nieces and nephews, had been hospitalized since mid-May with a heart ailment. Funeral arrangements were pending late Thursday night.

"I'm just totally in shock," said Longhorn Coach Cliff Gustafson after his UT team beat

LSU 12-7 Thursday night to clinch a spot in Saturday's national championship game. "You always know those days are coming, but with Coach Falk, he just seemed eternal. He was a true legend."

Born in Austin Jan. 27, 1899, Falk was a stand-out baseball and football player at Texas. He signed a professional contract as an outfielder with the Chicago White Sox in 1920 and played 12 seasons, finishing with a .314 career batting average, 69 home runs, 59 triples and 300 doubles among his 1,463 hits. His first eight seasons were with the White Sox and his final three with the

See Falk, A7

## Falk

From A1

Cleveland Indiana.

After his retirement as a major-league player in 1931, Falk served as a minor-league manager at Toledo for one year, also batting .321 that year. He became the UT coach in 1940 when longtime coach William J. "Billy" Diech, for whom Falk played at UT, was forced into retirement because of ill health.

Falk coached SWC championship teams in 1940 and 1941 and, after a runner-up finish in 1942, entered military service, returning to UT in 1946. The Longhorns won 15 outright conference titles and shares of five others in his 25 years as coach and his overall coaching record was 478 wins and 176 losses.

Falk's 1949 and 1950 Texas teams won national championships, coming from the losers bracket to win the 1950 title. The Longhorns were runner-up to Michigan in 1953, and finished third in the first national playoff in 1947. Falk's 1962 and 1963 teams were also third nationally. He retired in 1967 and was succeeded by Cliff Gustafson, who had been an infielder on UT teams from 1950 through 1953.

Gustafson inherited Falk's winning program, and built upon that foundation, but the 22-year UT coach said the Horns would not be making their eighth visit to the finals of the College World Series had it not been for Falk.

"I've always credited Coach Falk and Coach Diech and said they are the reasons for the success we've been having," Gustafson said. "I have to give more credit to him for all the good things that have happened to me in my coaching career than anybody else in the world."

Falk was the last survivor of the 1920 White Sox, a team rebuilt after a World Series gambling scandal enveloped the 1919 team, which lost to Cincinnati in the World Series. Falk replaced Shoeless Joe Jackson, who was banished from baseball after the 1919 scandal. Falk had hit over .400 at Texas in the years 1918 to 1920. He was also a star football lineman at Texas.

# Austin American-Statesman;

June 10, 1989

## Bibb A. Falk

January 27, 1899 to June 8, 1989

Bibb A. Falk, 90, of Austin, passed away Thursday.

Bibb was a lifelong resident of Austin, and is probably best known as the University of Texas head baseball coach from 1940 to 1967. During his tenure, Bibb's teams won 20 Southwest Conference and two National Championships.

Prior to his career at UT, Bibb played 12 years in the major leagues (Chicago White Sox, 1920-1928; Cleveland Indians, 1929-1932), and compiled a career batting average of .314 in 1,354 games. The Longhorn baseball stadium, Disch-Falk Field, carries his name, and he is a member of the Longhorn Hall of Fame, Texas Baseball Hall of Fame, Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, and Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 AM, Saturday, in the Colonial Chapel of the Cook-Walden Funeral Home, Lamar location, with Reverend Robert J. Scott officiating. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Mr. Falk is survived by his sister-in-law, Mrs. Chester E. Falk, Sr.; nephews, Chester E. Falk, Jr., of Austin, Carl O. Falk of Corpus Christi, George H. Falk of Seguin; nieces, Clemmie Hext of Austin, Ann M. Hammond of Waco, Nellie Upchurch of Baytown.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like memorial contributions be made to the Bibb Falk Memorial Scholarship Fund (University of Texas Baseball), care of Rooster Andrews, P.O. Box 2163, Austin, Texas 78768.

The family may be contacted care of Ms. Clemmie Hext, 8838 Mountain Path Circle.

Arrangements by Cook-Walden Funeral Home, Lamar location.



# Gus Falk, UT Coach's Dad, Dies

Gus Falk, 94, of 4212 Avenue D, died in a local hospital Wednesday morning. He was born in Sweden and came to Austin in 1888. He was a member of Memorial Methodist Church.

He is survived by a daughter, Miss Elsie Falk of Austin; three sons, Bibb Falk, University of Texas baseball coach, Chester Falk, both of Austin, and Collie Falk of San Antonio; 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 3:30 p.m. from the Cook Funeral Home with Rev. Milton Dare and Rev. Oscar Linstrom officiating. Burial will be in Austin Memorial Park.

Pallbearers will be George Falk, Carl Falk, Cloister Miles, William A. Hergotz, C. W. Ryden and Chester Falk, Jr.

C14H -09-0001

JK to go  
SS 1-8-09

# A. APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC ZONING

PO 250 00 #1240

## PROJECT INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY	
APPLICATION DATE: <u>6/12/09</u>	FILE NUMBER(S): <u>C14h-2009-0001</u>
TENTATIVE HLC DATE: _____	
TENTATIVE PC or ZAP DATE: <u>TBD</u>	
TENTATIVE CC DATE: _____	
CASE MANAGER: <u>Steve Sadovskiy</u>	CITY INITIATED: YES / NO
APPLICATION ACCEPTED BY: <u>Spape</u>	ROLLBACK: YES/NO

## BASIC PROJECT DATA:

1. OWNER'S NAME: <u>Amy Michelle PARIS -White</u>	
2. PROJECT NAME: <u>McMillen - Folk House</u>	
3. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (or Range): <u>4213 Avenue D</u>	
ZIP: <u>78751</u>	COUNTY: <u>TRAVIS</u>
IF PROJECT ADDRESS CANNOT BE DEFINED ABOVE:	
LOCATED _____ FRONTAGE FEET ALONG THE N. S. E. W. (CIRCLE ONE) SIDE OF	
(ROAD NAME PROPERTY FRONTS ONTO), WHICH IS	
APPROXIMATELY _____	DISTANCE FROM ITS
INTERSECTION WITH _____	CROSS STREET.

## AREA TO BE REZONED:

4. ACRES _____	(OR)	SQ. FT. <u>5990</u>			
5. ZONING AND LAND USE INFORMATION:					
EXISTING ZONING	EXISTING USE	TRACT# (IF MORE THAN 1)	ACRES / SQ. FT.	PROPOSED USE	PROPOSED ZONING
<u>SE-3 NCD</u>	<u>residential</u>	_____	<u>5990 ft<sup>2</sup></u>	_____	<u>SE-3 H</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

## RELATED CURRENT CASES:

Grid J25

Watershed: Walton Creek Class 1rb.

6. ACTIVE ZONING CASE?	(YES / NO)	FILE NUMBER:	_____
7. RESTRICTIVE COVENANT?	(YES / NO)	FILE NUMBER:	_____
8. SUBDIVISION?	(YES / NO)	FILE NUMBER:	_____
9. SITE PLAN?	(YES / NO)	FILE NUMBER:	_____

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (SUBDIVISION REFERENCE OR METES AND BOUNDS):

10a. SUBDIVISION REFERENCE: Name: Hyde Park Addition  
Block(s) 23 Lot(s) 3 + 4 Outlot(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Plat Book: \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_  
Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
10b. METES AND BOUNDS (Attach two copies of certified field notes if subdivision reference is not available or zoning includes partial lots)

DEED REFERENCE CONVEYING PROPERTY TO PRESENT OWNER AND TAX PARCEL I.D.:

11. VOLUME: instn 2007 128 108 PAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ TAX PARCEL I.D. NO. D2200602070000

OTHER PROVISIONS:

12. IS PROPERTY IN A ZONING COMBINING DISTRICT / OVERLAY ZONE? YES / NO  
TYPE OF COMBINING DIST/OVERLAY ZONE (NCCD, NP, etc) NCCD  
13. LOCATED IN A LOCAL OR NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES / NO  
14. IS A TIA REQUIRED? YES NO (NOT REQUIRED IF BASE ZONING IS NOT CHANGING)  
TRIPS PER DAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
TRAFFIC SERIAL ZONE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

OWNERSHIP TYPE:

15. SOLE ☒ COMMUNITY PROPERTY ☐ PARTNERSHIP ☐ CORPORATION ☐ TRUST  
If ownership is other than sole or community property, list individuals/partners/principals below or attach separate sheet.

OWNER INFORMATION:

16. OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION  
SIGNATURE: Anna Michelle Davis NAME: Anna Michelle Davis  
FIRM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: 512 628 1377  
STREET ADDRESS: 423 Avenue D  
CITY: Austin STATE: TX ZIP CODE: 78751  
EMAIL ADDRESS: michelle-paris@yahoo.com

AGENT INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

17. AGENT CONTACT INFORMATION  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY: \_\_\_\_\_

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION (SUBDIVISION REFERENCE OR METES AND BOUNDS):

10a. SUBDIVISION REFERENCE Name: Hyde Park Addition  
Block(s) 23 Lot(s) 3 + 4 Outlot(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Plat Book: \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_  
Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
10b. METES AND BOUNDS (Attach two copies of certified field notes if subdivision reference is not available or zoning includes partial lots)

DEED REFERENCE CONVEYING PROPERTY TO PRESENT OWNER AND TAX PARCEL I.D.:

11. VOLUME: 2007 128 108 PAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ TAX PARCEL I.D. NO. 02200602070000

OTHER PROVISIONS:

12. IS PROPERTY IN A ZONING COMBINING DISTRICT / OVERLAY ZONE? YES / NO  
TYPE OF COMBINING DIST/OVERLAY ZONE (NCCD, NP, etc.) NCCD  
13. LOCATED IN A LOCAL OR NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES / NO  
14. IS A TIA REQUIRED? YES / NO (NOT REQUIRED IF BASE ZONING IS NOT CHANGING)  
TRIPS PER DAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
TRAFFIC SERIAL ZONE(S): \_\_\_\_\_

OWNERSHIP TYPE:

15. SOLE ☒ COMMUNITY PROPERTY ☐ PARTNERSHIP ☐ CORPORATION ☐ TRUST  
If ownership is other than sole or community property, list individuals/partners/principals below or attach separate sheet.

OWNER INFORMATION:

16. OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION  
SIGNATURE: Arny Michelle Paris-White NAME: Arny Michelle Paris-White  
FIRM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: 512 628 1377  
STREET ADDRESS: 423 Monroe D  
CITY: Austin STATE: TX ZIP CODE: 7871  
EMAIL ADDRESS: michelle.paris@yale.com

AGENT INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

17. AGENT CONTACT INFORMATION  
SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY: \_\_\_\_\_

## D. SUBMITTAL VERIFICATION AND INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION

### SUBMITTAL VERIFICATION

My signature attests to the fact that the attached application package is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that proper City staff review of this application is dependent upon the accuracy of the information provided and that any inaccurate or inadequate information provided by me/my firm/etc., may delay the proper review of this application.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAME BELOW SIGNATURE AND  
INDICATE FIRM REPRESENTED, IF APPLICABLE.

Signature

Date

Name (Typed or Printed)

Firm (If applicable)

### INSPECTION AUTHORIZATION

As owner or authorized agent, my signature authorizes staff to visit and inspect the property for which this application is being submitted.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NAME BELOW SIGNATURE AND  
INDICATE FIRM REPRESENTED, IF APPLICABLE.

Signature

Date

Name (Typed or Printed)

Firm (If applicable)

## E. ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

concerning  
Subdivision Plat Notes, Deed Restrictions,  
Restrictive Covenants  
and / or  
Zoning Conditional Overlays

I, Amy Michelle Paris-White have checked for subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions,  
(Print name of applicant)

restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays prohibiting certain uses and/or requiring certain development restrictions i.e. height, access, screening etc. on this property, located at

4213 Avenue D 78751  
(Address or Legal Description)

If a conflict should result with the request I am submitting to the City of Austin due to subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays it will be my responsibility to resolve it. I also acknowledge that I understand the implications of use and/or development restrictions that are a result of a subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlays.

I understand that if requested, I must provide copies of any and all subdivision plat notes, deed restrictions, restrictive covenants and/or zoning conditional overlay information which may apply to this property.

  
(Applicant's signature)

11/7/09  
(Date)

TAX CERTIFICATE  
Nelda Wells Spears  
Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector  
P.O. Box 1748  
Austin, Texas 78767  
(512) 854-9473

NO 1039010

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 02-2006-0207-0000

PROPERTY OWNER:

PARIS-WHITE AMY M & DOUGLAS K  
4213 AVENUE D  
AUSTIN, TX 78751-3718

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

LOT 3&4 BLK 23 HYDE PARK ADDN NO 1

ACRES 0.000 MIN% .00000 TYPE

SITUS INFORMATION: 4213 AVENUE D

This is to certify that after a careful check of tax records of this office, the following taxes, delinquent taxes, penalties and interests are due on the described property of the following tax unit(s):

YEAR ENTITY  
2008 AUSTIN ISD  
CITY OF AUSTIN (TRAV)  
TRAVIS COUNTY  
TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
ACC (TRAVIS)

TOTAL  
\*ALL PAID\*  
\*ALL PAID\*  
\*ALL PAID\*  
\*ALL PAID\*  
\*ALL PAID\*

TOTAL SEQUENCE 0

TOTAL TAX:  
UNPAID FEES:  
INTEREST ON FEES:  
COMMISSION:  
TOTAL DUE ==>

\*ALL PAID\*  
\*ALL PAID\*  
\* NONE \*  
\* NONE \*  
\* NONE \*  
\*ALL PAID\*

TAXES PAID FOR YEAR 2008 \$7,651.40

ALL TAXES PAID IN FULL PRIOR TO AND INCLUDING THE YEAR 2008 EXCEPT FOR UNPAID YEARS LISTED ABOVE.

The above described property may be subject to special valuation based on its use, and additional rollback taxes may become due. (Section 23.55, State Property Tax Code).

Pursuant to Section 31.08 of the State Property Tax Code, there is a fee of \$10.00 for all Tax Certificates.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE ON THIS DATE OF 01/07/2009

Fee Paid: \$10.00

Nelda Wells Spears  
Tax Assessor-Collector

By: 



4213 Avenue D

### McMillen-Falk House History

Historical Documentation for 4213 Avenue D, Austin, TX 78751

Source: City Directories

1924	with 4211 with 4215	McClung, Jos B (Roxie), clerk r 4213 McMillen, Luther F and Maude, contractor
1929-1935		Robb, John L, lineman WU Tel Co
1935-1937		Evans, Frank E. and Lenna, carpenter
1937-1942		Cloud, Loel J and Mary M, emp County Auditor
1942-1944/45		Peters, Emil W and Louise, carpenter
1944/45-1963		Falk, Gustav and Christine (with son Bibb Falk)
1963-1989		Falk, Elsa M
1989-2007		Merz, Jon and Lee. Rosalind
2007-present		Paris-White, Amy M and Douglas K

In 2008, the Paris-White's went through historic review and added an 1100 ft<sup>2</sup> addition to the back of the house. In an extraordinary attempt to retain all architectural integrity, the front and sides and most of the back of the house were virtually untouched, allowing for the hypothetical removal of the addition to return the house to it's exact same form.



## 4213 Avenue D

The property at 4213 Avenue D began with humble roots like the bungalows adjacent to it and hundreds of other bungalows in Hyde Park. Monroe Shipe's vision for the area was initially an exclusive enclave and he built or had contracted the grand corner houses first. When sales were not as aggressive as he had hoped, Hyde Park became 'filled in' with modest bungalows to house the workers in the area. (*Austin's Hyde Park*, Sitton & Sitton). Therefore, the district shows large two-story Victorian farmhouse, arts and crafts and even columned colonial homes on the corners and in some mid-block locations and numerous bungalows built mostly between 1925-1930.

4213 Avenue D is a typical bungalow exhibiting craftsman elements on the exterior and interior. It's inhabitants and owners have also been typical in that they have been mostly blue-collar working class. The best I can piece together is that Jos McClung who was a clerk and likely a small scale real-estate speculator, joined forces with Luther McMillen who was a contractor and they purchased and probably built what became known as 4211, 4212, 4213, 4214 and 4215 Avenue D. The city directories show them as the owners of the plats in 1924 and the houses were built in 1925.

The first owner of the house is J. L. Robb, who was a lineman. He sold the house to Frank Evans in 1935 who was a carpenter. In 1937 Joel Cloud occupied the house and he was a County Auditor. The house was later occupied by Emil Peters who was also a carpenter. In 1942 Gustav Falk, a fireman, railroad inspector and machinist, purchased the house and moved in with his wife and children.

This is remarkable in that Gustav and his wife had six children. It seems that all of them at one point lived in this two bedroom bungalow! Eventually just August (Bibb) Falk and his sister Elsie lived together according to an interview taken in 1966 by Elsie Falk. She died in 1980. We know that Bibb Falk lived here by himself until he died in 1989 at Brackenridge Hospital. Almost everyone in the entire Falk family is buried at Austin Memorial Park Cemetery in Section 1, Row 305.

The history and significance of Bibb Falk to Austin and to Baseball in general is extraordinary and iconic. His entire coaching of the UT baseball team (now using Disch-Falk stadium) occurred while he lived in this house. Fame and relative fortune never became important enough for him to leave the tiny bungalow that he moved into in the early 1940's.

In addition to simply having community value, this house meets historic landmark criteria in the following ways:

1. It is older than 50 years
2. It retains sufficient integrity of materials and design. (contributing structure according to Terri Myers of Preservation Central)
3. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
4. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS: It has significant association with a person of historical significance who contributed to the history of Austin and the nation's baseball legacy.
5. ARCHITECTURE: It embodies the distinguishing characteristics of a craftsman bungalow from the time.

4213 Avenue D

We believe the house should become a Landmark as it is a stunning example of the most prevalent architectural style in the neighborhood and a testament to the value that the neighborhood held for a famous man of significant financial means exceeding pursuits of grander living. The fact that almost everyone who occupied the house was a carpenter or involved in construction means that the house has been remarkably well-maintained, most likely by the owners themselves.