

An Interview with
Jane “Mitch” Hanneken

at *The Historical Society of Missouri* St. Louis
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Oral History Program

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PREFACE

The interview was taped on a placed on a tripod. There are periodic background sounds but the recording is of generally high quality.

The following transcript represents a rendering of the oral history interview. Stylistic alterations have been made as part of a general transcription policy. The interviewee offered clarifications and suggestions, which the following transcript reflects. Any use of brackets [] indicates editorial insertions not found on the original audio recordings. Physical gestures, certain vocal inflections such as imitation, and/or pauses are designated by a combination of italics and brackets []. Any use of parentheses () indicates a spoken aside evident from the speaker's intonation, or laughter. Quotation marks [""] identify speech depicting dialogue, speech patterns, or the initial use of nicknames. Em dashes [—] are used as a stylistic method to show a meaningful pause or an attempt to capture nuances of dialogue or speech patterns. Words are *italicized* when emphasized in speech or when indicating a court case title. Particularly animated speech is identified with **bold** lettering. Underlining [] indicates a proper title of a publication. The use of underlining and double question marks in parentheses [(??)] denotes unintelligible phrases. Although substantial care has been taken to render this transcript as accurately as possible, any remaining errors are the responsibility of the editor, Josephine Sporleder.

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- Blanche Touhill: Would you introduce yourself?
- Mitch Hanneken: My name is Jane Hanneken...Mitchell, that was my maiden name and I go by the name "Mitch" as a nickname.
- Blanche Touhill: Would you talk about your childhood: your parents, your siblings, your grandparents, your cousins, anybody in your family and how you played as a child. Did you play with boys and girls or both or mixed or whatever happens, and would you talk about who in your family encouraged you to be what you wanted to be.
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, I guess first, I can start off by saying I was raised by wonderful parents and my parents were very involved with us, with school and at home and my dad was extremely firm, which I think we learned a lot from. We played with boys and girls in the neighborhood. It was a mixed group and our parents would play with us.
- Blanche Touhill: Oh, really?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes. We had Fly Sheet Fly and...
- Blanche Touhill: What did you have, Fly Sheet Fly?
- Mitch Hanneken: I don't even remember how it went but all I know we did a lot of running and hiding and my folks were very good when it snowed. They would take us sleigh riding and roller skating. My dad and mom wouldn't let us own a two-wheeler. I had a cousin that was killed on it and so they decided we should not ride it. We could ride anybody else's but we couldn't ride ours. I was in a neighborhood that there were a lot of children. My dad's office was just up the street. In fact, his business was the paper just a couple weeks ago.
- Blanche Touhill: What business was that?
- Mitch Hanneken: Was Brand Michelette Motors. It was the only Pontiac dealer in St. Louis at the time.
- Blanche Touhill: Oh, my goodness.
- Mitch Hanneken: And he was the first automobile dealer on Kingshighway.

Blanche Touhill: What year was that?

Mitch Hanneken: 1929, they built the building and now they're renovating it and, of course, [inaudible 02:18] bought it and he's putting apartments on the upper floor and the bottom floor is used for his business. It was in the paper. It was a nice article.

Blanche Touhill: This is Kingshighway and...

Mitch Hanneken: And Pernod.

Blanche Touhill: And Pernod, okay. I know that area.

Mitch Hanneken: South St. area.

Blanche Touhill: So you lived in that South St. Louis area?

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, we just lived two blocks from there at that time and when I went to high school, we moved...

Blanche Touhill: No, no, don't get to high school yet.

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, okay.

Blanche Touhill: When you talk about your family, who encouraged you to really be educated and to be what you want?

Mitch Hanneken: Both my parents. My dad only went to 4th grade because his mother died and so he had to help raise or pay to support the other four children and my mother, too, and they felt that the college education was extremely important and, of course, I had good genes, I guess I should say, from friends that encouraged. I always wanted to be a physical education teacher.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, really?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes, since 4th grade and I enjoyed that and that's what I did all my life.

Blanche Touhill: Did your mother and father approve of that?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes. My mother was very proud of us but she was never the kind that ever bragged about her children. She didn't like braggadocios people.

- Blanche Touhill: What about your father, did he brag about you?
- Mitch Hanneken: No, Dad didn't do that either but both of them encouraged us a lot and said that we need to go to college or get a trade but we had to do one or the other. We couldn't just go out in the community. So we decided what we were going to do.
- Blanche Touhill: What other games did you play when you were a child?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, Lord, as I said, Fly Sheet Fly, we played wall ball. I guess you threw it on the steps and caught it.
- Blanche Touhill: Yes, and there were points, weren't there?
- Mitch Hanneken: That's right, you had so many points, and we jumped rope a lot and, as I said, we roller skated.
- Blanche Touhill: In the street?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah, we used to block the street off. On Sundays we were allowed to that, in the alleys we'd play a lot too. When my dad's business was there, we'd go on the weekends at his business because it had a big concrete ramp and we'd go up there and skate all the way down and into the showroom.
- Blanche Touhill: So that was fun?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah, we had a lot of fun. All the neighborhood kids would come over and Dad would have a little fire for us and we'd have roast marshmallows and enjoyed those kinds of things.
- Blanche Touhill: So your mother and father enjoyed the children?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes. There were just three of us, my twin sister and an older sister.
- Blanche Touhill: So he had three girls?
- Mitch Hanneken: Mm-hmm.
- Blanche Touhill: Did he want any of them to go into the business?
- Mitch Hanneken: No, I don't think any of us really even gave...in those days, women didn't go into those kinds of businesses. My mother helped my

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dad with the finances and things but not going down to the showroom or anything of that kind. It's not like today.

Blanche Touhill: Was your father more of a mechanic or a salesperson?

Mitch Hanneken: No, I'd say he was more of a sales...he was pretty intelligent for a 4th grade education.

Blanche Touhill: I think there were a lot of people that didn't complete grade school and then there were even more that didn't complete high school.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes.

Blanche Touhill: In that generation, yeah. And he went into business in, what, 1929?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, it was before that, I think. He worked for a couple of automobile agencies before that.

Blanche Touhill: And did The Depression affect his business?

Mitch Hanneken: During the war, when you couldn't get cars, so he had to give up new cars and then he bought the property from the building there all the way over to Oleatha and it was used cars and he was very successful with that and he invented the Seal of Integrity.

Blanche Touhill: What is that?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, if they saw the Seal of Integrity on the window, they knew that he could be trusted. It's like Dave Sinclair, is now kind of a thing.

Blanche Touhill: That if you buy the car and he says it has this problem but not that problem; he told you the truth, roughly?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah. He didn't believe in that business of...he always said if you buy a used car, you buy trouble, but at the same time, he made sure the cars were workable and drivable before you bought it.

Blanche Touhill: So then you went to grade school.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes.

- Blanche Touhill: And high school. Were you a leader in grade school and high school?
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, I guess you'd call it leader. I was a class officer in grade school. They didn't have a lot of meetings and that kind of a thing, and then, when they wanted volunteers for things, I would volunteer often, plant the gardens in front of the church, we did that and we used to go down to the nuns' headquarters down on Carondelette.
- Blanche Touhill: Oh, so you went to the St. Joseph on Carondelette?
- Mitch Hanneken: We went down to do some volunteer work.
- Blanche Touhill: I know, but was the order of nuns at St. Joseph's...?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes.
- Blanche Touhill: ...of Carondelette?
- Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, I went to St. Mary Magdalene on Kingshighway and we didn't get there until 4th grade because there were no electric signals and we couldn't cross Chippewa without supervision so we waited until 4th grade and then we went to the public school prior to that.
- Blanche Touhill: So you didn't have to cross the street in the public school?
- Mitch Hanneken: No, we did.
- Blanche Touhill: Oh, you did? Oh, but you had to do it [inaudible 08:05].
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, it wasn't as busy. It was just four or six blocks but St. Mary Magdalene was about eight blocks or so.
- Blanche Touhill: So it was a long walk.
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah.
- Blanche Touhill: Why did you say that you decided in the 4th grade to be a physical educator?

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- Mitch Hanneken: I don't know. I just liked the physical education activities and I guess I liked the teacher that used to teach it when I was in school. I think you get your first impression, and so I did that.
- Blanche Touhill: Did you play on the St. Louis Public School playgrounds in the summer?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, every summer, and we played the Mills Tournament.
- Blanche Touhill: Oh, yes, the Mills. Oh, I remember the Mills. That's a very German game.
- Mitch Hanneken: We played volleyball. There was a volleyball tournament we played in and I don't know if you remember the rugs that you used...
- Blanche Touhill: Yes, I do remember the rugs.
- Mitch Hanneken: The wooden frame and...
- Blanche Touhill: Yes, and then you sort of wove it, yeah.
- Mitch Hanneken: And the pot holders.
- Blanche Touhill: Oh, the pot holders, I remember the pot holders too, and I remember the tables. They had a mill game and then they had checkers and then they had the mill and then the checkers.
- Mitch Hanneken: That's right, and it was outside on the playground.
- Blanche Touhill: Yes, it was outside on the playground. So you played on some of the teams that played other schools?
- Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, in the summer, we did that, mm-hmm. I enjoyed that.
- Blanche Touhill: What was the public school you played?
- Mitch Hanneken: Kennard on Potomac and Pernod.
- Blanche Touhill: Yes. Kennard to this day is a very good school.
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes. It's one of a few.
- Blanche Touhill: Yeah, it's one of a few. So you announced you were going to become a physical education teacher and your parents said fine?

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Mitch Hanneken: Yes.

Blanche Touhill: So what did your sisters become?

Mitch Hanneken: My twin was an artist and I never considered her too good of an artist because she couldn't draw a horse. That's what I used to tell her.

Blanche Touhill: And you loved horses?

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, but she did art and my older sister, Dorothy...I'm trying to remember what Dorothy finally went into. I don't know if she went into much of anything. She just got a job.

Blanche Touhill: In a business?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, I think she...she worked for my dad for a while.

Blanche Touhill: Did your artistic sister, did she teach?

Mitch Hanneken: No.

Blanche Touhill: So she just drew and made a living that way?

Mitch Hanneken: Right. Well, she didn't make a living. She got married also young, right out of college and had children but she took up upholstery and was very talented and she'd do a lot of drawings and frame them and people would buy them, that kind of thing.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, really? Yes, wonderful. Well, so where did you go to high school?

Mitch Hanneken: Ursuline.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, yes. People say very nice things about Ursuline, even today.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, they were on the...they won twice in a row when Dr....oh, I can't think of her name now, but she was wonderful and twice...

Blanche Touhill: Was she the head mistress or something?

Mitch Hanneken: She was a principal, a president too, and she was there about five years and that school had the best awards twice, excellent award, which I thought, was quite an honor.

- Blanche Touhill: You know, we had interviewed a woman last week who's a graduate of Ursuline and my judgment is she was like, maybe a year or two behind you, Mariana McMullen.
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes, they love her.
- Blanche Touhill: Yes, but she started Ursuline, I think a little late. I think she went in her junior year or something. But anyway, so, were you a leader there?
- Mitch Hanneken: Yes, I was head of the sports department, athletic club. We had a tumbling club and I helped with that, teaching students that and when they had the homecoming, I always helped in the cafeteria. We did the ice cream.
- Blanche Touhill: Oh, yes.
- Mitch Hanneken: I loved that.
- Blanche Touhill: What was your favorite ice cream?
- Mitch Hanneken: Butter pecan, still is.
- Blanche Touhill: Where do you get your ice cream today?
- Mitch Hanneken: Now? Well, Ted Drewes mostly.
- Blanche Touhill: On Grand or Chippewa?
- Mitch Hanneken: On Chippewa, St. Louis Hills. Every now and then, Shop & Save, believe it or not, has one of the best ice creams. It doesn't freeze. You know how a lot of ice cream gets ice? This does not. You can keep it a long time and you never have a problem.
- Blanche Touhill: Well, I remember, in the era that you grew up in and I grew up in, we didn't have freezers in the refrigerator so if you got ice cream, you had to eat it at one time or it would melt. Do you remember that?
- Mitch Hanneken: No, I don't.
- Blanche Touhill: Well, I had a brother and a sister and then a mother and father and an aunt and another cousin and we'd order, like, a half...

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Mitch Hanneken: ...gallon.

Blanche Touhill: ...whatever it was and then we'd all get a slice and it was Neapolitan, the chocolate, vanilla and strawberry. Sometimes it was Pistachio too or something.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, yes.

Blanche Touhill: And I always remember that, that if we tried to save anything and put it in the icebox, it would all melt on us. So we knew when we got the half gallon, we were all going to finish it.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, my dad also.... to this day, I remember but I know he sold Norge Icebox too and I remember down on Forest Park and...I don't know if it was Newstead or Boyle, he had a building there that he had refrigerators and freezers there.

Blanche Touhill: Do you remember the old Boyle streetcar?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes, yeah.

Blanche Touhill: And that became Gaslight Square, that area.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, yes.

Blanche Touhill: Then you went to college, so where did you go?

Mitch Hanneken: Fontbonne. I majored in sociology and minored in physical education and psychology and then I graduated from there and I taught in the Archdiocese for two years.

Blanche Touhill: What school?

Mitch Hanneken: Mercy High School but first it was DuBourg and that was when it was at the Barracks.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, I didn't know it was at the Barracks.

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes, it was at the Barracks for two years while they built the school.

Blanche Touhill: Jefferson Barracks?

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Mitch Hanneken: Uh-huh, which is not far from where I live now on Eickleberger in St. Louis Hills, and I was there at DuBourg and then my former phys ed teacher that I had a lot of respect for too...

Blanche Touhill: What, from college?

Mitch Hanneken: Mm-hmm...was married out of the church and in those days, you know, you were ex-communicated so she had to leave so they asked me to take her place.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, my.

Mitch Hanneken: So I took her place.

Blanche Touhill: At Fontbonne?

Mitch Hanneken: No, Mercy.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, at Mercy, when you were teaching, pardon me.

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, so I went to Mercy.

Blanche Touhill: And Mercy was on...

Mitch Hanneken: Pennsylvania and...

Blanche Touhill: And it's now the Schnucks or something, Schnooks Warehouse or something like that.

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, and I was there two years and then I went to Rittner Junior High.

Blanche Touhill: Now, the Rittner schools were very good.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, they were just learning, getting...and that's when...

Blanche Touhill: Yes, because that population was growing.

Mitch Hanneken: Right. Then I went out to Rockwood.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, my, that must have been all fields.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, just about. They started all over. I was there two years and then I was in Ladue for 12 years.

Blanche Touhill: And how did you like all three schools?

- Mitch Hanneken: They were all right.
- Blanche Touhill: Public schools.
- Mitch Hanneken: Of course, you can't compare Ladue with these others because they didn't have the finances to have all the things that we had.
- Blanche Touhill: That Ladue had?
- Mitch Hanneken: Yes, and then I left there...
- Blanche Touhill: Well, now, let's talk about physical education. What do you think about physical education in schools today?
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, I think it's very important and I get very upset, that's the first thing they cut, that and art, you know, when they want to cut a budget, although they're doing a little better about it now, feeling that it's very, very important for children. I'm still a believer that you need exercise every day of some kind and I can see people that I've graduated with, I can tell the people that did the smoking and the drinking and no exercise and those that did exercise are still living and those that didn't are gone. And a lot of them, I found out, as they got older, they need the exercise and I think it's helped.
- Blanche Touhill: Do you think children today have as much exercise as they did in your time?
- Mitch Hanneken: I think they have more...well, I don't know, it depends. They have a lot of, let's say, competitive sports. They have this...I forget the name of it, where the kids go after school. It's an expensive program and they travel and the kids do their homework on the bus when they're going to Indianapolis or Chicago.
- Blanche Touhill: Really?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes. I cannot remember what the name of it is.
- Blanche Touhill: But those are children that really are focused on getting a scholarship to college or something.
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, yes, but some of them never get a scholarship.

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Blanche Touhill: They just love it?

Mitch Hanneken: And that's an expense too.

Blanche Touhill: What was your favorite sport?

Mitch Hanneken: Tennis and skiing.

Blanche Touhill: Now, were women competitive in tennis?

Mitch Hanneken: Not as much as it is now but we just did it within schools and it's bigger and more competitive today.

Blanche Touhill: Did they do it in the public schools as well as the Catholic schools?

Mitch Hanneken: I don't think they do as well in public as they do in private, like John Burroughs and Mary I and St. Jo, you know, the Catholics and the Lutheran. They're pretty competitive. Of course, years ago, tennis was quite popular but I think it's lost a lot of its finesse.

Blanche Touhill: You know, it was quite popular and did you ever play at the Dwight Davis...

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, I was the first woman referee.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, my goodness.

Mitch Hanneken: So, I used to do that with the professionals all the time. In fact, I've gone to Chicago and umpired and refereed for those.

Blanche Touhill: Do you referee men's tennis as well as women's?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yes, I did Nastase and Ken Rosenthal and...

Blanche Touhill: McEnroe or somebody like that?

Mitch Hanneken: Right.

Blanche Touhill: And then there was a young man from...

Mitch Hanneken: St. Louis.

Blanche Touhill: From East St. Louis.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, you're talking about the black fellow.

Blanche Touhill: O'Connor, no.

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, I used to play tennis, I'd hit the balls with him every Sunday over at Triple A in Forest Park.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, yes. Have you been to Triple A recently?

Mitch Hanneken: No. I mean, it's there but I don't want to go there. I'm so disgusted with it. It's terrible.

Blanche Touhill: Oh.

Mitch Hanneken: I was a member for 52 years. You could go there at any time of the day and pick up a game and you had good people to play with. I used to play with the pro all the time. It was kind of nice.

Blanche Touhill: Well, there was always a feeling that that shouldn't have been a private club, right? Remember those days?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, but the thing is that that property belonged to Washington U and during the flood, papers were lost.

Blanche Touhill: Of '93 or earlier?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah, way early and the Triple A, where Washington U was, they swapped and then there was a conflict then they got together and we got where we are and they got where they are.

Blanche Touhill: Really?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah. I was on the board there, one of the first women to be a member.

Blanche Touhill: Did they have a differentiation of times for women?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, the rule was when I first started, when you played, if you were on the tennis court with just all girls and the men came, you were ostracized. You were out. But if you were playing with a male or mixed doubles, you could stay on.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, my.

Mitch Hanneken: I never had a problem with it. Nobody ever chased me.

Blanche Touhill: If you were with girls even? Yeah. They knew you.

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Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, they were pretty good about it.

Blanche Touhill: But that was the rule?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah.

Blanche Touhill: The reason I mention that, I went over there the other day and they have a very nice place outside to eat and it was a lovely afternoon.

Mitch Hanneken: It used to be a great place to go, was really more tennis than golf, as such, and now it's mostly all golf.

Blanche Touhill: When you taught school, did the women make less than the men?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, God, yes. In fact, the fellow that taught with me was one of the worse teachers that I have ever had and he'd come in late for school. I had the noon hour all the time by myself. I had about four minutes for lunch. He took an hour for lunch and he was never on the playground and he didn't stay for after school sports and he had everybody else...coaches did. Yeah, I think he made about eight thousand more than I made and in Ladue, you were on a...it was a secretive type thing.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, you didn't know what everybody made?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, no.

Blanche Touhill: It wasn't a matter of public record?

Mitch Hanneken: No, and you weren't allowed to talk about it to your other teacher friends, your peers. They were very strict about it but somehow it got out with a lot of people.

Blanche Touhill: Yes, it gets out. What about at Rittner or Rockwood?

Mitch Hanneken: That wasn't a problem. I think I made about four thousand more when I went from the city...no, I'll take that back, I made a thousand more. In those days, that was all, the difference between private and public but as the years have gone by, that's why the Catholic and private schools are in trouble. They never kept up with the public and they're so far behind, they'll never catch up now and that's why they can't make it. You know, it's

eight thousand dollars' difference between a private school and a public school.

Blanche Touhill: In salary? Well, after you quit teaching, what did you do?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, I started a business called St. Louis Hills Perceptual Motor Learning Center and that was back in 1970 and naturally, that was the thing to do. It was motor perception and they felt that the kids who have these kind of problems had difficulty writing, both penmanship and thought, and moving, balancing. So I went and used my physical education skills and opened it up and we started out with that. Well, I had requests for people and they wanted to do tutoring so I hired tutors and I hired counselors. Then we did testing, both psychological and academic and besides the perceptual that I did, I became a very good friend of Jack Cratty from California who'd written numerous books and he was kind enough to let me audit them before he printed them, which was nice. We'd kind of critique them and he came and gave a couple of workshops for me and I gave a lot of workshops to a lot of the districts. Then, after the first year, people couldn't afford to pay \$15 an hour for tutoring so I went out and pounded the streets and got money and made Camp Happy Day a not-for-profit camp for kids ages 4 to 14 with learning disabilities, behavior problems, attention deficit and we increased to then language-impaired and autistic and bi-polar and I did that until just two years ago. It was for 42 years.

Blanche Touhill: Let me ask you something: Where was this located?

Mitch Hanneken: On Hampton in St. Louis Hills.

Blanche Touhill: On Hampton and what?

Mitch Hanneken: Between Nottingham and Chippewa.

Blanche Touhill: And you had a building?

Mitch Hanneken: Uh-huh, I owned it.

Blanche Touhill: So you got a mortgage on a building when you started out?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah.

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- Blanche Touhill: You were sure that you were going to make it?
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, I don't know if I was sure but I did it. I don't know if you call it stupid or not. But I did well and then I sold the building...I don't know, I've been trying to think of...
- Blanche Touhill: Well, it doesn't...
- Mitch Hanneken: I guess it was in the '90s.
- Blanche Touhill: When you opened your school, how did you get the word out?
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, the fact that I had taught in the public schools was a big help and I belonged to a physical education group and we'd meet and I'd pass stuff out and people started calling me, "I got a kid that needs this, this. Can you do this?" Principals got to know me and called me.
- Blanche Touhill: So you got referrals from schools?
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah, doctors too, lawyers but now, the last couple years, we weren't getting the referrals and teachers were doing their own so that's kind of eliminated...that's why I kind of threw the towel in and decided to quit.
- Blanche Touhill: Well, did they do them in the school building or did they do them someplace else?
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, some of them are doing it in the school building.
- Blanche Touhill: But they're in business for themselves really, so they're tutoring but it's a...
- Mitch Hanneken: They don't call it a business.
- Blanche Touhill: No, I understand. Well, tell me something: Why did you first choose the areas that you did?
- Mitch Hanneken: You're talking about physical education?
- Blanche Touhill: Yeah. What parts of physical education? You said you started with x, y and z and then you expanded.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, it was just by demand. People just needed it and I noticed that kids had problems and most of the times, when you got these children that weren't very athletic, they were kind of ostracized from the groups and I thought, well, I better do something to get them where they're more social and physical and it helped a lot for a lot of kids. I had two sets of twins and they were the worst, unsocial group of kids I've ever come across.

Blanche Touhill: Were they smart?

Mitch Hanneken: One group was; the other wasn't, and the mother was so overbearing, over protective that I kind of thought maybe we were going to wind up with some feminine males but we finally got a hold of Daddy and got them into some wrestling and karate and that kind of stuff and that kind of helped.

Blanche Touhill: You helped autistic children?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, I had the first autistic child in St. Louis. He lived behind me. His father was a lawyer and he's the one who set up the law things for my office and his son went with us until he was 15. He's now 45. He lives independently but he works at one of those...

Blanche Touhill: ...sheltered works.

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah. He should have been pushed on farther because he was capable but his mother didn't do it and now the father, I found out, I didn't know it and it upsets me, he doesn't have much to do with the boy and it's really sad. He never goes to see him and the kid doesn't go down to the house at all and the mother had a stroke and it really kind of upsets me a little bit.

Blanche Touhill: How do you help those children?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, I did the physical stuff with them. A lot of them was ball handling, skipping, hopping, jumping and then prepare them for things that they would get in phys ed at school that they couldn't do because nobody broke it down. They just demonstrated and the kids, they never had an idea of what was next and that's what I did and I tried advancing, then I'd get the parents, "Why don't you go take them over ice skating over at the park?" and they did

that and I'd say, "Get them on a team. Don't get them on a high focusing, competitive but one that just does it for fun" and they did that and they were glad they did that because it also helped them socially because most of these kids, their social skills are pathetic.

Blanche Touhill:

Yes.

Mitch Hanneken:

And the autistic boy that I had sees me every Christmas, brings me a bottle of [inaudible 30:21] and a box of candy.

Blanche Touhill:

Oh, how nice!

Mitch Hanneken:

It's just a riot and a beautiful card but I have a friend whose son was with us, is intelligent and he was learning disabled. He's vice president of a CPA firm and in eight years he was made vice president.

Blanche Touhill:

Well, often...I can't think of the name of that syndrome or whatever it is...

Mitch Hanneken:

Autistic?

Blanche Touhill:

Well, it's near autism but it's a little different one and they become experts in one or two areas.

Mitch Hanneken:

Oh, you're talking about...I know what you're talking about.

Blanche Touhill:

Yes, so I can see how he could be very good at numbers and really thinks in numbers.

Mitch Hanneken:

Well, you know, Dr., what really makes me feel so good, the last six years, everywhere I go, I have a parent stop me and they'll say, "Mitch, I want to tell you, what you did for my son or my daughter was wonderful. They'd never be where they are today..."...and I always say "It wasn't me. It was my staff," and they'd say, "Oh, but you were the one that orchestrated it" and they tell me...I have got kids that are mechanics, that are running restaurants. One of them is now in refrigeration and heating and just got a promotion and they were kids a lot of the teachers told them were stupid. If they'd just try, they could do it and the good thing about it is, they remember it and the one CPA said to me at

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Christmas and I just about cried, he said, "Mitch," he said, "I owe everything I've gotten to you." He said, "If it wouldn't be for you, I wouldn't be where I am." He came from a...father was a lawyer and they were divorced when he was six. There were eight kids in the family and every one of those kids are educated. But he still remembers going to camp and then when he got old enough, he was a counselor.

Blanche Touhill: Well, now, was your camp on Hampton too?

Mitch Hanneken: No, we used St. Gabriel's for 12 years.

Blanche Touhill: In the school?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah.

Blanche Touhill: In the play yards?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, we used the school premises inside because we had reading, arts & crafts, math and PE and those that needed it got speech or language.

Blanche Touhill: Well, you ran a regular little school?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, that's what it was and I'll tell you, the games that these kids made in the summer was unreal. The staff said they wished the parents to have the school year-round. The kids wanted to go year-round. They didn't want to go back to their school.

Blanche Touhill: Well, they wanted to succeed, the children wanted to succeed.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, and at the end of camp, we had a wonderful award night. Every kid got a trophy of some kind for something. It might have been the most improved social worker; I mean social person, the best mathematician, the best speller, fastest reader, good reader. It was really wonderful and these kids, it was cute, they'd stand, hold up their thing and show it and smile and they all had certificates. Maybe they learned...maybe the best hopper or skipper, something that they did that they know they did and earned.

Blanche Touhill: Did they go from 8:00 to 5:00?

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Mitch Hanneken: No, we went from 8:00 till 12:30, and Friday was field trip and we'd take them.

Blanche Touhill: Oh.

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah, we'd take them...

Blanche Touhill: You had a bus?

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, we hired...at first we didn't but then toward the end, we had a bus and we'd take them over in Illinois to the cave. The big kids went caving and we had a ropes course a fellow came.... It was wonderful and did rope climbing with them and we took them...they had that little bear one that's so popular...that you dress the bears. They have them...

Blanche Touhill: Oh, Build-a-Bear.

Mitch Hanneken: But they've gotten pretty sophisticated now, pretty expensive but I got a lot of stuff donated. I was really fortunate. The money was getting to the point, it was just coming in easy and I didn't have a lot of calling to do. We went down to the roller rink. Somebody stole our skates. We store them at the Lutheran warehouse and we never got them back and so we went to this rink out here in Lemay I guess it was and the kids would skate all morning.

Blanche Touhill: Did the girls go into sports as much as the boys?

Mitch Hanneken: Not years ago but they do now.

Blanche Touhill: They do now?

Mitch Hanneken: And a lot of them compete with the boys. They're not afraid, in track or basketball. They get pretty...volleyball.

Blanche Touhill: Do any of them get scholarships?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, I'm amazed, yes.

Blanche Touhill: How many did you have in your school?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, at the Learning Center, there were as many as maybe 35. In camp we took 10 in a group and we had eight groups by age level. But at my Learning Center, it was independently individualized.

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Blanche Touhill: Yes. So they came until they felt they had accomplished their goal and then they would go off?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah.

Blanche Touhill: Are you the basis of the Sylvan Learning Center?

Mitch Hanneken: No, nothing to it.

Blanche Touhill: So you really had a holistic approach to the child that if you could get them physically active, then the thought was, that would help in a learning situation? Back to the idea, what gave you the courage to quit your public school teaching salary and borrow money and buy a building?

Mitch Hanneken: I don't know. My father...I can't remember if Dad was still living at that time or not, but my mother was and I just decided I was going to do it and people said, "You need to do it. We need you" and so I just did it.

Blanche Touhill: So you had people who would hire you, would come to the school?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah, and we used to go to the schools and teach speech and language. I had a speech therapist. My people were all certified with Master's Degrees and at least 10 years' experience.

Blanche Touhill: And they wanted to have a new way of teaching?

Mitch Hanneken: Most of them would like to have taught all year if I did.

Blanche Touhill: So you didn't have your learning center in the summer. You had your Happy Camp?

Mitch Hanneken: No, it went year round.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, it went year round, okay.

Mitch Hanneken: Camp only went for six weeks.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, okay. And were most of those children from the neighborhood? Did they walk in?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, in the beginning they were, but then, we were from...we had a boy that came that was from North Carolina. He was in St. Louis and moved and they bought a camper and stayed out by the amusement center out in West...

Blanche Touhill: Oh, Six Flags?

Mitch Hanneken: And would drive in every morning and he did beautifully and he was 14 and now...I just saw it the other day, I want to call and see, he was having a hard time that last year we had him. He became a big behavior problem and it really worried us. I mean, we had to take him out of class and take him outside and let him run the playground three or four times before he settled down and he thought everything was funny, class clown.

Blanche Touhill: And then they'd go back home to North Carolina when the course was over?

Mitch Hanneken: And then the problem was that they didn't adapt the program to the child's needs and I think that's what happened. He was frustrated and he was an intelligent boy, and he was adopted and he was from Hawaii. His sister was sharp as a tack.

Blanche Touhill: Let me ask two other questions: If you had been born 50 years earlier, what would your life have been like? Would it be like it was or would it be different?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, I think it would be different because women weren't really recognized much as leaders or heads of any department. It was one of those things that they just existed, salary-wise and everything. So I think women in business now would be easy.

Blanche Touhill: Was there an organization of...National Association of Women in Business, NAWB or something, that probably didn't exist in those days.

Mitch Hanneken: Uh-uh.

Blanche Touhill: As a matter of fact, I can't think of any...the only thing I can think about...oh, somebody who did what you did but it wasn't physical education. We had in our neighborhood when I was growing up three sisters all had degrees in teaching but it was The Depression

and the St. Louis Public Schools weren't hiring anybody. They said to their staff, "You may keep your job but if somebody retires, then you get those extra children in your class." So they were sort of assured of a job but they knew the class load would grow and there were three of these women and they lived in a house a couple of blocks from where I lived and they would help kids who, on their way home from school, they'd go by to do their homework with them because their parents couldn't do it with them but they could afford to pay these three ladies and then I went because I had an older brother and sister and I kept wanting to go to school. So my family sent me over there for pre-reading. They didn't teach me how to read but they introduced me to words and symbols and I loved it. But I never heard of anybody doing what you did, especially with children who were disabled or had some...

Mitch Hanneken:

...disability.

Blanche Touhill:

...disability of some kind.

Mitch Hanneken:

Yeah. As I said, I really just took the chance and flew with it.

Blanche Touhill:

And how many years were you in business?

Mitch Hanneken:

Well, I started in '70 and I think I quit in '02 for the Learning Center and camp I started in '71. The boy that was autistic's father set us up and I quit just two years ago and I turned it over to two girls and it's a disaster and I took it away from them, took the name away from them also.

Blanche Touhill:

Did they fail?

Mitch Hanneken:

They changed the name, called it something about "Energy for Gifted Children" and they're using a Baptist church in Kirkwood. They had 12 kids last summer and 80 was our capacity but the last several years it started...people wanted the kids to be all day for babysitting, is really what they wanted.

Blanche Touhill:

But you wanted to help the child academically but you approached it through a physical education. How about the people that you hired?

Mitch Hanneken: They were wonderful, I'll tell you. Most of my staff, I had one girl that started with me. Anne was just wonderful. In fact, I just talked to her the other day but she was with me 25 years and retired but most of them stayed 10, 12 years and as they got older and retired, they quit.

Blanche Touhill: So you're really saying if you had been born 50 years earlier, you probably would not have gone into business?

Mitch Hanneken: Right.

Blanche Touhill: But you might have been a school teacher.

Mitch Hanneken: Could be, yeah. If they'd hire you but if you were Catholic, they wouldn't in the public school.

Blanche Touhill: How did you get hired then when you did, because those rules were changing?

Mitch Hanneken: In the Archdiocese. Well, I knew the arch bishop and I knew a couple of good people and my pastor was involved with Special Ed and Father Behrman so we all got...that was kind of nice.

Blanche Touhill: Was it hard to move from the Catholic sector to the public sector?

Mitch Hanneken: No, the only thing is, the discipline is different. There's discipline in the private schools and the public schools didn't have as much discipline but they had a lot more than what they do today.

Blanche Touhill: But you did find that it was hard for a Catholic educated person to get into the public schools right away?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, when I was first starting teaching, yes.

Blanche Touhill: There was a problem, yeah. I've heard other people say that as well. So you really made a living off your school?

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, I took people on ability to pay often and I wasn't a big high salaried person like a lot of these people who are pulling in eighty, ninety thousand dollars a year. That was not my cup of tea. I was married so I didn't really need to worry about that. And camp, I took a two thousand dollar salary every year and that was to pay for my gas and traveling and that was it.

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Blanche Touhill: How did your husband react to your job?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, he helped build things for me and, "I need this," he'd come do it and fix it.

Blanche Touhill: And did you have children?

Mitch Hanneken: No, we didn't. I got married at 35 and he was 38 and he used to tell everybody he saved me a fate worse than death because I was an old maid school teacher.

Blanche Touhill: So you were on his benefits so you had insurance through him?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah, I had everything through him, yeah.

Blanche Touhill: Did you offer your employees insurance?

Mitch Hanneken: No, they all were employed by Special School District. I forgot to mention that, yeah. I'd never hired anybody from the city public schools, never.

Blanche Touhill: But you did from the Special School District and those people are well educated and they know what they're doing.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, and they were referred to me and a lot of them called. They said, "I heard you have a wonderful program and I want to be involved," and it was really nice. A lot of them came and did their practicum teaching in the summer from UMSL. George Yard was very good about it.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, yes, I remember George, yeah. And his specialty was that special education.

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah.

Blanche Touhill: That's a great thing you did. You were a pioneer in those days.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, I got an award for that from the Disability Group.

Blanche Touhill: Good. Well, what about awards? Have you gotten awards that you're particularly proud of?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, I guess I'm really fortunate. When I was young, I thought only people that are old get awards. So I started kind of young but

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I'm old now and I have to laugh about it because I keep saying that only old people...that's who I used to know that got awards and then the next thing, I was getting them and they were coming from everywhere and I didn't understand it. But I was very fortunate and pretty well honored, you know, with so many awards.

Blanche Touhill: Name a couple of them.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, as I said, Fontbonne for Distinguished Alumni and Leadership and Ursuline was similar. Our names are on the boards.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, wonderful.

Mitch Hanneken: As you go into the chapel at Ursuline and at Fontbonne in the Ryan Hall, the big main...

Blanche Touhill: Oh, I remember that hall.

Mitch Hanneken: And the Learning Disability Group, I got an award for my business and I've had a lot of proclamations.

Blanche Touhill: Really?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, about six or eight from the mayor.

Blanche Touhill: You mean, like, the city? This is Mitch Day and things like that?

Mitch Hanneken: I've got them all framed. They're in my den, yup.

Blanche Touhill: What are you doing now that you're retired?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, I'm trying to finish up with camp stuff but I'm helping a friend that taught PE for me and she founded Task Force which is...what is it, taking athletic...I don't know, but anyway, it's for all phases of handicapped kids in Fenton and she has 800 kids year-round. She quit her job at Melville as a PE teacher and doing a beautiful...they got the building from the union workers in Fenton, the automobile...

Blanche Touhill: Oh, yes.

Mitch Hanneken: I think either they gave them the building or they got it cheap and they just had an open house about a year ago and it's beautifully renovated and I gave them a lot of my equipment and I would imagine soon they'll put a pool in out there because we had swimming too. The neighbor behind us let us use the swimming pool, my neighbor across the street did for years and then somebody told her not to let us do it; it was too dangerous. So they had to just walk out of the gym at Lutheran, right in the backyard and it was lovely.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, I know where that is.

Mitch Hanneken: [Inaudible 49:34] (Word Life?).

Blanche Touhill: Yes. Well, are you pleased that you made a change in your life and went into business?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah. I was kind of tired of the demands that I was getting and one day everybody thought you were wonderful and the next day, you weren't worth thirty cents. You got tired of that after a while. And this way I could do what I wanted when I wanted, how I wanted it and if I wanted it.

Blanche Touhill: Was your mother proud of you?

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, Mother never talked about it a lot but every now and then I'd hear her say, when we were out somewhere or somebody was talking about the school and I'd hear her say, "Well, she's done a wonderful job with kids," but I didn't let her know I heard that because she could not stand braggadocion and the same thing when I go to the office and he'd have somebody in there and he'd introduce me and tell them what I was doing and I don't think he always understood what I did.

Blanche Touhill: No, but he was proud that you were a success at it.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, he thought that a college education was extremely important.

Blanche Touhill: What do you think was the big impetus for you to go out on your own?

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- Mitch Hanneken: I don't know. I think I just had a lot of nerve and guts.
- Blanche Touhill: Where did you get your nerve and guts?
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, my dad was that way too. He was the first automobile dealer on Kingshighway and the oldest Pontiac dealer.
- Blanche Touhill: And when you think about it, he was in that business at an early time.
- Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah.
- Blanche Touhill: And then to adjust to a used car lot during the war, because I remember, there were no cars in the war unless you were a doctor or, like, the prosecuting attorney or somebody like that. You couldn't get the gasoline to put into the cars.
- Mitch Hanneken: That's right. Yeah, he was very successful and extremely respected. They used to talk about my dad's integrity.
- Blanche Touhill: Did Title Nine make a big difference in the life of the PE teacher and the girls in the society?
- Mitch Hanneken: I really don't think so. I know they tried to push it but the problem is, it depended upon your principal. If he thought it was important. In Ladue that was different. Most all of them thought that Physical Ed and sports was very, very important but I think it just depended on...
- Blanche Touhill: Well, I knew a lot of girls who could not get college scholarships before Title Nine and then when the Title Nine was passed and then the Reauthorization Bill was passed, they were able to qualify for scholarships and a lot of them really thought that was very important.
- Mitch Hanneken: Well, I'm sure that was true but, you know, I was ahead of it.
- Blanche Touhill: You were ahead of it.
- Mitch Hanneken: And so I didn't really get to see the advantages or disadvantages.
- Blanche Touhill: Well, there were so many schools that wouldn't give girls an opportunity. Gym was sort of calisthenics. It wasn't competitive

games. The Catholic girls' schools had more of that than the public schools.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, it amazes me now; we have a lot of private schools with male coaches for female schools.

Blanche Touhill: Yes.

Mitch Hanneken: Which I'm not really happy about. I think you need to have one of your kind.

Blanche Touhill: As a physical leader? Why?

Mitch Hanneken: I don't know. I just kind of feel...you don't see women taking over the men's.

Blanche Touhill: No.

Mitch Hanneken: I don't know how much respect you'd get today, if women were coaches for football.

Blanche Touhill: Well, you know, women are now appearing in the business offices of the big-time National Football League.

Mitch Hanneken: You see it in the paper, and you know what I think is funny?

Blanche Touhill: What?

Mitch Hanneken: All of the weather girls lately that are female, they're on TV.

Blanche Touhill: Yes.

Mitch Hanneken: I mean, there's a ton of them.

Blanche Touhill: And weather was the domain of the men, wasn't it? Yeah. Well, even the anchors, there are more women anchors.

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah, and when they go out as an agent, when...shootings or happenings of any kind.

Blanche Touhill: Yes, and I notice that with the overseas. You wouldn't think the women would be in Afghanistan reporting on the difficulties.

Mitch Hanneken: I know it.

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Blanche Touhill: Have you had a nice life?

Mitch Hanneken: I think I did. I feel I did. I'd be ready to go anytime.

Blanche Touhill: Because you're satisfied?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah. I've done what I wanted to do. The only thing I really haven't done is a lot of travelling and I'd like to have done that.

Blanche Touhill: Well, are you going to do it now?

Mitch Hanneken: I don't know. We'll see. I was so tied up with camp in the summer and year-round. You go away; your business isn't the same.

Blanche Touhill: No.

Mitch Hanneken: 30, 35, 40 years old.

Blanche Touhill: Well, we'll talk about that. We'll talk about your 12 friends going off and we'll talk about when you learned to ski. What else? Anything else?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, I loved tennis. I played it every day until two years ago and I had knee surgery twice on my right leg and once on the left.

Blanche Touhill: Because you loved it so?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, I just loved it dearly. It was fun but it was good exercise.

Blanche Touhill: What else?

Mitch Hanneken: Horseback riding.

Blanche Touhill: All right. My last question to you...or sort of my last question to you then is going to be, talk about your sports activity and then you can mention skiing and tennis.

Mitch Hanneken: What all I did?

Blanche Touhill: Yeah...and horseback riding. Talk about your sports.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, I started; I guess I should say, in high school. We did some horseback riding after school at Ursuline. We went out to a place off of Lindbergh and I can't think of the name of it. It wasn't Valley Park. We learned to do jumping hurdles and somehow my father

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was a good friend of our pediatrician and decided it wasn't good for girls to jump horses so that curtailed my...

Blanche Touhill: Is that true today?

Mitch Hanneken: No. So that curtailed my jumping but I did walk/trot, three-gaited and I rode in horse shows for about four years.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, my goodness.

Mitch Hanneken: And I showed in Kansas City and Chicago and St. Louis and won many ribbons and trophies.

Blanche Touhill: So you owned a horse?

Mitch Hanneken: No.

Blanche Touhill: No, you just used a horse?

Mitch Hanneken: You rented them from Missouri Stable.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, yes, in Forest Park.

Mitch Hanneken: Well, they were in Oakland and Berthold and then, just as I was in college, a dear friend of mine's husband liked tennis and he got me interested and that's how I started and played and played. Then I joined Triple A and I was there all summer, every summer until I went into camping. I go over there at 9:00 in the morning and we'd play till 5:00 at night, play it a couple hours and sit down and have lunch and play again, sit down and...

Blanche Touhill: Did you play with the same people all the time?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, I played with them a lot but maybe a game on Sunday, you played with a certain group and Saturday and then during the week, you just pick up a game when you went there because everybody worked mostly, unless they were school teachers or retired. I played with a fellow that was about 80 years old that invented the tennis machine.

Blanche Touhill: Now tell us, what is the tennis machine?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, it would feed balls that would come at you, and then you'd...

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Blanche Touhill: And they came at you in different ways?

Mitch Hanneken: Uh-huh.

Blanche Touhill: Did he make money off of it?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah. He was in Mexico or somewhere a lot.

Blanche Touhill: And then, talk about what other sports? So you were a tennis player...

Mitch Hanneken: I enjoyed skiing; I enjoyed that.

Blanche Touhill: When did you learn to ski?

Mitch Hanneken: I was kind of late. I would be in my 40's, I think.

Blanche Touhill: Wasn't that sort of taking your life in your hands?

Mitch Hanneken: No, I took lessons. I did it the right way and I think if you take lessons and learn how to fall...it's when you don't do it and you get your tip of the ski caught and then you break your leg. That's what's bad but when you're short like I was, I didn't have far to go.

Blanche Touhill: Did women ski much?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah.

Blanche Touhill: But did they ski earlier or was it mainly a men's sport?

Mitch Hanneken: Well, I think it started out that way but now I think it's pretty even and there were 12 of us that went every year.

Blanche Touhill: Twelve lady friends?

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, and the one that had the condo, she was a stewardess also with my sister.

Blanche Touhill: Where was the condo?

Mitch Hanneken: In Winter Park.

Blanche Touhill: Oh, yes, okay.

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Mitch Hanneken: And they were very strict about people skiing recklessly, which I liked. They take their pass away.

Blanche Touhill: Did they have to do it often?

Mitch Hanneken: No. Usually if word got out, it didn't take long.

Blanche Touhill: And people reported that because it was too dangerous?

Mitch Hanneken: Oh, yeah. Well, and the ski umpires or referees they were, they would ski on the slopes all the time and watch what went on.

Blanche Touhill: Was Winter Park a Breckinridge?

Mitch Hanneken: No, not that I know of.

Blanche Touhill: I know Breckinridge had places in Colorado but I wasn't sure...

Mitch Hanneken: Yeah, it was farther up. I liked Winter Park. I liked the slopes. They groomed them well and it was easy to get to from the airport.

Blanche Touhill: Was your sister who was the stewardess, was she in that age group that had to retire when they were 28 or something?

Mitch Hanneken: You know, I don't remember because she got married and in those days, you couldn't work.

Blanche Touhill: You couldn't work as a stewardess if you were married?

Mitch Hanneken: Right.

Blanche Touhill: I remember the day when you couldn't be a teacher in the St. Louis Public Schools and be married.

Mitch Hanneken: That's right.

Blanche Touhill: That ended in the '50s, yeah. Well, I've enjoyed our conversation a great deal and I think we've gone through your life and what you're really saying is you had a wonderful time and a life of usefulness.

Mitch Hanneken: Yes, I was fortunate and God was good to me.

Blanche Touhill: Yeah. Well, thank you very much and I'm sure we'll meet again.

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Mitch Hanneken:

My pleasure. Thank you.