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## Interview no. 702

Martha Lou Broaddus

Mohrhauser J. Broaddus

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UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

INSTITUTE OF ORAL HISTORY

INTERVIEWEE: Martha Lou Broaddus and Judy Mohrhauser  
INTERVIEWER: Rebecca Craver  
PROJECT: History of the University  
DATE OF INTERVIEW: November 13, 1983  
TERMS OF USE: Unrestricted  
TAPE NO.: 702  
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BIOGRAPHICAL SYNOPSIS OF INTERVIEWEE:

Texas Western College students,  
1957 - 1960.

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW:

Recollections of professors, sororities and fraternities,  
pranks, dress codes, going to Juarez, and other campus  
activities.

Length of interview: 1 hour 20 minutes      Length of transcript: 57 pages

Interview with Martha Lou Broaddus and Judy Mohrhauser  
by Rebecca Craver  
November 13, 1983

Tape # 1

C: When did you all start to school here and when did you graduate?

M: We started in '57 in the summer, we had the same class. We started in 1957 and we graduated in 1960.

C: And what was the class you took that summer?

M: We took English with Prof. Rudolph from Arkansas.

B: You remember his name?

M: Yeah, I remember him because he was a visiting professor.

B: He was really good, really good and tough. Yeah, I remember that. And I also took, I took math that summer, too, with Preshwitz, was that his name? Yeah, Mr. Preshwitz (?).

C: Well, who were the favorite professors, the classes people wanted?

M: Sonnichsen they loved. Everbody loved him.

B: Porter.

M: We liked Porter's class.

B: Yes. Timmons.

M: Porter and Timmons and who else?

B: I liked Burlingame.

M: Oh, yeah. He'd just come in. I liked him.

B: Leach. I think Leach was popular, too, in the English Department.

C: Both of you all majored in English, then.

M + B: Yes.

C: Well, what professors did people try to avoid? Do you remember any?

M: I hated that guy that taught Ethics. You remember what his name was, that retired Presbyterian minister? He was really boring.

You took Education courses so you would know. I didn't take any Education.

B: Do we have to tell? I can think of a few. (Chuckles)

C: They're still around, obviously.

B: Well, one of them's retired now and that was the one, remember, we had to write the term papers for, and everybody passed the term papers around. I sat there and wrote...we had to write, oh, six or seven term papers. And I did write them all, but they must have gotten turned in at least 55 times at school because they were passed around to everybody. (Chuckles). I can't think of his name, that's terrible. [He was] a sweet man, I mean just a really nice man. But it was just, you know, a standard joke. Everybody passed those term papers around. I just don't think he ever even read them.

C: Well, what did the campus look like? How was it different from today?

M: It was, of course, much smaller. There were about 4,000 students when we began.

C: Most of them local?

B: No, there was really a pretty good contingent from West Texas towns primarily, Odessa and Monahans and places like that.

M: Right. You know, she's exactly right. There were a lot more, you know; in proportion there were an awful lot of kids who came from out of town. And we met so many new kids when we went into the sorority because there were a great many of them who were not from [here].

C: Well, when did that change?

B: I think when it got to be a larger school.

C: The sixties, then.

M: I think, yeah, I think when everthing changed in the sixties. Of course the sixties were late in affecting things here; probably in the late sixties, I think. Because [when we were] going to school, sorority and fraternity life was very dominant. And engineering...well, there was kind of that group of people, and then there were the engineering people who had their own kind of group going.

B: Like the APOs.

M: Yeah, and they were pretty big on campus.

C: Were they?

M: Yeah. And it still is. I understand it's still a fraternity, but I think it's a different type of thing. It was a service organization then, okay? But it was, kind of a service organization with a ton of drunks. (Laughter)

B: They were really fairly original. They were probably more original and more innovative.

M: They were really party guys.

B: We didn't know them very much, but looking back on it I kind of wish I'd known [them].

M: Yes, because they were really a neat bunch of guys, you know.

C: Did you have to be an engineer to be in that fraternity?

B: Yeah, yeah, that was the requirement. Yeah, I mean it was an engineering fraternity, that's what it was. But they were very active, too, and engineering was a big thing. I mean that was one of the primary reasons a lot of people came to school here, was to major in engineering.

M: Mining engineering, geology, and all that.

B: Oh, and the other way the campus was different, okay, greatly, of course the Student Union building was a great deal smaller. While Judy and I were there they added on one part. First of all, the Student Union building when we got there, you went downstairs to have the...

M: The SUB was like a little hole in the wall in the basement.

B: Yes, and that was the place where you met for coffee and stuff, you know.

C: And did you think more students went to the SUB?

B: Well, we...everybody.

M: Yes, there wasn't a lot else to do.

B: Yeah, right. Everybody would hang around in there. I mean it was packed all the time, and everybody played bridge. And I mean it was just the wildest place and everyone went there. And of course they would hang out in the sorority houses and fraternity houses, but the big gathering place for all of us was, we all went to the SUB. But it was small. And then while we were there they added on to it and built a bigger, you know, kind of restaurant or eating place. But none of the upstairs and all that stuff, you know. It was still just that.

C: Was the bookstore over at the Union at that time?

M: Yes.

B: Yes. But it was also...

M: It was also a little cubby hole in the basement.

B: All the stuff was down in the basement, like the bookstore.

M: And the ballroom was on the main floor. And then eventually they built a new SUB and it was on that same floor as the ballroom.

B: Yeah, it was on the same floor. But they didn't have all that extra addition of the SUB at all. It was just the side where Nancy Wood...

M: West side.

B: Yeah, where the Tutorial Services are. That was it, okay. That was all of the SUB.

And also on campus at that time, the Tri Delta house and the Chi Omega house were over there where the Education building is, period. And it was just, there were two sorority houses there.

M: Three.

B: Three. Delta Gammas were right down below, yeah. It was Delta Gamma and Chi Omega and Tri Delta.

M: And the Zetas still have the same house they had then.

B: Yeah.

M: The fraternities were all together except for the TKEs. They were over on Mesa.

C: And where were the fraternity houses?

B: Over there where the Liberal Arts building is, behind where the Science Library [is], on Hawthorne.

M: And there was the \_\_\_\_\_ Chi house and the Kappa Sig house.

C: And the Phi Tau.

M: The Phi Tau house still exists, doesn't it? \_\_\_\_\_ use it for faculty something or other.

B: It's right behind the Liberal Arts building. You know that house, that used to be the Phi Tau house. And then along up there, the SAE house was the red brick house on the left-hand side of the street as you come in.

M: That was College Avenue then. It's University now, but it was College Avenue.

B: So that was another thing, you know. And of course a lot of your life at Texas Western revolved around the sororities and fraternities. They were the biggies.

C: Okay, well, let's just start out the year, then, and tell me what the sorority would do through the year. In September of course there was rush.

B: Yeah, we had rush.

M: Which was really a big deal.

B: Oh, yeah. That went on for a week and we planned for it for ages before that. That was always a really big job and we usually had quite a few kids proportionately, considering the number who went there to school, go through rush.

C: And then was there a quota?

B: Yes.

C: What was the quota, do you remember?

M: It was a percentage quota. It varied from year to year because it was based on a percentage of overall membership. I think the sorority was allowed 50 or sixty.

B: I'd say something like that. It was usually in the range of 50 or sixty.

M: So usually the rush quota was like 20, twenty-five.

C: Okay, now after you had all you parties and everyone pledged, did they have pledge line?

B: Oh, yeah, we had a pledge open house, okay? And we always had, you know, everybody came through to meet all the new pledges.

C: And what would you wear?



B: Oh, formals! You know.

M: All you'd ever wear at sorority were dressy cottons and heels or formals. (Laughter)

B: The formals that you stood in and your body could move to right or left and your formal stayed where it was. (Chuckles). Remember you had all those bones and all that stuff.

M: Right. And lots of net.

B: Yeah, lots of net and stuff. But you wore formals a great deal. And then the other thing, you know, when you had your little teas and had your little things, it was hats and gloves and the whole bit.

M: Dressy cottons and heels.

B: Yes.

C: Dressy cottons and heels. (Laughter)

M: [That] was like a little Biblical saying. (Laughter)

B: But you dressed up, and it was no casual [affair]. Everything you went to for a sorority rush thing, you were always dressed up.

M: Well, at that time there were no pants allowed on campus. Everybody wore dresses.

B: Yeah, you couldn't wear pants.

M: Even the girls in the dorm were not allowed to come on campus until after 4 o'clock...

B: With pants on.

M: Yeah.

B: Pants were not allowed on campus.

M: Right. Or shorts.

B: Yeah, no shorts, no anything. I mean they definitely had a dress code.

And then I can remember we used to build a float for Homecoming.

Oh, that was the other thing. We used to have parades.

M: Downtown. It was a big deal.

B: And Homecoming was a huge thing and everybody used to build floats, and then you'd decorate your houses. And most of the time it was the fraternities who built the floats because all the sororities helped them build the floats.

M: Yeah, we built our own floats, too.

B: Well, yeah, but ours were gaggy. (Laughter)

M: And they built floats out at places like the Coliseum.

B: Because we were all interested in helping the boys and ours started out just terrible. (Chuckles) We would do what we could, what little we could, and then we'd go help the boys.

M: Yeah, float building was fun.

B: And they would rent like warehouses to put the floats in, and they had parties there for weeks ahead. You know, I mean it was every night a big beer party and making the floats. And we made thousands of little flowers to put on them and stuff. It was a lot of fun. But we spent, you know, every waking hour working on this, and then one would win the sweepstakes and one would win [some other prize].

C: Where would the parades be?

B: Downtown.

C: Really?

M: With the Homecoming Queen and \_\_\_\_\_.

B: Yeah, and the band and the whole thing.

M: Everybody rode [in] convertibles.

C: Around the plaza?

B: Oh, yeah. A real big deal. It went all the way through town, and it was

a big deal.

M: The city was a good deal smaller then. El Paso was what?

About a hundred and...

B: Yeah, maybe 120,000 at the most, or maybe about 130,000. But it was smaller.

M: So I mean less than 200,000.

C: Okay, what other contests did you have?

M: Oh, they had the sing-song.

C: Was that in the spring?

B: /Yes/.

M: Yeah. We won one year when Sandra...Sandra was a music major and she was our coach.

B: Yes, and we were very good, for a change. We weren't always very good in those days. But she was, Sandra one of the \_\_\_\_\_. And she teaches music anyway.

M: Yeah, and she was very professional when we had to do all this stuff. (Chuckles)

C: Well, where would they hold sing-songs?

B: At Magoffin.

C: When was that built? Do you have any idea when it was there?

B: Oh, gosh. It was there, you know, for a long time.

M: Yeah, when we were there Magoffin was there; the library was there, but it was small. They started building on the library, the first addition, when we were in college. But the only buildings, like there were only about eight or 10 buildings on campus.

B: That's right. You know, there was Bell Hall, and what was the one next to it?

M: The one across from Tri Delta was Kelly Hall, and I can't remember the name of that one up there on the hill. They had economics and stuff, but I don't remember the name of the building.

B: It was right next to the Tri Delta [house].

M: Yeah, and we used to park up there.

C: Well, did you all live in the house?

M: No. They weren't built for that. They were just...

B: Just social gathering places.

M: They were nice for those of us who lived in town, because it was a place to go, and if you wanted to kick your shoes off and study... But study is not what we did there.

B: No.

M: We played Bridge there.

B: We had a living room and a meeting room, and we had a kitchen and we had other little rooms that were, you know, smaller meeting rooms. But that was it.

M: They were supposed to be study rooms. There was a back porch. Mainly we played bridge.

B: And goofed around. It was gathering place.

M: But it was nice, as I say, because it gave you place to go between classes.

B: And we had sing-songs, but what was that other thing where we did skits and things. What was it called? Remember that?

M: Yeah, I know what you're talking about. We won that one. We won the year afterward, we never did very well before.

B: But it was a night where everybody competed and did little skits,

funny things, you know. But there was a name for it and I can't remember the name of it. But we had sing-song and that. And they were competitive things, [and] not only sororities and fraternities but other organizations could enter into it, too. And then, oh, at Christmastime we had, what was that...?

M: We had the pine \_\_\_\_\_. (Laughter)

C: What was that?

M: That was the Tri Delta social. We had it in the sorority house. It was great. When we were in school, there was liquor on campus in the fraternity houses but not in the sorority houses.

B: That's right.

M: Just for a few years. So fraternity parties, when we were...was it all through, all three years?

B: No, they cut it out after a while, because remember we had those parties up at the firehouse.

M: Yeah.

B: And the Kappa Sigs \_\_\_\_\_ everywhere, it was always at the fire station.

M: Or at that place out there in the upper valley that used to be the grainery or something. (Chuckles)

B: A real dump. We had some really bad parties at real dumpy places, but it didn't bother anybody. We had a great time anyway.

M: I remember having one in a barn down in the valley. We had a western band.

B: Yeah.

M: Some barn someplace.

B: But they had Coed Ball, that's what it was at Christmas. Wasn't

that it? Yeah. And remember they'd crown the king and the court.

C: But that was campus-wide?

B: [Yes], it was campus-wide. It was all the greeks and it was all the Coed Council, which was a non-Greek organization. And they elected a court but it was all boys, you know, king and so on. And you put them up and voted on them, okay, and that's how it was. But then that night that they had that Coed Ball it was always at the Student Union Building, the dance was there. Of course no drinking there. But beforehand everybody would have dinners, you know, and I remember one time we had ours at Billy Crews.

M: I remember that, and we couldn't drink. (Laughs) We were underage.

B: And we paid for the boys, you know; it was that kind of thing. You paid for the boys.

M: You invited and paid for them.

B: And then we had a great big dinner. And all the sororities did that, and you invited you date and you had these great big dinners.

C: And it was formal, too.

B: [Yes], it was formal, naturally.

M: And then all the fraternities had the formals in spring.

B: Yeah.

M: Those were big deals and they were usually at a hotel or the Country Club. There were really nice with a dinner and dance, formal.

B: There was just an awful lot of socializing; there really were, you know, when I think back on it, just a ton more than what they have now. And of course the campus, because it was so much smaller, everyone was very close and everyone knew each other. You know, they just were all good friends, and there was something going on all the time. And everybody's, you know, your college life focused

there at the University. You were not a commuter, in other words. You went to school and you were there most of the day. I sometimes didn't get home till 5:30 or 6:00.

M: I lived in the upper valley and I would leave at 7:30 in the morning and get home at 11:00 at night, instead of coming back and forth.

B: That's right. Exactly. Everybody'd just stay there. You know, we'd all go out to lunch and we'd all stay there for sorority meetings, and we'd stay there for one thing or another. But you spent your time on the campus. You not only went to classes, but you studied there. It was your whole life. You were very involved, and I think just about everybody was that way.

M: I used to even, I spent the night in the dorm a few times, didn't you?

B: /Yes/, sure.

M: And then on nights of big parties and stuff, those of us who lived in town would have 15 people spend the night with us.

B: Right. I always had tons. You know, my mother would just, she'd just open the door and say, "Who's coming?" At night there would be thousands on the floor here and there. Because they couldn't stay past one o'clock, even on special nights, in the dorm. That was the latest you could /stay out/.

M: The hours were very strict in the dorm.

C: So they would stay with the town people?

B: So they would sign out, you know, to come. And Judy would have people, I would have people. Anybody who lived in town who had a home could open it up. We'd take everybody in those nights. And

they could stay out then as late as they wanted to, you know.

But that was because they did have very strict dorm rules.

M: Which were very strictly enforced, except for the honor students that were seniors with keys.

B: Yeah.

M: They didn't have hours. They were the only people who \_\_\_\_\_.

B: The rest, everybody else, from the time you entered there, you lived by the dorm rules.

M: And it was stricter for freshmen than for upperclassmen.

B: But you know, it was really neat. We enjoyed it. I loved it.

Yeah. You know, a lot of our friends went away from school, but Judy and I started there and we never did want to go away to school after we started there, because it was just, I loved it and I had wonderful friends there and we had a marvelous time.

M: My \_\_\_\_\_ too. We weren't particularly academic types. Martha Lou made good grades. I didn't, but... (Laughs)

B: She could have, okay, let's put it that way. She had the ability but blew off a lot of \_\_\_\_\_.

M: I didn't study. I didn't study in college.

B: Well, she didn't need to. She got by without doing it.

M: Well, but I didn't do very well. I would do papers and things, but as far as ever studying, I just didn't study.

B: Remember we used to get together at houses to study, I mean we said study, and it was just mainly so we could see what boys were there.

C: Well, tell me about some pranks, like panty raids or anything like that.



B: Oh, yeah. They used to do that a lot.

C: Remember one and tell me.

M: My husband was a Phi Tau and he was in school a little before me, and he ran around with...the Phi Taus were notorious on campus. They were horrid and they did awful things, you know. They did really wild things, much wilder than anybody we ever knew.

C: Well, did you know it when they were going through hell week, for instance? 'Cause when I was in school, we always knew because the boys were so awful and you could see that they had had honey and cereal thrown on them.

M: I don't remember that.

B: I don't remember hell week as much as... They used to do things like that, but I don't remember.

C: They kept it pretty well a secret?

B: Yes.

M: I think so.

B: They did and they really did not...there wasn't just a whole lot of hazing, I don't think.

M: No, I don't think so either.

B: We did a lot of teasing and silly stuff, but not so much hazing, because I would have remembered those things and I don't remember much about that. I remember the boys doing stuff, you know, teasing one another.

M: Do you remember when they painted the Zeta door green?

B: Yes.

C: Oh, tell me about it.

M: There was a song out called, "What's Behind the Green Door?" at that time. Well, they painted the Zeta door green. And it was a prank

obviously, but it soaked into their solid oak door. (Laughter)

And the Zetas were very indignant. (Laughter) And there was another time there was a stripe painted. They had a stripe on campus, too.

Course that's not a hazing trick. It was a mining stripe.

B: Yeah. And they still do that, I think.

M: Yeah, I think that's still there.

B: Yeah, that's still a tradition. But there was an awful lot of rivalry between the sororities, okay? A very strong rivalry between the Zetas and Tri Delts. They were just, we were always at each others' throats to...

M: And a very strong rivalry between Kappa Sigs and SAEs. And anything we could all do to better one another, we spent a lot of time on that. The Chi Os were really, the Chi Os were the really nice girls. And Delta Gamma never got established that well on campus. There were nice girls in it, but it was the newest of the sororities and it never got firmly established. But the Zetas and the Tri Delts, well, I mean you just didn't like Zetas. (Laughs)

B: No. Boy, you just were out after them all the time. And any election that came up, we were always campaigning against one another and trying to get our girls in and their girls out, and vice versa. And it was very strong rivalry.

M: And the second year we were there we won all five beauties. Martha Lou was one of the beauties, I remember that, and Jan, Frances. There were five, and that was a big feather in Tri Delt's cap.

B: Oh, yeah.

M: And it was for grades, too, not just for beauties; but there was a grade rivalry, too.

B: Oh, yeah, very much. A very strong rivalry on who could do best academically. You know, you wanted to be the top score in the academic, and you worked on that all the time.

M: Did we ever make it?

B: Oh, I think we did, a few times.

M: Not with my help. (Chuckles)

C: Well, were the Golddiggers active then?

B: Yeah.

M: Yeah.

B: But let me tell you this, there weren't too many of us who went out for Golddiggers, right? I mean there were some. Betty, remember Betty Day?

M: That was not a real "in" thing to be for some reason. I think it's part of the fifties, that there were "in" [things] and certain things that weren't.

B: I think there were a lot of girls who came in from out of town who tried out for Golddiggers, but all of us just sort of, you know, we weren't too interested.

M: Well, Martha Lou was a cheerleader, though. You had plenty enough to do with that.

C: Oh, were you?

B: Yeah.

C: Well, tell me about the football games. Were you winning in those years?

M: Of course you went. You went to everything. But did we win?

B: Not that many.

M: Oh, I don't think that was a relevant point. (Laughter) I mean I really don't think it mattered, because you had parties before and

you had parties after.

B: Oh, yeah. Oh, and it was just, you know, everybody went to the games.

M: Yeah, and you got all dressed up.

B: Yeah. Oh, yeah, you dressed up. You did not go to the games in your Levi's and stuff. You wore your really nice clothes.

M: Your dressy cotton and heels.

B: Yeah (laughter), your dressy cotton and heels. And sweaters and skirts.

M: Or just sweaters and skirts if it got cold enough.

B: Right. And I think we did win some games. You know, we weren't always, it wasn't always losing. It was both ways.

M: It would be more likely, then. I don't remember whether we won or not. I just didn't pay any attention to that.

B: But we did win off and on, not always.

M: It was not a terribly...TWC was in the Border Conference at that time. We were in a different conference. They played Sul Ross and Hardin-Simmons and people like that.

B: And Abilene Christian. That was a time that we played the University of Arizona and also Arizona State.

M: Yeah, we still played them. They were from the Border Conference too, weren't they?

B: Yeah, yeah.

M: And New Mexico State, I think. Only they weren't New Mexico State then. What did we call them? New Mexico A & M.

B: But we played them, too. But it was not the WAC Conference, it was the Border Conference then. And, yeah, we did win some games. We were never at the top of the heap, but we were never the bottom either.

M: UTEP had a pretty good basketball team. Who was that player? There was one really good player from our time. Black guy, I don't remember.

B: Oh, yeah. What was his name, though?

M: I can't remember.

B: Charlie Brown, that's who it was. Because remember we used to sing, "Charlie Brown."

M: "Talking about Charlie Brown."

B: I remember that, yeah.

C: Were you here when the campus was integrated right at the time?

M: It had been integrated before we got here. Because integration in El Paso was in '56, wasn't it? But it was not a problem here. I mean it just happened and I don't recall any incidents at all, in the high schools or anything. But I do remember having a class with the first black person I had ever been \_\_\_\_\_. It was a summer government class. And it was just unusual.

B: But there wasn't ever any strong, I don't think, strong feelings pro or con, you know.

M: There was still a strong division between Anglo and Mexican.

B: Oh, yes. That was always, yes.

M: And that had been true in high school and it was still true in college.

B: And, you know, it was still when we went to college, the sororities, it was completely taboo for Mexican girls to be in a sorority, and the same way with the fraternities.

M: There were a few exceptions to that, but usually only if they were half Mexican and had Anglo last names.

B: Yeah, yeah.

M: I'm sure there was still a lot of prejudice. Being on the other side, I'm sure we weren't as aware of it as people that lived it.

B: But we did have friends, you know, who were excluded.

M: And we're so wonderful, and we're so kind and generous. (Chuckles)

B: No, but we had friends who were excluded from sororities.

C: That were, say, your socio-economic level and lived in your neighborhood?

B: Oh, yes.

M: Or high school friends.

B: We went to school with our high school friends who were on campus and who couldn't go through rush.

M: Or like if they were Jewish.

B: Exactly. And that's what I was meaning. We had several friends like Esther and Najette and Brenda.

M: That was more \_\_\_\_\_.

B: Yeah. Well, they were so very defensive. And I used to hang around with them an awful lot. But they couldn't go through rush because we did not have a Jewish sorority, we didn't have a Jewish fraternity.

M: The only girl in our sorority who was kind of Mexican was Marie \_\_\_\_\_. Of course she was so gorgeous.

C: What was her last name?

M: Her name was \_\_\_\_\_. She's married to \_\_\_\_\_. She's just gorgeous.

B: Oh, yeah. She's just a doll and she's very nice.

M: She was an exception. There were a few.

B: She was an exception as far as a sorority. You know, I mean, that's the way all sororities were then.

M: That's the way all of El Paso was.

B: And very prejudiced and discriminatory as far as...

M: Especially more on appearance than anything else.

C: I'm real curious about this. What about going in department stores? Were there certain stores that the Mexican American people could go in?

B: No.

M: It didn't go to that point. And it didn't affect restaurants or anything like that, or movies.

B: But there were just organizations that excluded.

M: But in high school, El Paso High was probably more thoroughly integrated than the other high schools at that time, and I knew it was about 60 percent Mexican \_\_\_\_\_. And so our social life in high school was more an economic breakdown than it was a racial or an ethnic type thing, and the parties and stuff we went to in high school were mixed. And so in college, that changed and that was kind of almost an unfortunate thing in college.

B: Yeah, because we didn't like it. You know, I can remember that we didn't like it at all.

M: And it made you very uncomfortable because you wanted to belong to a sorority--at least I wanted to belong to a sorority and I wanted to do that--and yet there were, I felt...

B: And yet you had guilt pangs. You really did.

M: Yeah.

B: You know, you had guilt pangs over the friends that you had who

were excluded, and they were excluded, you know. They just, they didn't even attempt to go through rush because they knew it was...

M: Which was much wiser. Because the alums at that time were still, most of them were, they were unreal.

B: Yes. And we used to fight that all the time. That was something I can remember.

M: Oh, me too.

B: Constantly battled with the alums over what we wanted and what they thought was the fit thing to do.

M: They were very proper.

B: Yeah, and very prejudiced about things.

M: And very money...

B: Money and social position oriented.

C: Well, but why was this \_\_\_\_\_ the exception? Was it because she had money and was beautiful?

M: She wasn't beautiful.

B: I don't know why.

M: I'm sure part of it was her beauty.

C: It wasn't her social level then?

B: No.

C: Well, that's funny.

B: And she was very outstanding.

M: Yeah. Not scholastically, but...

B: Right, but she had won many honors at school, and I think that probably had something to do with it.

M: Really, she was a sure thing to win beauty. And that was one of the things that was considered during rush, is what girls would win.



- B: Oh, yeah. You know, when you start looking back, all those things came into perspective, and that was it.
- M: Martha Lou was rushed a lot harder than I was. (Laughter)  
She was a freshman favorite.
- B: Oh, gosh.
- M: I can't believe that. But I remember that that was certainly a criteria. And of course that didn't apply to everybody that was rushed, but it certainly applied to people that everybody was really after.
- B: No, she's right. That's true.
- C: And the fraternities would be the same?
- B: Oh, yeah.
- M: Not so much. With the SAEs probably, but not so much... The Kappa Sigs and the Phi Taus were more into, they were looking for good parties and that you had a good time.
- B: That's exactly right.
- C: But did the Greeks go to Juarez to have parties at all?
- B: Oh, yes. Oh, gosh, we lived there. I mean, you know, it was our second home. I think I spent more time in Juarez than I probably did on this side when I was in college. We went there all the time, an awful lot.
- M: Yeah, we did.
- C: And what would you do?
- B: Well, we hung around a lot. We hung around a lot at the Looby, which was a place where...which was a joint. I mean a joint.
- M: That was even more after college, I remember that more after college.
- B: Yes, yes.

M: But it was a joint.

C: Where was it? On Juarez Avenue?

B: It was right as you cross the bridge. You know, right by the Central.

M: The bridge at that time was a one block bridge that you walked over. Nobody ever drove to Juarez because there were parking lots all over. It was a really easy walk, it wasn't that long, leaping quarter mile.

B: We never drove over there. You always walked over.

M: But I think part of it was dancing. When we were in school, everybody...I'm sure when you were in school, everybody danced all the time. And so you could dance in Juarez until three in the morning.

B: That's right. And we loved it. And the Lobby always had a good band and so we always went there.

M: They had rock and roll and there weren't many places that had rock and roll at that time.

B: Exactly. And the Submarine was another place we often went.

M: It was charming. Cockroaches on the floor. (Laughter) Down in this pit. And they played classical music there. They used to play Ravel's "Bolero" all the time.

B: And Caverns of Music.

M: The Caverns of Music was another charming place. It's still here. With all those stalagmites in gold.

C: Is that the one where you have to go down the stairs?

B: Yes. There was another one out, oh, the one that was out on the highway. What was that, that we always hung around?

M: Maxfim's

B: Yeah, Maxfim's. That was very popular. That was little bit more elegante. (Laughter) We liked that. That was really a nice place, okay? And then the, was it the one where they brought all the big name stars?

M: The Charmante downtown, and La Fiesta both.

B: The La Fiesta, yeah. There was a place called the La Fiesta that was really a very nice nightclub and they used to bring big name stars.

M: The Kingston Trio for example came in when we were in school.

B: I mean biggie people came there, and so you went there when you were really going first class.

/ PAUSE /

C: Got married.

B: Right.

M: Then had kids and then got to go back to work.

B: But you know, was that kind of the way you were too?

C: Sure.

B: Yeah. I mean, you know, we just weren't terribly motivated to do some great accomplishment.

C: Well, do you remember any women friends, students that were motivated?

M: / Yes /, Kate Porter. Did you see her article in Nova this month?

B: Yeah, in Nova.

M: She was in school with us in high school and in college. Yes, and she was motivated. She was going someplace besides \_\_\_\_\_.

B: That's right, but who else? Nobody else that I know of.

M: There probably were some that we didn't talk to very much because they were busy being motivated and we were busy having a good time.

B: Right, right, which we did. But I think back to myself, I went to college, I wanted to go to college. Now that wasn't a question. But I didn't want to go to college because I thought I wanted to be something. I just wanted to go to college because I knew my Mom and Dad wanted me to and I sort of wanted to. I thought it was neat.

C: It was something to do.

B: Yes.

M: I didn't want to go work.

B: No. And thought I wanted to get an education because I would have something to, as my parents said, fall back on if I ever needed it, okay, and that was the only reason. You know, other than that... I didn't go to become some super great career woman, I never even thought of it, never entered my mind.

M: You at least set a goal in mind. I went and majored in English and had absolutely no goal in mind. I had these vague ideas.

B: Yeah, 'cause Judy didn't know what she wanted to do.

M: I started off as a Chemistry major and a Math minor, which I liked a lot, but I wasn't about to spend all that time on labs.

B: Oh, and she could have done it, you know, but she just...

M: But it took so much time and then you couldn't play bridge (laughter), and go to all these parties. It was a matter of priorities.

B: You had to study, and who wanted to do that.

M: And I liked those courses and I sometimes regret that I didn't do that, but I don't regret having had the good time I had, so it was kind of a choice.

B: But except for Kate, I don't recall any.

M: There were some others, but they were probably... \_\_\_\_\_, remember her?

B: Yeah.

M: She was motivated.

C: What happened to her?

B: And what about Bertha? Now, she was kind of motivated at that time.

M: Well, she was, I think, motivated because she came from Mexico and she really wanted that education so she could get a job.

B: But, you know, if I had examined what I thought would be in the future for me, I thought I'd get married and have children and I'd be at home.

M: We'd be like our mothers.

B: Yeah, exactly.

M: Like a Cinderella complex.

B: [Yes], exactly. I thought, you know, "Well, and I'll be a little lady who belongs to clubs and does this, just like my mother."

M: Yeah.

C: Do think your daughters think that?

B: No.

M: No. I don't think mine think that at all.

C: I mean, do they think they're going to be like their mothers, or do they?

B: I wonder. I've never asked mine whether she does or not.

M: My younger daughter, I mean she doesn't...one is failing English right now, is obviously not going to be like, is trying not to be like me. (Laughter)

B: It's really funny. Now, I will say this. Russell, as good as student as he is, he, I think, would really kind of like to be a teacher. And I'm saying, "C'mon Russ, there's \_\_\_\_\_."

C: I think this is interesting. We may use this for Women's History.

B: But it's funny what you think about. When I look back on it I really don't know what I thought.

M: I have diaries and I was always a great diary keeper, and mainly what I thought about was, I was always one for being in love. I was always in love.

B: Judy was always madly in love.

M: \_\_\_\_\_ one person at a time. And that's what I thought about. That and all the social things going on and having a good time. We really weren't very serious.

C: No, I don't remember being serious.

B: We weren't. That was the thing. We had such a good time and there were so many things to get involved in. We had something going all the time that we were all busy doing, and having a good time doing it. Yeah.

C: What if you hadn't been in the sorority?

M: I can't even imagine it.

B: I can't either. Over there, I don't think that...

C: Would you have been down there all the time?

B: At UTEP?

M: No, because first of all there wouldn't have been a place to go. As I say, the sorority houses, one of the big advantages was having a place to go.

B: Well, except we would have hung around the SUB.

M: But you couldn't hang around the SUB in the same way.

C: It wasn't like a home.

M: Yeah, you know. You could eat your lunch in the sorority and you could, you know...

B: You know and another thing, too, that I was thinking about. There were an awful lot of especially guys who were in school that were older than we were.

M: Yeah, including veterans.

B: Right. Like we went to school with a lot of...and they belonged to fraternities, like Raymond.

M: Yeah, and they were 25, twenty-six.

B: And they belonged to the fraternities. They weren't married.

M: Tony Kennard.

B: Yeah, Tony Kennard. They were not married but they wanted to, they belonged to a fraternity and they participated. And a lot of them are just still real good friends and we just think the world of them. And we had a great time with them then. But there were an awful lot of older--not just our age, 18 and 19--they were older kids, you know, older people.

M: Guys that had worked for a year or two and come to school.

B: It's a little bit different atmosphere.

M: Whereas people like that now wouldn't dream of being in a fraternity.

B: No, they would think, "Oh my gosh!" But these because they wanted to and they participated and they were officers in the fraternities.

M: It was kind of a last fling thing, you know, our youth and all this kind of stuff.

B: But none of them were married either. Well, some of them were. You had a lot of married kids here.

M: Not that many.

B: But not as many. That's true. But there were some couples. But no, I of course would not have traded anything without going, you know, as far as...I really did enjoy it.

C: Do you think that your experience as a student at UTEP was unique in any way, compared to people at other colleges?

M: I think so.

C: What do you think was unique?

M: The smallness for one thing was unique. I mean not unique, but at least different from larger universities. Those people who went away to school here went to, I had a friend who went to Stanford and the University of Colorado and the University of Oklahoma. Compared to their experiences, ours were different because it was smaller<sub>er</sub>. And it was very localized. Going back to the Homecoming parade, having that as a big part of downtown, and the town supported a lot of the school's activities.

C: More so than theirs?

B: Yeah, probably so.

M: Probably maybe not as much financially, but probably more emotionally, I think. It was their school and...

B: You know, and again, our society then wasn't as fragmented as it is now. You know, I mean there are so many other things now to take an interest, okay. I mean there are so many outlying things that people can go to and see and participate in. And at that time, you know, I



think the community, I know my Dad, for instance, you know, for ages he was in the Touchdown Club or whatever. Okay, my Dad was president of that at one time and he was involved in that completely, and they gave total support to Texas Western because that was the focal point. You know, everybody did support. It was the same as when we were in high school. When you had a game between Austin and El Paso High School everybody in town went to the game. I mean, you couldn't find a space to sit at the stadium at El Paso High.

M: They had it on the radio.

B: They had it on the radio.

M: Our pep assembly was broadcast on the radio.

B: Yeah. It was the biggie thing because that, we just weren't, you know, didn't have that much else to do, so you focused on those kind of things. That was your whole \_\_\_\_\_.

M: I think it was true not only for the Anglo population, which we represented, but also for Mexican Americans and Hispanics, because I think they were involved. It was their university, too. Now, they had a different, it was a different place in the school, but it was their college too. And a lot of kids that we went to school with that were Hispanics, especially, of course they were much more serious about their schooling than we were, but I think there was a lot of support from that group.

B: Yeah.

C: Who were some of the Hispanic leaders on campus?

M: Orlando Garza.

B: Orlando Garza. My gosh, yes.

M: He was the Coed Ball queen.

B: Yeah, queen king. (Laughs)

M: Whatever.

C: Is he still hanging around?

B: Well, no, I don't know what's happened to him. I really don't.

M: Who were the big leaders on campus? Bettie, Jim Bettie.

B: Yeah.

C: What's happened to him, though?

B: I don't know.

C: Well, what would the Hispanics do, I mean for their group?

M: Well, they were very involved in the engineering thing, for example, because they were much more serious. And so they were involved in that.

C: But you're talking about the men here, aren't you?

B: The girls too.

C: Really?

B: /Yes/.

M: I think probably most of the girls who were engineering majors were Hispanics at that time. I don't remember, there maybe were one or two Anglos.

B: And a lot of them were involved in the Coed Council. That was a big /thing/.

- M: And there was a club too, there was some club. I don't remember the name of it.
- B: But the Coed Council participated in...I mean that brought a lot of Hispanic girls into that. And then we had, there was a sophomore service organization called SPURS, okay, which a lot of girls belonged to.
- M: The better students. (Laughs)
- B: Yeah.
- C: Judy, you weren't in that?
- M: That's right. (Laughter)
- B: Then we had Chenrizig later on, which you had to be...
- M: Which was the better junior and senior students, that I wasn't in either. (Laughs)
- C: You sound like me.
- B: Well, but you know the thing is, she knew she could be, that's the thing. She's about eight million times smarter than anybody I know of. But she just didn't do it. She goes back to graduate school and she can outdo anybody there.
- M: I just took me a while. I was a late bloomer. I had to be forty. Now it's too late. (Laughter)
- B: Judy could always, she could write a term paper in one night and make a B+ on it without ever batting an eye. It made me sick.
- M: Martha Lou, I didn't make B+s, I made C+s.
- B: Oh, you always made good grades on papers.
- M: I made Cs in Sonnichsen's classes, deservedly so.

B: Well, only because he knew, that was the thing. You know, you couldn't pull the wool over this eyes. He knew what everybody was doing or not doing.

M: That's true. Well, I made an A in Braddy's class. I took a Shakespeare class. He was a terrible professor, I thought. He was, oh, he was just awful, really.

C: Well, tell me about registration. Where did you go to register?

B: The SUB.

M: And the ballroom. And you just walked around the room and got your little cards.

B: And they had tables all the way around the ballroom and little signs, you know, that said this was Engineering, this was this and this was that, and that was it.

M: It was almost like at high school where they'd pull tags. It was almost like that.

B: And that's how you registered. And then after that, they used to do it in the Liberal Arts building down the hall.

M: They didn't have a Liberal Arts building when we were in school. That was built maybe our last year there.

B: Yeah, right. But it was all in the ballroom.

M: There was a house there then. Whose house was there? Remember there used to be a house there.

B: Oh, yeah.

M: Used to be the caretaker's house that was where the Liberal Arts building is.

C: Could you drive on campus?

B: Oh, yeah.

M: Oh, yeah.

C: Were there gates?

M: Not a real gate, you just, you had to have a sticker.

B: You had to have a sticker. But you could park on campus. Everybody could park on campus.

M: Yeah, because the campus wasn't that big.

B: And then they had parking lots and this and that, but everybody parked on campus.

M: Where the big part of the SUB is now was probably the main campus parking lot. And then that one below the SUB, which is still there, was a parking lot, and then all along the street. The streets were not one-way or anything and so you could park all along the streets. And by the Tri Delt house there was a little hill.

B: Oh gosh, which I got stuck in. Oh, God. Do you remember when I took David's car, and it looked like a Nike missile, sticking straight up?

M: Yes, I do remember that.

B: Oh gosh. See, I had borrowed my boyfriend's car, and this hill was our favorite parking place, okay. You could go up there and it was behind the building we can't think of the name of. Graham Hall, that's what they call it now.

M: Wasn't back then though.

B: Wasn't back then. But anyway, when we wanted to park there we'd all park, all the Tri Deltas would squish every car they possibly could get in this little area, and if you didn't back out just right you got stuck. And so one day I didn't back out just right and I

was in David's car, and I stuck it straight, I mean seriously, the back fender was in the ground. It was like it was gonna take off, like you could just ignite something under it. And I was scared to death, remember, to tell. And they had to have every boy practically in the Kappa Sig, and we had to dig the thing out. (Laughter) Awful! It was terrible! But they finally got it out because it was just stuck, 'cause I backed right off a hill. (Laughs)

M: We left our keys in the lodge, and then if you needed to get your car out, you just went and moved \_\_\_\_\_. Because one time I can remember Beverly \_\_\_\_\_ moved my car and she didn't put it in park and it wrecked. (Laughter) Not, you know, not anything big.

B: And then at the time my dad, who has always just loved to...you know, not since he's gotten older, but when he was younger he loved to trade cars. So I always had some different car every year. And one year I had a Thunderbird.

M: Oh, it was the cutest black and white Thunderbird. Oh, it was darling.

B: Cutest Thunderbird; oh, it was darling. And it had, you know, a black hardtop that you could lift off, you know, and then ride around as a convertible. And my dad said he used to just have heart murmurs because everybody in the world drove that car except for me. You know, I'd just leave it there with the keys in it, and everybody took it. And he'd see it riding around, and he'd think, "Oh, my God, no insurance, no anything." But everybody was driving my car, you know, everywhere, because it was a very popular little car.

M: I drove it, but I always had your permission, I never just took it.

B: Yeah, I know. Well, I gave permission to everybody, but it wasn't from my parents. They didn't want me to. (Chuckles)

M: Right, because I got you in trouble once because I drove it downtown.

B: Yeah. It was the neatest car. It was darling.

M: And everybody had stickers in their cars. You always had your sorority stickers, and then if you dated somebody you always had their fraternity strickers.

C: Oh, I remember that.

M: And that was, everybody had to have those.

B: Right. Well, let's see what else? What other things?

M: Remember those stickers, remember when those girls put all those stickers up in all the restrooms in all those bars in Juarez?  
(Laughs)

B: Yes, yes. (Laughter)

M: I mean, the really jointy places. And then we'd just go in and run into the bathroom and stick them on the mirrors. (Laughter)

B: We were so bad to each other. When I think back on it, it really was wicked competition and we were bad. (Chuckles)  
We had fun. It was meant in fun, you know, 'cause it was really, it was kind of good, it got everybody going on everything because we were always competing.

C: It really is diferent now.

B: Well, the school just doesn't have any of that unity.

M: That's true in high schools, too. High schools aren't the way they were.

B: Yeah, it's the same way. Part of it's just an age thing.

M: Yeah. What they say about the fifties is true. We were all so,

we were really innocent. And it was a time when there wasn't that much pressure on anybody, you know. Which is lucky.

C: I thought we were dressy in our dressy cottons and high heels.

B: Right. And our gloves and our hat. And that was, I remember the beauty contest. We had to wear little dressy things.

C: Well, where would they have the beauty contest?

B: At Magoffin. And you'd have to come out in your little dressy dress and your heels and your gloves and your hat. Did we have to wear bathing suits? I'm not sure that I would have done that.

M: Yeah.

B: We did? Oh, gosh! I can't believe that I walked out there in a bathing suit.

M: It was a three round, like Miss American kind of a thing.

B: Oh my Gosh!

M: And a formal.

C: Did they interview you? I mean did you talk and answer questions?

M: No. It was all strictly superficial. Like most everything else we had. (Laughter)

C: It certainly is indicative.

B: Right. Yeah. And I remember that that night that all the five Tri Delts won this beauty contest. They didn't have a first place, they just had five girls, five beauties. Five school beauties.

C: And the Tri Delts won.

B: Every place.

M: There was total ecstasy.

B: Yes. And there was girl sitting behind my sister-in-law that night and she was in the audience and she said, "Well, at least they could have picked the good-looking Tri Delts." (Laughter)



And I remember that because that was so funny. (Laughs) It was. And we were in that contest that year, and Eugenia Neihouse, she's another red-headed friend of mine who was a Zeta, but she was just a doll, you know.

M: She was really pretty.

B: Just a really cute gal. And the two of us were both in the contest that year and I remember we went to this meeting and they told us that, you know, 99 percent of it was judged on natural beauty. And Eugenia and I were panicking because we'd worn makeup since we were about one year, and we were thinking, "Natural beauty! What's going to happen if we take our eyebrows off? There are no eyebrows!" (Laughter) Because both of us were redhead and we just had little blond hairs here. And we were panicky because we thought we were going to have to come out looking our natural ugly selves. (Laughs) But we went in and wore the makeup anyway.

C: Did you wear a padded bra too?

B: No, I don't think so, but I \_\_\_\_\_, that's for sure. (Laughter)

M: With formals it didn't matter, because it \_\_\_\_\_ form anyway.

C: I remember the strapless bras.

B: Yeah, Merry Widows.

C: And garter belts.

M: Remember when you were Miss Firefighter, Martha Lou?

C: Tell me about that. When was that?

B: Well, Miss Flame, that's what it was. Well, they always picked a redheaded...the fire people, whoever.

M: The Firemen's Association.

B: Firemen's Association picked a redhead to be Miss Flame.

M: So we had lots of jokes about it.

B: Oh, my gosh. I never heard the end of it. Remember we had to put up somebody, and you all put me up and I fought it all the way, and then I won. (Laughs) I never heard the end of it. And you know who still teases me about that is Dr. McNeely. I mean, would you believe he still remembers that, and every time he sees me he says, "Oh, hi, Miss Flame." (Laughter) And I used to have to ride around on a fire engine all the time. (Laughter) And every time they had some kind of a meeting, I had to be there waving at everybody on top of a fire engine. And they never let me forget it. I mean I got it from them for ages. They thought it was hilarious. It was terrible. They don't have that anymore, fortunately for redheaded people.

M: No, they don't have a lot of those things. It might be just as well. Of course, if you talk about school...

B: Oh, the dormitories, yeah. Dormitories were, they were extremely active, though, you know, 'cause they had dorm councils. I'm sure they still have things like that. But the dorm councils were very strong, you know; I mean they were very active in school activities. And most of our girls who were in the sororities, they held offices in the dorms. And it was a very big thing, you know. I mean they spent a lot of time working on things.

C: What were the dorms?

B: Well, it was Bell Hall and the one next to it. What was that?

C: Worrel Hall?

B: Well, Worrel Hall is the boys', and Miners Hall.

M: For all the jocks.

B: But there was one other one, a girls' dorm.

M: It was the one right next to that little park.

B: It's that one with the business offices are now there, where that little park is. That was another dorm, a girls' dorm.

Those were the only dorms.

M: Nobody was allowed to live off campus. You either lived in the dorm or you lived at home.

B: That's right. Unless you were married or over twenty-one.

M: The school was very small.

B: Yeah.

C: And they had a Dean of Women and a Dean of Men?

B: Right. Dean Resley.

M: Oh, remember her?

C: Tell me about her, What would she do?

B: Well, she was strict.

M: Oh, yes. If there were rumors about anybody's morality they would be called in and she would deal with it. She did some really devastating things to some people.

B: Well, she was really, I mean there were so many rules.

M: Besides that, they were very rigid.

C: Well, what were some of the rules?

M: Well, all these things we were talking about, all these codes, you know. If a girl were walking across the campus in shorts before 4 p.m., she would be called into the Dean's office.

B: And drinking.

M: Oh, they had a lot on drinking, yeah.

B: And if you were drunk or at a party and it got back to them they'd call them in, too.

M: Right. Well, we had that in sorority, too. What was that awful thing called?

B: Oh, yes. Remember we used to have the little secret \_\_\_\_\_.

C: Oh, secret standards. That's what we had.

B: Oh, standards committee, that's what it was.

M: Yes. And your white robes and you pass judgement on people. It was hideous. I just felt like such a hypocrite. Good Grief.

(Laughter)

B: Because you hadn't been caught in the act.

M: Well, that is all it amounted to. And plus people would get on that...remember, who was that really straight person? Somebody when we were on that committee was really, really straight, when we called somebody in. And it was for nothing and they made it so hard on that girl. It was just, that was awful. That was a really bad aspect of that.

B: Yeah, I didn't like the standards committee either because there were some people that were really hurt by that.

M: Oh, yeah. And it was so judgmental.

B: In a sorority if you, you know, displeased them or if you didn't measure up, you got thrown out of the sorority. That was it.

M: Do you remember when that girl threw her pin out, the girl that sang? She tossed her pin and walked out. We were all kind of horrified, but we certainly admired her, too. What was that girl's name?

B: I can't remember.

M: She was a singer, a dark haired girl.

B: Yeah, Was it Beth?

M: Yeah, Beth.

B: What was her last name?

M: Can't remember. I just know that she was dark-haired and sang.

C: So Resley was the dean. What would the Dean of Men do? I mean the same sort of things?

M: Sure.

B: Same type of thing.

C: I mean they didn't have dress codes for men, did they?

B: No.

M: Probably to some degree.

C: They all wore slacks and white socks.

B: Yes, I guess.

M: No, they wore jeans, but people still dressed real nice. I would imagine they would have gotten called in for something really grungy.

B: Yeah, and for fraternity parties that got out of hand and this kind of thing and things that they would pull, like pranks or things like that.

M: Like stealing the alligators and all that sort of stuff.

C: Were y'all there when the alligator prank happened, or was that before?

M: It was right before.

B: In fact that used to be a favorite thing for everybody to think of doing.

M: But I knew who did it. (Chuckles)

C: Who did it?

M: Some of my husband's friends. (Chuckles)

C: Really?

B: Took the alligators?

- M: Yeah, and put it in the office. Put it in one of the Dean's offices. In somebody's office, I don't remember who.
- C: That's a very famous prank around the nation. Well, can you think of any others that top that?
- B: Gosh, I'm trying to think.
- M: All the stories I know come from husband and his friends because they were so much more innovative than we were. We were all really very straight. I mean, I don't remember doing anything...
- B: Yeah, we were.
- M: We might have done some really minor thing, but nothing very daring, because we were all much too busy being good, at least on the surface.
- B: Yeah. And, I mean, you know, there was a lot of drinking that went on but not...
- M: But first of all, you didn't get drunk at parties. That was really a no-no.
- B: Well, if you did, you were really looked down upon.
- M: That's right. And you didn't get called in for standards. But also it was just not the sort of thing you did. And we were all very concerned about what everybody else thought, so we didn't do that.
- C: Well, I remember one of our rules in the sorority was you don't smoke standing up.
- B: Oh, I remember. Remember, you don't walk around with your cigarette. I remember that too.
- M: Oh, yeah.
- B: You couldn't smoke on campus. That's right. Or walk across with your cigarette.

- M: Right, right. You could smoke standing up in the lodge, but I mean you couldn't...
- B: Yes, but I remember that there was certain etiquette about that. That's exactly right.
- M: Oh, yeah. You would never light a cigarette on campus.
- B: Yes, and not, you know, on the street or anything. That was just really tacky and low life. Right.
- M: I did that once downtown with Betty, used to do it. (Laughs)
- C: And one of our girls was called in because she'd put hair rollers in her hair and went from the upstairs to \_\_\_\_\_.
- B: Oh, yeah. Now, that was another, we didn't like that either. There were a lot of things that you weren't supposed to do, that you were supposed to be a lady at all times.
- M: Yeah, but for the most part those were rules we'd all grown up with anyway.
- C: Well, this Dean Resley, did she have more to do with like dorm girls?
- B: Well, no, she had authority over rush and things like that, okay. So then if in rush she didn't like something that happened, like the way the...
- M: Don't you remember the rush when we didn't take the legacy?
- B: Yes.
- C: And she had something to say about that?
- M: Oh, yes. She'd call people in.
- B: Yeah, she would call people in and say, you know, "What's going on?" That was when I was rush chairman. Because when I was rush chairman I \_\_\_\_\_ if there was somebody who went through the \_\_\_\_\_ the sorority.

- M: With the legacy.
- B: And they blackballed that whole thing, okay. And oh, she was furious about that because that was an absolute \_\_\_\_\_.
- M: And they changed the rules. They changed the rules after that where you had to, if you were going to blackball a legacy, it had to be in the Senate Committee.
- B: Yeah, that's right. You had to drop that first \_\_\_\_\_.
- C: Well, do you think she had more to do with the social life of the school or academic, I mean like if a girl was cheating in class?
- M: Nobody was ever caught cheating.
- B: Yeah.
- M: That was something that was highly \_\_\_\_\_.
- B: Yeah. Yeah, cheating was not, you know, a major...well...
- M: We of course never cheated. What was that Ethics class?
- C: You cheated in Ethics class?
- B: Yes, the guy who was the football player who they gave the answers to him.
- M: Aaron \_\_\_\_\_.
- B: Yes, and he wrote them all down wrong and made an F. (Laughs)  
Do you know where Magoffin is, and then the building that's up there that the windows are lined up with the street, the windows are even with the street, okay.
- M: That engineering building?
- B: Yeah, yeah. It's the engineering building, okay. But anyway, the windows are even with the street, and what happened was he was taking his test and they signalled to him to go to the bathroom, you know, and he went out, went into the bathroom and they gave him all the answers to the test, okay. And he went back and copied



them down in the wrong places, made an F anyway. They were trying to get him to pass so he could get through. He was a pledge, they wanted him to make it. He was a really nice guy.

M: Oh, super nice, yeah, but he was no student. And didn't care much either.

B: He was in Morgan's class a couple of, maybe two or three times, and finally passed. Morgan loved him, you know, he was this sweet kid.

M: Oh, yeah, he was really nice, but just not too sharp. I think he's done very well in life, though.

B: Yes, he has. I see him every once in a while. But I read that his wife had died recently.

M: Sometimes the very best, the really top level achievers, some are such pressure types that they never do too well.

B: They can't deal with the world, I guess, once they get out into it.

C: Well, when did Resley marry Wiggins? Was everybody sort of surprised?

B: When did she marry him? I'm not sure.

M: It was right about the time we graduated.

B: I think so, probably so.

M: I really didn't like her at all, I felt that she was exceptionally judgmental. And I think part of the job of the Dean of Women was supposed to be that she counselled and was helpful, and hers was more judgmental and punishing than \_\_\_\_\_.

C: Well, did y'all have parties for the faculty at all in the houses?

B: Yes! Oh, yeah. Remember we used to have like Christmas, at different times we'd invite them for lunch and for teas. I remember that. Remember you invited somebody you wanted to come, you know, and you sent them a personal invitation and asked them.

C: So it wasn't open to all the faculty, it was just the ones that were invited?

B: I think it was just the ones who were invited.

M: Yeah, I think so.

B: You know, I don't know that we ever did a big thing like have a faculty party or things like that.

M: We used to do it within the sorority. We used to have a dinner, and then maybe at 2:00 we had a dinner maybe once a year or lunch, and we would invite somebody from another school.

B: Yeah. I remember that.

M: Or, and then from a fraternity.

B: But I do remember asking the professors, but it was an individual type thing. Each one of you was allowed to ask somebody that you wanted to come.

M: I'm sure I never did that. I was much too shy to ask anybody.

C: Well, since y'all were both here in the sixties even though you weren't in shcool, what do you recall as far as peace marches or any kind of demonstrations that happened on campus?

B: I don't recall anything like that.

M: I was teaching at that time. I had some students that went on to UTEP and they were kind of, well, they were a little involved in that, but it was all pretty casual. I don't remember anybody being terribly intense about that sort of thing.

B: Morgan can tell you something about that because one of his graders was involved. But I don't remember too much about it either.

M: And this was later than it was everywhere else. It was five years later \_\_\_\_\_.

C: They trained some Peace Corps people here. The very first Peace Corps group was trained here [for] Tanganyika. I remember all these people out here. That was right after we got out of school.

M: The first \_\_\_\_\_.

B: That's right.

C: Do you remember that campaign on television, the speeches?

B: Yeah. I remember Kennedy getting killed on \_\_\_\_\_. Because I was at Irvin.

M: Yeah. We were in class at the time.

B: Gosh, it was horrible. Judy and I were both teaching at Irvin.

M: You'd have all these kids sitting there and you couldn't do anything.

B: I remember that very distinctly.

C: So y'all started teaching soon as you got out?

B: [Yes].

#### Tape # 2

C: What do you remember about changing the name from Texas Western College to the University of Texas at El Paso?

B: Well, essentially, you know, I remember, even Morgan, all of us were really \_\_\_\_\_ about that because we liked the fact that it was Texas Western College and it made us a unique...you know, that was a part of our community. We didn't want to do that. And even though it was all explained, you know, if we went into the

University system we'd get more money and we'd have more of this and that and so on, I don't think anybody even thought about that. They were just against the whole motion from the start.

M: I think they were proven right. I mean, I don't \_\_\_\_\_ some of it.

B: I don't either.

M: I don't see that it's [changed] very much.

B: You know, I don't see that it's benefited us at all, you know. I mean maybe...well, I don't know. We're still stuck way, way out here on the corner of Texas and nobody thinks that much about us, and I don't know that we really could see the \_\_\_\_\_ that much.

C: Well, who were members of the faction for the change? Who was pushing it?

M: I don't remember that at all. I really think that it had something to do with the national basketball championship, don't you?

B: It might have.

C: Because all of that happened right about the same time.

M: That was [ '67 ], and it was right before, that was the year before I think one or two years before. It was the first time that TWC had ever gotten any kind of recognition.

B: Oh, yeah.

M: They got tons, they were in the news just constantly that year. I'm sure that's not the only cause, because obviously it [would have] taken longer than that. But I think that might have been a factor.

B: Well, and I remember that people told me that when our team went

up there, nobody had ever even heard of Texas Western College. They had not the foggiest of who we were, where we were from, or what El Paso was or what the school was or anything. They couldn't believe, you know, that that team came up and won the national championship.

M: I still have the article from Sports Illustrated.

B: Yeah. They had no idea, you know, at all. So maybe, you know, part of that is true. But I still believe it was a mistake and I wish we were still Texas Western College, because I thought it was a much better school before, I really do.

M: Of course a lot of it is that the times have changed and a lot of things have changed.

B: I really do feel, you know, when I look back on it and I think, we had a lot of friends, Judy and I both did, who went away to school. But I do not think we were deprived one bit as far as education is concerned. Not at all.

M: If you made a point taking the good professors, it's like anyplace else. And you did have total choice then. You were not computerized into some course, you took who you wanted.

C: How big were the classes? What was the biggest class you had?

M: They were about 30, thirty-five.

C: They didn't have any big lecture sections?

M: Not at all.

B: I never did have a big class.

C: Who were some big names that came? I mean, did they have a Lyceum Series?

M: [No],

C: You mentioned the Kingston Trio in Juarez, but did the campus have any...?

M: They went to the SAE lodge because they were SAEs, and so all the sororities and fraternities went over there to hear them, because they were all SAEs. And who is the other group that went to the Kappa Sig place? It was a duo.

B: Yeah. But who was it?

M: Some other folk-rock famous group, but they had been Kappa Sigs.

C: What kind of dances were popular then?

M: You jitterbugged and slow danced.

C: It was before the twist?

M: The twist is right after we got out of school.

B: Right after we got out of school.

C: And when you'd go to there dances that the fraternities gave, did they have live bands?

M: Occasionally, but usually it was just records. If they had a live band, they were usually western bands.

B: And there were also some groups that played, you know. Like remember, Dickey Hughes played in a group and they used to play for [dances]. Who was it, Dickey and John Garmon. John Garmon the announcer.

M: John Garmon?

B: Yes! Remember, he used to sing.

M: Oh, really? I don't remember that. I believe you, but I don't remember. I remember Dickey Hughes.

B: And Dickey used to play the drums and John used to sing and they used to have a little group, and they used to play for some of their things. But not as many bands, it was mostly records.

M: But at big formals it was Bobby Booth, it was always Bobby Booth.

B: Oh, always, Right.

M: And he still plays. At our high school prom, and they used to play for the big dances like the Coed Ball and stuff like that.

B: And the big fraternity dances, they always had a band. But, you know, for just regular parties and things it was mostly records. And just, we were like anybody else was--a lot of rock and roll, a lot of Fats Domino. And a Lot of Hank Williams.

C: I remember matching sweaters and skirts.

M + B: Oh, yeah.

M: That's what you wore to football games.

C: And the only way I knew it was time to wash clothes was when I ran out of socks.

B: Oh, yeah, because we wore the big, big socks.

M: Not so much in college, because when we were in college we tended to wear more the flats and pumps.

B: Yeah, we did that. The little ballet slipper type flats. What was the make that we used to always wear?

M: Capezios.

B: Yes, Capezios. We wore those a lot.

M: You wore Capezios, but in college we still wore loafers then. But basically it was more, a little dressier then. Still the same kind of, you know, skirts down to your ankles and all.

B: But the name change, gosh. All I remember about that is that everybody opposed it here.

M: I don't know who was behind that. I would like to know because we were all against it. They felt that it was taking away from the individuality of the College, which I think is right. I think one

of the arguments for it was the idea that they were going to be able to offer all these graduate degrees. Well, they still only offer one Ph.D. over all these years, and that's the only difference. And that's ridiculous.

B: The school has grown but I can't \_\_\_\_\_.

C: Well, now, your cheerleading outfit back then, was it orange and white? I mean, were those the colors?

M: They were white with orange letters.

B: White with orange letters, right.

C: So the colors had always been white and orange before it became UTEP.

B: /Yes./

M: But you know, then it was one uniform. That was it.

B: Boy, you wore that until it fell off your back. (Chuckles)

M: Heavy sweater and a pleated skirt, wasn't it?

B: /Yes./

M: I remember seeing pictures of it and I remember seeing you wear it.

C: And what kind of shoes? Saddle oxfords?

B: We wore saddle oxfords.

M: I thought you wore white loafers.

B: I don't remember. I think we wore saddle oxfords.

M: Because you wore loafers in high school. Martha Lou was a cheerleader in high school.

B: A born cheerleader, right. (Laughter). Still doing it.

/PAUSE/

C: The Saturday classes--Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday classes.

M: Having an 8 o'clock Saturday class was just...

B: Oh, it was horrible.



- M: Right. I had History of the Far East, and you had to be alert and take all those notes. And it almost more than you could do to even walk there, much less listen to it.
- B: (Laughs) But I remember finally when I was a senior I worked my schedule out the very last semester I was there so that I didn't have any Saturday classes. It was wonderful. But it was all the way through school, TTS and MWF.
- M: Unless you got, if you had afternoon classes on TT it was only from...they were an hour and a half.
- B: But if it was morning classes, it was TTS.
- C: Were there night classes?
- B: Oh, yeah.
- M: In fact, my senior year I had two night classes in order to fit what I needed in. I had 7:00 to 10:00 on MW. Because especially for upper division classes, which they were offering to graduate students, too, sometimes you had to take a night class in order to get what you wanted.
- B: That's right. They were looking towards getting the people who were working and things like that. And then remember we took that one 4:30 to 6:00 with Burlingame.
- M: Remember when we got called down?
- C: What happened?
- M: We were giggling. We were seniors and we were giggling, and he had to call us down. (Chuckles)
- B: Oh, were we bad, we were terrible. We would just giggle through the whole class every day.

M: Yes, but he finally had to stop class one day and call us down.  
I was very embarrassed.

B: We were seniors. We were going to graduate. (Laughs)

M: We were English majors. (Chuckles) It was Early Twentieth  
Century British Novel.

B: Right. That's exactly what it was. I remember the papers that  
I got back from that class. Those were tough tests.

M: Well, it was tough material--Virginia Woolf and Conrad. It  
was hard material.

B: But for some reason we couldn't stop laughing in that class all  
the time. We just would go in and we'd sit there and giggle.

M: There was somebody else in there too.

B: I don't remember who it was. But we did get called down. We  
deserved it too. That's true.

M: I also had Burlingame for a night class one time, a Russian  
literature class, and we had \_\_\_\_\_ too. And it was 7 to  
8:30 I think on Tuesdays and Thursdays or something like that.

B: He's a good teacher. I had him for Melville and Hawthorne, too,  
a seminar course.

C: Well, you learn in spite of it all, in spite of all your  
giggling.

B: That's right.

M: Yeah, but the teachers were really good.

B: Oh, yeah. We did, we had excellent teachers.

M: Because remember when Holly came back from the University of  
Oklahoma and she felt that as far as English was concerned, that  
what she had here was as good as anyplace. Or this was California,  
this was Berkeley.

B: Right. And I remember Alan Ponder went to Stanford or someplace, he said the same thing. He came back here and took courses and he said, "My gosh, the courses here are just as good, even better."

M: Yeah. If you took the good people. But there were a few you just never bothered taking. There were about four or five in each department, and you'd stay with those people.

B: But you really could get a good background. And I felt like my background was really strong when I graduated.

M: Oh, me too.