Bishop's Peak

Soon, a time came when it was necessary for both of us to make a horizontal shift across the face from one ledge to another. The maneuver looked simple enough. It entailed edging out around a jutting mass of rock in order to reach the opposite ledge. The problem stemmed from the rock's scarcity of footholds, its vertical nature, and the fact that it hung out over an expanse of rocks and bushes a couple of hundred feet below.

With the safety line attached securely to our waists, Brian crossed first. He made the trip look easy. Now, with him perched safely on the other side, it was my turn to traverse the ledges.

I chose the exact spot on the rock where I would place my hands and feet and then I pushed myself away from the ledge. The first few steps came easily until the inevitable occurred. I had managed to get myself into such an awkward position that I found it impossible to go on. I remained calm despite an intense fear which gripped my body. I felt paralyzed from my waist down.

My mind reeled. Brian had explained that our equipment was the best and that the Nylon ropes were designed to stretch some 30 percent upon impact from a fall. But now it was different. I had pulled myself onto the ledge. I sat down and braced myself at the end of the rope. He pulled me onto the ledge. I sat down and breathed a huge sigh of relief. Oddly enough, I found the whole incident pretty amusing, in fact, I couldn't wait to do it again.

The maneuver is achieved by means of a double rope passed under one thigh, diagonally across the body, and over the opposite shoulder. I learned that serious rappelling was for the experienced only. Brian, who had climbed many times before, knew just what he was doing.

As I stood watching him slide gracefully down the rope, my mind wandered. Here I was high atop Bishop's Peak but how much did I really know about this mountain? I had seen it so often from Cal Poly that it had become merely a common sight. It was just one of the nine volcanic plugs located along the Los Osos Valley from San Luis Obispo to Morro Bay. But now it held a different meaning. The correct approach comes only from a knowledgeable friend; or, he notes chances to quit high school at age 16. First of the Turner boys to make it through four years of college... jumped from college to college. Coast-to-coast seat to seat was landed at Cal Poly where he became Mr. Everything in track and football. But that's not all. I said this is a semi-riches story. Cecil Turner... plays professional football with the Chicago Bears... led the league in kickoff returns in 1968... selected to the All-Pro team that same year.

Already you like this story-yes? Cecil Turner gave his bonus money to beam after being selected fifth in the football draft, today he still sends her money to make ends meet. Now we're talking- you're going to love it.

Me—what am I doing writing a story about professional football player? My sports career began and ended in grade seven when David-someone was the quarterback and I was the end. He threw the ball and I was in the end and I caught it (on my knees). I made six points only because the defensive back was a friend from Sunday school and he fell and I needed it. So, let me have it. Not exactly all-pro. That, I guess, is the reason I wanted to meet Turner. I shook hands with Cecil in the College Union, outside the ice cream parlor. We were introduced by the guy that sat behind me in Bio 101. He said, "This is Cecil Turner of the Chicago Bears... his All-Out of Chicago Magazine." Great!

"Hi Cecil, I'm Paul." What does a professional football player say to the All-Pro? "I've heard of you!" But I was impressed. Anyway, impressed enough to want to write about Cecil Turner. I was pretty sure I had met him once and that impressed me. I was going to do a story on an individual, not on a six foot, thirteen inch 400 lb. Marshall. I was still growing. I was getting ready to enjoy the job.

First thing's first; where does one find a professional football player in San Luis Obispo during the off-season, trying to complete his senior project? Madonna Ave. Come on, not riches... semi-riches. At the Don Motel, 1473 Monterey, next door to Fred's Take-Out. I met the friends of Cecil, Margo, and year-old Monica Turner. Not every professional earns a six-figure contract. Playing alongside Gale Sayers doesn't mean you take home a Gale Sayers meal ticket. Being named All-Pro isn't magic, either. That road is long and even a bright lad like Turner provides a stark contrast to the Don Motel, life for Cecil Turner amounts to a lot more than providing entertainment for millions on Sunday afternoons. A whole lot more.

I talked with Turner, he drove back to Chicago to have the team doctors check out a knee that had been giving him trouble, while the two Turner brothers spent a month in Texas with Margo's family. For the last six months before he was packed, I was able to get to the feel of the world of professional football—not just my own 180-pound record, holding league records, being awarded the game balls; but the dirt from the track, the mud, the most exhilarated on the track, the {rrain, the water-on-the-knee-along with the few deep looks at home Cecil Turner could handle the pressure of being a professional football player. We talked about the young Cecil Turner, the sporadic student Turner, and the professional Turner.
A slice of life from that guy on the screen.

Let's draw a picture of the Ceci Turner who left Cal Poly in 1966 to go to the University of Arizona. He was a pretty good man in my life-track coach Dick Purcell who out to him and tremendously influenced his life. As a wide receiver, he was a standout player for the Dallas Cowboys and the Los Angeles Rams. He thought he'd be drafted by the Bears, but the team didn't pick him. He liked Purcell because he had a lot of command.

It was during his senior year year he became interested in playing pro ball. He spent the season between several pro clubs. He was a pretty good man, but he didn't have the drive to make it big in college. He learned quickly. At age 10 he knew age 14 material.

At a school where athletic machines are in operation, Ceci Turner is always quicker than the other boys. He always does more. He's an athlete who's been here for more than their required years. He's a good time like all the other kids. All the white kids have all their fraternities and dormitories-Modoc-we called it the dormitory area. Very significant. "McNair was the one who motivated me to get through high school."

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Cecil Turner...

for me. I thought I owed it to them to make the team—besides to my mother and father.*

And you know the story—he made it and made it modestly big. (Remember, this is a semi-riches story.) He played with the Dick Butkus, the Brian Piccolo and the Gale Sayers. He led the league in kickoff return (108 yards), was selected to the All-Pro team that year.

I think I should qualify this for a semi-riches story. If I waited a few more years to write this story it might turn into a genuine rag to riches story.

The only real security that pro football can offer is a great bundle of money. Bears owner George Halas is not giving. After two more years with the Bears, Cecil will probably not be playing. He claims he has at least five more good years, but he's tired of the system. His wife Margo echoes that feeling: Pro ball is nice but it's the system that really gets you down. The travelling, the if's-and-ands and the workers, that's what he does now in the off-season in D.C. Right now a lot is up in the air. In fact, right now, a lot is riding on the condition of his knee. No security in pro ball.

End of story. I'm glad I've met this professional football player and found a man inside. I can almost say I really know him now. And you: you happen to see a Bears game on TV next Fall. Hopefully, you can stop a minute, even just a moment to be, and say: "I saw a guy running back the kickoff."

That would really make me happy.
bribers made their negative recommendations. The College Ad-
mission procedures were not followed before the tenured committee
moved for an appearance before the PRC. He claimed that
Vart Ramsey's clear sailing. The first time around Kennedy sent
Iris, in the form of college president Dr. Robert E. Kennedy, rose to
jlrurtor, but for Ramsey the danger was not yet over. Another ob-
server pointed out to the PRC that Ramsey's terminal year. Putting
it bluntly, he has been fired for the game will work right. It must be played fairly by all
involved. The students get too indiscreet, Kennedy is out of the game.

In a meeting with leaders of the ABFF (Associated Student
Survey of Instructor's Teaching) committee on May 4, Kennedy
assured the students that he has instructed all seven instructional
schools here to have some system of student evaluation of instructors
who are the lecturers, who are originally hired on a temporary basis with
the title of Lecturer. When a department is cut, the first employees to go are
are enrolled in the English course offerings. According to Jenkins, a budget cut
in the English department would not
fall back on the State College Master Plan for Higher
Education. . .but somebody must have formulated that? Is Dumke
the delicate tightrope Kennedy walks. If he leans too far to
the left, he may be notified on June 1
retention this year from her tenured committee members, depart-
manship criteria of holding or currently working toward a doctoral
degree. However, in a re-evaluation of her situation, it was deter-
mined that Miss Irvin had not been teaching as a probationary em-
ployee long enough to be eligible for tenure. (An instructor must complete four years o.
probationary employee status before he may apply for tenure.)

Miss Irvin was reappointed for the 73-74 academic year, but a
stipulation of her return the following year is that she must
prove evidence of progressing toward a doctorate. Nobody seems to know. . .but still It hurts when teachers get fired,
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