

**WALDO HALL RESIDENT 1956**

**ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW**

**GAIL NICKERSON**

**FEBRUARY 2, 1995**

**and**

**FEBRUARY 24, 1995**

**Natasha Allaire**

**Anthropology 498**

**Dr. Gross**

**Winter Term 1995**

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

GAIL NICKERSON

FEBRUARY 2, 1995

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- 000 N: (Cut off on leader: This is)<sup>1</sup> Natasha Allaire interviewing Gail Nickerson for an oral history from when she lived in Waldo hall. February 2nd, 5:00. Will that (microphone) be OK there?<sup>2</sup>
- 003 G: Yep. Fine.
- 004 N: Great. O.K. When you first came to Oregon State University, was it Oregon State College at that time?
- 004 G: Yes it was Oregon State College it had, um, 1961 was when it changed to Oregon State University.
- 005 N: O.K. so when did you actually come? To?
- 006 G: 1956 September.
- 006 N: 56. Now were you a freshman at that time?
- 007 G: Yes, yes.
- 007 N: Traditionally eighteen year old?
- 007 G: Yes, I had just turned eighteen that summer.
- 008 N: OK um. Did you have a choice of where you were going to live or did the university basically say you were going to live in Waldo?
- 008 G: Well I had never been to Oregon State University so I had no idea. And I was just assigned to Waldo. I guess some people but you see there were only two dorms Sackett and Waldo and Co-ed Cottage and that was sort of it.
- 011 N: So there weren't alot of choices, men were in Sackett and women were in Waldo I take it.
- 012 G: No, no I mean uh
- 012 N: Two women's dorms not two total. Gotcha because Weatherford  
G: Yeah right. Oh O.K.  
N: would have been here at that time. O.K. I understand um do you  
G: Oh yes.  
N: remember what it was like moving in for the first time, kind of all the?
- 014 G: I was just thinking about all you moved in with. Because you have to understand there were no microwaves. Television had just come to Oregon in 1952, so I mean you, and didn't have portable T.V. sets. I moved in with a stereo.

<sup>1</sup> Parenthetical comments are interviewer's informational notes.

<sup>2</sup> Underlined text indicates speech overlap.

018 N: Being a traditional turntable kind of? The round?

018 G: Uh, you know records.

019 N: Right, that was the stereo then, the record player?

019 G: Yes. And you did not have two sets of speakers. It was one. And, there were no tapes or CDs or that sort of nonsense, so you had tapes. Uh, I moved into the dormitory, I had not come from a wealthy family so I had very few clothes. So, I had like two suitcases and, uh, a stereo and that was it.

023 N: Wow. Now how many people lived in a room?

024 G: Uh, there were four to a room for freshman. And it happened to be that there were only three that showed up in the room that I was in. Another girl from Portland named Pat and a girl from Jefferson, Oregon named, uh, Sue who is now a real estate agent in Corvallis, but that is another story.

028 N: Do you still communicate with these people that you lived with

028 G: No.

N: that year?

028 G: I haven't seen them since I was like a junior years or so.

029 N: O.K., um were, were you taking, were you doing, what was your major at that time? If there was one.

030 G: I was going to be a science teacher but I got rid of that notion a long time ago. But anyway. Um, now the dorm, the rooms had two bunk beds and a big closet and desks that were new at the time so they were much bigger than the ones that are now in cubicles.

035 N: Built in desks or nice big wood desks like

035 G: No they were movable, well fairly big metal

G: desks, and that was and you had chairs and

036 N: Dressers?

036 G: Yea, dressers. But, uh, because it was a big closet why we used to put the dressers in the closet because we could get them out of the way.

037 N: Uh humm.

038 G: We got (ring) sheets

(pause for phone call)

039 G: (?) sheets . . . We got one clean sheet every week.

040 N: One sheet meaning one sheet or one set?

041 G: One, one sheet. No sets. And  
042 N: Oh O.K.  
G: a pillowcase. So you put the top sheet on the bottom and put the new sheet on the top.

042 N: O.K. so you were able to keep one sheet and then get rid of a sheet?

042 G: Yes, so then this was laundry was done. And (chuckle) somehow we managed that we never told anybody we only had three of us, so we always got four sheets and so one person got clean sheets every week but anyway

045 N: Rotated that week. So, someone came in and did your laundry for the sheet laundry for you? Or

046 G: Umm, you took them once a week you took them down to the laundry room.

047 N: Where was the laundry room located?

047 G: It was in the, it's in the basement on the north end of the building.

048 N: OK, And where was your room in relation to that?

048 G: It was on the third floor on the opposite end.

049 N: Third floor?

049 G: Top floor. Freshman were in the top, uh, uh, the third floor.

050 N: The fourth floor or the third, the third floor? O.K., so there was a floor above you?

050 G: No. Well, there's only four floors, but only three were dormitory rooms. The bottom floor was cafeteria and, and uh, was it reception? No, there was a reception room on the second floor. Yea, the bottom floor was a cafeteria, the mail boxes, uh, where you took the laundry and, uh, there were washing machines.

055 N: And, that would be the main entrance? I know that they've got  
G: Yeah.  
N: that beautiful entrance there next to, across from Snell, there on the first floor.

056 G: Yeah, that was the entrance and there was a lawn all in front of there with huge trees with pheasants living in the trees.

057 N: Wow. Pheasants?

058 G: Yes. In the bushes under the trees.

058 N: Live pheasants? Not little decorative pink flamingo pheasants?

059 G: Yes. No, no, no.

060 N: O.K., now if you lived in, if that was the first floor then there is three floors above that so.

061 G: Yeah it was actually the fourth floor.

061 N: O.K.  
And so if you were to look out your window what would you be looking at?

062 G: Well, actually we were on the back side. We looked at, oh, west and it would be the, oh, mens gym.

064 N: O.K., I'm trying to orient myself to what the campus is now.

065 G: Well it was the west side of the building, the back side.

065 N: O.K. so like you would be facing Langton hall, where the pool is now.

066 G: (Laughs) That is what I call the men's gym.

067 N: O.K., that's, that's right.

067 G: In the dark ages, you see, none of these buildings had names of people. They were things like Ag hall and, uh, Men's building and, uh

068 N: There weren't enough prestigious people to name these people  
G: Right.  
N: after? What was, um, does anything stand out in your mind about? I know lots of people tell stories of when they were in college. They have these crazy antics, or they some of the stories they like to tell of when they were going to school.

072 G: Well, you don't probably understand this, but, at the time there were things called demerits. You had to be in by 10 o'clock on Sunday through Thursday and you could stay out til midnight on Friday and Saturday nights. If you didn't get back in time you got demerits. Uh, I think I only got two demerits because I was late one time. Uh, and then you were supposed to do things like scrub the quad, the seal in the quad, with your toothbrush kind of thing.

078 N: If you received demerits?

079 N: Yes.

079 N: O.K.

079 G: Or, you couldn't go out on weekends, you had to stay in and check in with the house mother and this kind of nonsense. They had, um, floor, well they didn't call them proctors but now I don't know what they called them, but, you know, like seniors were

082 N: Like RA's now, resident assistants? Kind of O.K.

082 G: Yea. Yea. Yea. And, of course you were always hiding beer from them.

083 N: But of course.

084 G: Yes.

084 N: Huhmm.

085 G: Now, I knew somebody that was telling me that you could sneak in and out of Waldo, but I was so dumb I never did it. Um, from the second no the second floor you could go out on a extension and climb over the edge.

088 N: But you never tried that?

088 G: No. Uh, you see, if you opened the doors after, uh, 10 o'clock alarms went off.

089 N: O.K., and, uh, when you checked in was there, did you have to check in physically? Or, I know sometimes there were light

G: Yes.

N: systems and you kind of press the light.

091 G: No, no, no. This was not, uh, oh, and there weren't any phones, of course.

092 N: Of course.

093 G: Uh, no, you had to check in at the front desk.

093 N: O.K., so all bodies were present and accounted for?

093 G: Yes, yes. Of course, and there were dress codes then.

094 N: O.K. Tell me about the dress codes.

095 G: Uh, no pants on campus unless you had a coat over them and you were going to a PE class or it was a weekend. Now on weekends, on Saturdays, you could wear pants to breakfast and lunch but dinner you had to wear a dress, and Sundays they had a formal dinner where you took turns escorting the housemother, and everybody was very polite. And the food was awful.

101 N: So nothing much has changed?



- 101 G: Actually I think the foods better, you may not believe that but, uh, I can remember, O.K., it was my sophomore year I had a girl from Hawaii as a roommate, and this was many years ago, and pizza wasn't prevalent all over the world and they served something in the dormitory they called pizza which was about an inch and half of Bisquick topped with tomato sauce which I thought was absolutely horrible, because I happen to like pizza. Anyway. So I took her to some beer joint and we had a a real pizza because it was different from the dorm food. But, you see the cafeteria was you know it was all cafeteria style, blah.
- 110 N: Now, the only people that ate in that cafeteria were the people that lived in Waldo hall? Correct? Each building had their own
- 111 G: Right. Right.
- 112 N: dining facility? And you still had to be just as formal with the girls you lived with having dinner?
- 113 G: Oh yes. Yes.
- 113 N: Where, what was the shower, I mean was there communal showers?
- 114 G: A communal showers, yea, um, one bathtub, you know I don't know if there was a bathtub come to think of it, but there were two on each floor. There were two bathrooms, one on each end. So, of course you tried to get a room that wasn't too far from the bathroom, but then again you didnt want to be right next to it.
- 118 N: Uh huh. How did the girls all pretty much get along with each other living there in the . . . ?
- 119 G: Well, you know the other thing that you probably don't realize is there was something like 7 to 8 men for each woman. It was a very different atmosphere. Um, a lot of classes there would be, like two or three women, that at least I took you, you know science classes. So, I mean, that was very different. There were a lot of, of course I don't know what the dropping rate was, but half of them, just half of the females disappeared after freshman year.
- 126 N: What did they do? Did they get married?
- 126 G: Get married, get pregnant, married or just drop out of school. Uh, to get in to college then all you had to do was just graduate from high school. You didn't need a certain GPA at all. So there were a lot of people who were not qualified at all as far as, um, and see then most of the women joined a sorority.
- 131 N: And you chose not to join a sorority?
- 132 G: Well nobody wanted me. I mean so, (laughs) um, I think I was a sophomore. Well, at the end of my freshman year, one of my roommates joined a sorority and they were needing more people, and by that time I thought, "No, I don't want to do that". So I didn't. Oh, and you know on, um, Wednesdays, you, freshman had

G: to wear green ribbon in their hair, females that is. Men had to  
were a green and yellow beanie.

138 N: This was a university policy?

139 G: Yes.

139 N: Was there a reason for that policy?

140 G: Well, this was, you know, putting freshman in their place.

141 N: Hmm, that's on Tuesdays. Why green? I mean. . .

142 G: I don't know, why it was, no I take it back, it was like green  
and orange. It was, you know, like, um, little pie slices on a  
beanie. It was terrible looking. No, I think that was  
Wednesdays because on Tuesdays see all men had to be in ROTC. So

145 N: O.K.  
G: all of the guys were in uniform, at least the freshman and  
sophomores, because they had to have two years of it, and then,  
if the guys who were on scholarship, I mean, on Tuesdays this  
place was uniforms.

149 N: And that was a requirement at the time, all men had to, uh, had  
G: Yes.

150 N: to uh, do their time in reserves? O.K. Did they still have all  
four branches here?

151 G: Yea, yea, they always have, I don't know if they had air force  
N: So that's maintained  
G: then, come to think of it. I think it was Navy, Marines and  
Army.

154 N: How long did you, did you stay here at Oregon State College?

155 G: (Laughs) I never left, well, I, uh, lived in the dormitory for  
three years, then I flunked out of school, and then I was working  
and so I kept working and then I finally graduated in 1982, after  
taking courses one by one.

160 N: Right. Now when you were working were, we're here now in the Ag  
Life Science building, were you working?

162 G: I started, I started out in the  
same department, same section, (coughs) excuse me, but I was  
working, Ag chemistry was in the basement of the chemistry  
building.

165 N: Where was the chemistry building? Which one was that?

165 G: Gilbert. You know.

166 N: O.K., Gilbert, gotcha. I, my uh I, look at everything by it's  
name and don't know some of the ones I'm not familiar with.

168 G: Yeah, well see, and that was, uh, then we, uh, and I went to work and they said, "Oh, we are going to build a new building" and I said, "I will never work here long enough". That was Weniger hall and it was built in 1960 and 1961. So we moved from the basement of the Chemistry to Weniger which was called Physics/Chemistry at the time, and, uh, into this building two and a half years ago.

173 N: Uh-uh, wow, this is a really nice building. Have you gone back in and seen Waldo since, um, they've converted it?

175 G: I have only been in there, been in there a couple times, and, uh, see when, about the year I, uh, left, they were building Snell hall as a, they were, I don't, I think it was just a female dorm and they were doing all of this digging and construction, and they got rid of the pheasant because they drove them off. But they, see, they were digging a tunnel from Waldo to go to the cafeteria that they built with Snell and they eliminated, I think, the old cafeteria in Waldo. Now in 1957 was the 50th anniversary of Waldo.

186 N: In 1987?

186 G: 57.

187 N: 57. Was the?

187 G: It was built in 1907.

187 N: Really, so it's got quite a history.

188 G: Yes, so they had, uh, receptions and stuff.

188 N: And that was at the time that you were living there.

188 G: Oh yeah, yeah.

189 N: Lots of festivities. What would you guys do? During that time

190 G: Oh we had, teas

N: period?

190 G: and stuff for the little old ladies that came wandering through. And I happen to know a lady that, uh, I guess had gone to school during the first world war and, uh, she was saying how different it was because they had, like fixed basins in the, uh, rooms, where you could wash.

194 N: That would have been nice.

195 G: Yes, they took those out years, I don't know when they took

196 N: Long before your

196 G: Oh yeah.

N: little stop over there.

196 G: But, it was, I liked the rooms because they had big tall ceilings and, uh, you could rattle around in it a lot.

198 N: So then, if you, you were there for three years, so and your  
G: Yeah.  
N: junior year was when you left? Of the three years, do any, do you have a favorite time period, that you were there, that you like one time better than another?

202 G: Not really. It was just one of those places you lived in. I mean I met people that I have, well, uh, some friends that I still see now and then.

205 N: That lived there at the same time you did?

205 G: Yeah.

205 N: Well, that's really neat, long time, long term relationships.

206 G: Yeah, but I had gone to high school in Portland where there were 600 and some odd in my graduating class. So I, um, it wasn't such a shock to me to get into college, actually I did better my freshman year than I did later. My mother always said it was because I got a car finally.

212 N: After your freshman year? And that's when it?

213 G: Well, uh, it was my junior year. You see, a lot of people, most people didn't  
N: O.K.  
G: have cars either. It was this exodus on beginning and end of the term where parents brought their children with possessions.

216 N: Where were you able to park your car, when you finally got it your junior year? Was there parking for students?

218 G: Well, it's parking where, um, the side of the, uh, baseball field

219 N: So there was a big parking lot there?

220 G: No, well, it was just the side of the, see there were,  
N: Oh, that little lot. O.K.  
G: there were so few cars that you know, uh, where the administration building is now, I think, that was part of a parking lot, too because, um, the fieldhouse, McAlexander, uh, that was completely different then that was where they had the riding classes.

227 N: Horseback riding?

227 G: Horseback riding. And they had the ROTC drill. It was not a, uh, a, it was actually mostly for ROTC.

231 N: Um-huh, and was that a lawn all the way from the ROTC, from the

N: fieldhouse all the way over to Waldo? Take out Snell in between there?

233 G: Take out Snell and that was grass and then on the closest to the fieldhouse was, uh, parking along the steet there. Now there's a lot of buildings and see the library wasn't there. The library was across that the thing is.

237 N: Milam?

238 G: Yeah.

238 N: O.K. Across the library quad is where the library was, oh, no I'm sorry Kidder Kidder. Kidder.

239 G: Yeah. Yeah, and there was a beautiful (bandstand--off tape due to transcription error) very close to where the new library is and they used to have concerts there, they had pep rallies for football games.

243 N: Was that a weekly thing during the fall?

243 G: Well if there was a game. Yeah, you see my, uh, when I

244 N: Pretty much uhhmm

G: went off to college my aunt said if Oregon State ever goes to the Rose Bowl, she'd take me, well, they managed to do that, in 1956 and

248 N: Coincided with the year you got here.

248 G: Yes, and so there was a lot of excitement about football games, and the whole thing depended on whether Oregon State could beat Stanford, about the next to the last game of the season, and it was played in Stanford, and I can always remember that because after they won everyone got in their cars and ran around and honked their horns. Excitement in Corvallis.

254 N: What did you guys go out and do during the, uh weekend?

255 G: There was very little to do. You could go to the movies. There

N: Right.

G: were three movies then, where the majestic is was a movie theater. Um, there was the, um, MU, was very different, take away where the commons is and take away where the bookstore and that was the size of the MU. The bookstore was where the post office is now.

263 N: The post office?

263 G: Well, in the, you know, the main part of the MU building.

264 N: The post office is in the bottom basement of the bookstore right now.

265 G: Oh, O.K., well, I'll take that back. It's in, it's where, just

G: before you get into the main part of the, of the MU, there's all these Christmas sales and that was where the bookstore was, and  
267 N: Right, O.K.  
G: there wasn't any commons. And there was a restaurant in there where, um, oh, it's towards the front of the building called the Oak Club where I think I could have rented a booth because, uh, I sat in there for hours, to study, because one of my roommates was a fan of Fats Domino and she always played his records very loudly so it was kind of nice to get away from there.

276 N: Did she bring her own stereo as well?

277 G: No, I, I only remember one, and we argued about what was going to be played.

278 N: Your stereo?

279 G: Yeah.

280 N: Well, that brings me to living in the rooms was it pretty much communal kind of, kind of property in the rooms cuz, you might, say you brought the stereo, but your roommate didn't have the stereo, so she could use your stereo and she had something that  
G: Yeah.  
N: you didn't have that and you used hers?

283 G: Yeah, but you see people didn't bring that much stuff.

284 N: Pack it in the back of the trunk?

285 G: Yeah, I mean you didn't have all of this garbage.

287 N: You should see it now.

287 G: Yeah, well I have seen some of these people delivering to the dormitories and you think, "I didn't even own that much, let alone". I mean, talk about lock, stock, and barrel.

292 N: How much time was spent in classes?

293 G: Well, would you believe there were, uh, Saturday classes? Saturday morning classes?

294 N: That were just once a week?

295 G: Yeah.

295 N: O.K.

295 G: Uhm, and because I was taking all of these stupid science courses, then you had to English writing, writing English composition unless you really did very well on your entrance exams. And, it was three hours a week and I got stuck with it on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning and Saturday morning

G: usually you had a one and a half page paper, I mean, not a paper, but, you know, a thing due, which just ruins Friday nights, and a few other things. So, but you got it over with. I mean it was, uh, I was taking physics, chemistry, english, you had to take PE

309 N: Every term?

309 G: Yeah, so I took weird things just to fit them in the schedule, uhm, you know, you had like, well I was taking 16 hours, oh and math.

314 N: Were each classes, so 16 hours, would you have done basically an hour for each credit, so 16 hours of it is kind of how it's equated now? Was it?

318 G: Well, the science courses you always had recitations.

319 N: And labs.

319 G: And labs.

320 N: Was it, uh, basically, what I am trying to get at is, was it, like, an 8 to 5 day? You were in classes most of the day?

322 G: Yeah.

323 N: And then your evenings were spent doing your homework? And that was kind of a routine?

324 G: Yeah, it was, uh, there was a lot, I mean, it seems to me there wasn't anything to do in Corvallis until I turned 21.

326 N: Was that the drinkning age at that time?

327 G: Yes.

328 N: But there were ways around that before?

328 G: Oh yes. Um (laughs)

329 N: Go ahead.

329 G: There's a place called Willamette Park now. Do you know where that is?

330 N: Uh huh.

330 G: Uh, it used to be called Murphy's Beach because it wasn't a park. It was not a public facility at all, but people went there to drink because, and it was also full of poison oak and there were no public facilities and one time, I think it was a friend of roommates, we were out there and she was drinking and she was falling so I was trying to hold her up while she went to the bathroom and then she developed poison oak. Which is why you shouldn't go at strange places.

341 N: You mean the poison oak was not at a very pleasant spot, I take  
342 G: No. No.  
343 N: it? No. Did you get it as well from helping her, because you  
G: No. No.  
N: were in that area?  
G: No. No.

344 N: Was she also underaged?

345 G: Oh yeah.

345 N: How did you get the alcohol?

346 G: We knew people who were seniors. (Laughs)

347 N: Women? Other women?

347 G: No, no. (Laughs)

348 N: Well, so there were so many guys to campus, calling in a favor or  
G: Well yeah  
N: two probably wasn't a problem?

350 G: Yeah, it wasn't, uh, well, it was somebody's boyfriend. And we  
used to smuggle beer into the dorm. The only problem was getting  
it out, getting the empties out.

354 N: How did you do that?

355 G: Put them in your dirty laundry, (Laughs) wrapped them so they  
didn't rattle.

357 N: Well, that gets you to the first floor were the washers are?

358 G: Oh, well, this was, you know, take them out on the weekend. But  
actually, see the, uh, age laws were not enforced, because I  
remember one time when my parents came down and I was 18 and we  
went to a place called the Chat and Chew and they served me beer.  
And, I was, I got checked for age until I was 34, so, but it was,  
there was a lot less hassle about it.

367 N: Less restricted?

368 G: Yes.

369 N: How did you get to that, down to the Willamette Park area  
370 G: Oh, in someone's car.  
N: just walk downtown,  
G: Oh, you know that's quite a ways out, you know  
where Murphy's Tavern is, and then down to the river

372 N: yeah, well  
that is quite a ways.

374 G: it's uh. I think the biggest excitement that year,  
or the year after, was where the Mary's River goes into the



G: Willamette, there was a huge mill that had been abandoned. And it caught on fire. And it made the most spectacular blaze. You know you could see it from all over so everybody went down to look at the fire. And I think that, after it was over, we stole some bricks from the dryer that they had there and made bookcases out of them. Oh, and the other nice thing about campus then was Withycombe hall and the dairy was there and they made milk for the dormitory. I mean, they processed the milk from the college herd. And they also had ice cream. And they made their own and it was rich and delicious, so you always figured out some way to go down that way and get an ice cream cone. Yeah, and the Orange O Club come to think of it probably saved my life because it had pretty good hamburgers and, um, when you got tired of dorm food.

386

395

399 N: Dorm food. You kind of went out huh? What would they serve you in the dorms? What was, I mean, did they have pizza and standard

403 G: Well, uh, you know.

N: kinds of cafeteria dishes?

403 G: Oh yeah, macaroni and cheese and stuff, with a little bit of flavor, and jello salads.

404 N: They flavored it then?

405 G: Well, uh, with no flavor I mean, you know.

405 N: O.K. well we have no flavor now so.

407 G: A lot of jello salads, lukewarm soups and awful sandwiches for lunch. Actually, breakfasts were probably better than other things because you can't do too much.

412 N: Breakfast is our best meal as well. (Laughs) You can't mess us breakfast.

413 G: My mother never believed me when I told her how awful the food was, except she came down one dead week or finals week and, of course, you weren't supposed to, uh, have guests because everyone was around in their grubby clothes and she ate there and it was one of those tepid soups and kind of lunchmeat sandwich, that you, you know mystery meat. You know, that it was debatable what it was.

424 N: Then she believed you there after?

424 G: Yes, it was, but that was actually worse than usual, as far as

426 N: Did she start sending you care packages to supplement your?

426 G: Oh well, I always had cookies and stuff.

429 N: Did mail come directly to (End of tape on first side)

001 N: (Lost on leader . . .) resident assistants, or whatever you called them, and did, and you had one per floor, what was your relationship with that person like?

002 G: You avoided them.

002 N: You did? O.K. Did they?

003 G: I mean it was like stay out of trouble.

003 N: Did they tend to rat on you? Or uh?

003 G: Well, I mean don't make so much noise that someone starts pounding on the door and, uh, you know if your not drawing attention to yourself you are not getting into trouble. And, I remember the time somebody took, this girl who was flat chested had barbells and she was doing exercises to develop her chest, and one night somebody took those, and the hallways were long and they rolled them down the hall and it took days before anybody ever figured out what on earth was that awful noise.

009 N: Rolling down the hall?

010 G: You see, everything had to be quiet after 10 o'clock, I mean,  
N: Uhhmm.  
G: it was like, quiet quiet.

011 N: Right. They never figured out it was barbells running down the hallway, huh? Did it put a hole in the wall?

011 G: Yeah. Oh no, no. It was just, you know, this rumble, rumble, rumble, rumble, as it

013 N: Right.  
G: went down the hallway.

013 N: So, she was trying to build up her breasts with barbells? Was  
G: Yes, yes.  
N: this the common practice of the girls in the dorm?

014 G: No. She was the only one I ever knew of that did that.

015 N: O.K., did it work?

015 G: No. (Laughs)

015 N: No. O.K., just seeing if it worked then, it never did now.

016 G: Oh, and then there was one roommate that I will never forget, now I can't remember her name though, but she was, uh, built like I am, and she had, at the time, of course, you see, when you wear dresses you have to wear nylons and they didn't have pantyhose, so you had girdles. Now some people just wore garter belts because that was a lot easier and then, but see this girl, and it was Playtex girdle that was a rubber tube, thin rubber, and it had perforations in it, like little tiny holes, and watching her

G: struggle into that everyday was one of those things, that you think "why is she bothering" but it kept her with a flat stomach.

024 N: Wow. Huhmm. Were there places to go shopping in town for clothes? I mean

025 G: Not any more than there are now.

026 N: Really, slim pickins?

026 G: Probably even less, and of course there weren't any shopping malls in Albany or any place else. Uhm.

028 N: Was Albany as convenient then, as it is now? I mean it's just a 10 minute. Well yeah, but more people,  
G: Well, there wasn't anything there.  
N: every, most people have cars now, where as fewer people had them then, was it harder to get there?

030 G: Well, actually, I mean growing up in Portland, I mean it wasn't, you did your shopping, in Portland store.

031 N: What part of Portland?

031 G: Uh, Northeast, Grant High School.

032 N: O.K., so that's were you graduated from, before you came here?

032 G: Yeah.

032 N: O.K.

033 G: Yeah, I just sold my mother's house.

034 N: In northeast?

034 G: Yeap.

034 N: Uhhuh. Wow, lots of changes up there as well.

035 G: Oh yes. Well, there weren't, well, the other little thing that was different, of course, was there wasn't any place close to campus that served alcohol. All these things on Monroe Street didn't exist. There were, uh, about two or three restaraunts and about two or three pharmacies and a donut place and, I guess the Superette has always sort of been there. And gas stations, there were more gas stations up by campus because when I started working you couldn't park, you couldn't get a staff parking thing until you made so much money, only professors, etc. could park on campus, so I parked at this gas station across the street. Come to think of it.

045 N: Where Kinkos was?

046 G: Uh, no, actually it's where that corner of Kings and Monroe Street, across from the, see the bookstore there.

047 N: Where the College Inn and? O.K. in that corner. O.K., so you  
048 G: Yeah. Yeah.  
N: parked there one day? Regularly?

049 G: Oh that's where I. Yeah when I worked. And then somewhere in the midst of all that they changed the regulations so that staff could pay for it and they could park on campus and you didn't have to make \$16,000 a year.

052 N: Huh, so did you start parking? Did you but the permit then?

052 G: Oh yes.  
Yes, you see, when I started working I was making, well I started out, I was washing dishes in a chinese restaraunt for 80 cents and hour.

055 N: That was in '59 when you left college? Oh, while you were still  
G: 1957.  
N: in college. O.K.

056 G: Oh yeah. And a friend across said, "You know you could get a job in the Chem lab for a dollar an hour. You don't have to work weekends, et cetera", so that's how I ended up washing dishes and then I ended up grinding hops and then pretty soon I had a job.

059 N: So, basically you've had this job for quite a steady period of  
G: Oh yeah.  
N: time, then, I mean, since

060 G: Officially, civil services since 1959. I worked as a student for a while.

062 N: So when you start, you left in 1959, you hadn't gained your degree but that didn't stop you from working here at O.S.U. in  
G: No. No.  
N: this program you're in now?

064 G: Well, I started out, you know I was temporary student help and then I was a laboratory technician and I took the civil service exam to be a chemist that's (?)

067 N: And a degree wasn't required?

067 G: Well, they considered experience equivalent of.

068 N: At that time?

068 G: Yes.

068 N: Well, that's good. I mean.

069 G: So now my thirty some years experience is equivalent of a

G: Master's degree so.

070 N: Great. So when you moved off of campus, when you left Waldo, where did you move to?

071 G: Oh, the apartments that I have lived in, two of them have been torn down for parking lots and one of them was a garage which actually is still an apartment, oh, and then I moved in with four other girls after I left the dorm and lived on 17th, over across the railroad tracks.

075 N: O.K. That was your second one, the first one was the one?

077 G: No, that was the first one after the dormitory, and then I moved on to  
 N: That was? Oh O.K.

G: the corner of 11th and Jefferson and that was torn down for a parking lot.

079 N: For the dorms?

079 G: Yeah, and then I moved to 8th and Van Buren. I lived there until I ended up in a house, so, actually I have moved, oh, immediately the first one was the garage, I'll take that back. It was a

082 N: O.K.

083 G: remodeled garage. \$28 a month. No.

N: Were. Can't beat that.

083 N: Where was that garage?

083 G: It's on Van Buren. It's still there.

083 N: Really?

084 G: Not on Van Buren. It's on Kings, uh, just before you get to Van Buren. You know there's those funny little complex of houses and  
 N: Right.

G: there's it's still there. It's still an apartment.

085 N: Oh. Wow.

086 G: I'm sure it's more than \$28 a month.

086 N: Probably. If not, someone's getting a heck of a deal today.

087 G: Yes.

087 N: Great.

088 G: I can't remember now how much it cost to live in the dormitory. But see tuition was only \$65 a term.

089 N: For everything? Books were probably much less expensive as

090 G: Actually, they were expensive, but, it seemed to me that you didn't have to get new books every term, I mean, it wasn't.

092 N: So one book, say for chemistry, could last you the whole year?  
093 G: Yeah. Yeah.  
093 N: Were you able to resell your books at the end of the year? Did they have new/used like they do now?  
094 G: Well, I was always doing it because I needed money, so I'd sell them at the end of the term and then buy them back. I mean  
095 N: Were you getting a?  
095 G: Your losing money that way?  
096 N: O.K., You, I, just checking. You definitely do now, I'll spend \$50 on a book and they will give me \$2, so it's a racket, it was  
G: Yeah.  
N: a racket then.  
098 G: Now some of those books I actually kept. Very few of them but.  
099 N: Were you excited to get out of the dorms finally when you did?  
100 G: Oh yeah, it was.  
100 N: Were there some aspects of it that you missed?  
101 G: Not really.  
101 N: Not really?  
101 G: As an only child, see it was, I had never lived like that, so it was sort of like, well, I had going to girl scout camp but it wasn't  
103 N: Not for long periods of time?  
103 G: Yeah, well, you see, and then it was sophomore and junior years I only had one roommate and it was down there on the, what would the second floor, but the first of the dorms, I mean dorm rooms, so you had privileges as you, uh, got older.  
107 N: Ahh, great. Is there anything else that you'd like to?  
108 G: No.  
109 N: That you can think of that stands out in your mind about Waldo, or the campus in general?  
110 G: Well, as I said it looked different mainly because the, uh the students, and watching the clothing styles change is hysterical.  
112 N: See some of them, do any of them ever kind of retro back into?  
113 G: Well, I, when I first started working I'd, like, in the fall

- G: would be rush week and I'd be going in and out of the Weniger in my field clothes, carrying sacks of plant material and you'd see these pretty little girls go by in their sweet little clothes and think hmmm.
- 117 N: Yes, they sure have changed. Sometimes I don't know if it's for the better.
- 118 G: Well, I don't know, at least your scroungy clothes were for scroungy and, you know you had three sets of clothes, one was your everyday dresses you wore to classes and then there were your grubbies that you wore when you felt like it and then there were your dress up clothes that you wore on Sunday or, uh, you know, to go out kind of thing. But now all I have is grungy clothes.
- 124 N: O.K.
- G: Yeah, I don't miss, there are a lot of things about that I don't, that I'm glad I don't have to go through that again. Being sopping wet and wearing nylons, and for some reason during that time the fashion for shoes was ballet slippers, or, you know, those kind of flats, Cappezzios, or whatever they are. And
- 130 N: Right.
- G: if you walked around and got wet, I mean you were just wearing soggy, wet, floppy things.
- 133 N: The weather was very hard then on womens fashions?
- 133 G: Oh, you know, then the only time I ever got really good food in the, on campus, I got the measles.
- 135 N: So was the food really good or did it just taste good because you
- 136 G: In the infirmary
- N: were sick?
- 136 G: I was incarcerated in the infirmary and the food was actually pretty good.
- 137 N: It made you want to get sick more?
- 137 G: Well, I wasn't that sick, you know, it was like, they wouldn't let you out until your spots disappeared, so you'd have this daily inspection where you had to lift up your pajamas and, tell them you didn't have any spots on your stomach before they let you out.
- 141 N: How long did you stay there?
- 141 G: About five days.
- 142 N: Was it where it's at now? The Student Health Center?
- 142 G: Yeah, only it wasn't, it didn't have any wings on it. It was very small, and of course, there was no birth control help or anything else.

145 N: They didn't freely give it out, huh?

146 G: Uh no, no. People knew about condoms and diaphragms, but, uh, the pill was just starting, birth control, people got more pregnant then, more often, I think, I mean that's why they got married.

149 N: High drop out rate for women?

150 G: Yes, yes.

151 N: Great. Lots of different things have been covered today. (Laugh)  
I am anxious to go back over it. I want to thank you for taking this time tonight and, uh, I hope to be able to call you in about a week and half and kind of set up a followup visit. And see

155 G: Oh. Yeah.

N: if there are any questions or anything else that comes up from this. Great. Well, thank you.



ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

GAIL NICKERSON

FEBRUARY 24, 1995

TAPE 2, SIDE 1

- Off-002 Introduction and hall activities and campus clubs  
003-012 Reasons for leaving O.S.U. her junior year  
013-039 Changing her mind about being a science teacher  
039-058 Her experience being equivalent to a Master's degree,  
even if she left O.S.U.  
059-083 Women who dropped out because of pregnancy and the  
presence of social stigmas  
083-101 Talk about abortion  
101-122 Birth control and sex education  
122-139 Alcohol drinking and the beginnings of marijuana use  
139-151 Back to "frank and earnest sexual things" and growing  
up around adult conversations  
151-170 Diversity on campus: her Hawaiian roommate, African  
Americans and W.A.S.P.s  
170-179 This wasn't an interesting point of her life, so she  
doesn't remember much  
179-183 Talking with professors  
183-206 Arranging and registering for classes in Gill Coliseum  
206-213 Seniors didn't have to take finals  
214-218 Gail becomes the interviewer and asks me if I've ever  
lived in the dorms  
219-222 Thank you for the interview and closing

(Off tape because of microphone problem--it was written down immediately after the interview and is fairly accurate)<sup>1</sup>

This is Natasha Allaire and this is a followup oral history interview with Gail Nickerson. It is February 24, 3 o'clock. In Waldo were there any social activities scheduled through the Residence Hall Association, like dances?

Oh yes, there were sock hops.

Currently we have Casino night annually, was there anything like that?

Oh no, you see gambling was illegal in Oregon then. N: Were there any really active clubs on campus?

Well there was this club that you know made sure everyone was wearing their green ribbons. That was a big deal.

- 002 G: and then for sophomores and above there were some science honoraries and stuff.
- 003 N: O.K. We talked last time about, you dropped out your junior year<sup>2</sup>  
G: uhhum  
N: uh, I was just kind of curious, we never talked about why that was, if there was any reason zero grades
- 005 G: zero grades (laughs) When you flunk out why you uh have difficulties going to school. So they  
N: O.K. So it was.  
G: ask you to leave.
- 006 N: So it was purely academic reasons. It wasn't, uh, to start  
G: Uh huh.  
N: your job, that you started here?
- 007 G: Oh well, I had started working and I actually found the job much more interesting than going to class and so forth so I, my grades suffered. That was when I had some interesting classes too. I  
N: O.K.  
G: dislike intensely education classes.
- 010 N: And you also had your car at that time so was a  
G: Oh yes, yes that
- 012 N: nice distraction for you. Umm, did you, did you ever marry for  
G: No.  
N: anyone from here or?
- 012 G: No, no never married.
- 013 N: Um, you talked, when we were talking about your classes and when

<sup>1</sup> Parenthetical comments are interviewer's informational notes.

<sup>2</sup> Underlined text indicates speech overlap.

N: you first got here you said you wanted, you were thinking about being a science teacher. And then, and you said that you

G: Yes.

N: changed your mind on that real fast and I'm just curious why?

- 015 G: Well, I think one of them, I was so frustrated that I could have taught high school science with one year of college math and a year of college chemistry and a year of college physics, which I didn't think qualified me to be a science teacher. I hope they have changed the rules since then, I think they have. But the emphasis was on teaching, it was learning how to teach and learning the rules of the legal, uh, things that applied to teachers. They spent all term, no it was a whole three terms on on that. Maybe it wasn't three terms, maybe it was one term, but it was called "School and American Life" and it was education is what takes place in schools. The man actually said that. And I, I mean that's about the time that you start turning off your mind and thinking I don't believe that.
- 024 N: This could be, um, maybe part of why America as a whole is lacking so far behind in the science and math?
- 025 G: Well, I think the emphasis on the uh, the pedagogical, what do they call it, you know the emphasis that anybody could teach anything if they know how to teach. I don't believe that because I think that's nonsense. The best teachers I ever had were the ones that knew their subject, and so I, I just got kind of
- N: Right.
- G: very frustrated.
- 028 N: The best teachers are the ones that know their subject and know how to teach.
- 029 G: Right, but you can learn something from people that aren't very good teachers if they really know their subject. But if they
- N: Right.
- G: don't know their subject it's, you can have the prettiest, uh, audiovisuals in the world but if they don't understand what they are talking about it's. Anyway I got very frustrated, it was uh.
- 032 N: Was that pretty much during your freshman year that you decided against?
- 033 G: Well no, it was my sophomore and junior years because then I was taking, you know, upper level, starting to take upper level education courses. And the kind of people I was in class with were not the kind that inspired me to think great things about their abilities. (Laughs) You know it just gets to the point where you think hmmm. (Laughs) What's funny, though, is then when I finally went back to school, none of my education courses applied to a science degree.
- 038 N: O.K. Why?

039 G: (Laughs) I don't know why, but they don't. (Laughs)

039 N: O.K. Umm, you, you said that currently your experience is kind of equivalent to a master's degree, even though, even though you

G: Yes.

N: don't have the master's degree. Do you think that if you were for some reason to leave Oregon State University you would to work in a comparable position without that degree, or because you're already in the system here?

044 G: Well I have about fifty publications and I, people know who

N: Uh hmm

G: I am, I don't think I'd have trouble finding a job. The biggest problem is you can't live in Oregon and get good wages.

047 N: That's kind of why I am leaving Oregon in twenty-three days.

048 G: I have had a couple of offers for jobs in places like Milwaukee, Wisconsin that is.

049 N: Right. Uhhh. That almost kind of seems logical though since you are doing hops research to go into an area

G: Yeah, well it would be a brewery or something like that.

051 N: Right. Right. And that's where a lot of big breweries are, or were at least.

051 G: Well Miller's there, yeah, St.Louis is Anheiser-Busch headquarters. But see people

052 N: Right.

G: who've worked here have gone to work for places like Anheiser-Busch and so forth, so.

054 N: Hmmm. I was just curious if, if the same situation were to apply for you, if you were to leave O.S.U. If it'd still be considered

G: Well my problem is now at

N: equivalent.

055 G: age fifty-six, going on fifty-seven, uh, people don't want to employ older workers.

056 N: It's hard to get in, to switch jobs laterally, or even moving up once you get older, it seems.

057 G: Unless you are a member of the old boys network.

058 N: Which neither one of us will ever be.

058 G: Yes.

059 N: Um, I wanted to kind of talk about a couple of, of social issues that were kind of addressed last time we talked. Umm, if you don't feel comfortable with them, that's fine too. Umm, we talked about a lot of women were dropping out of school and a big cause of that was pregnancy and marriage and I was curious if, uh, if you knew any women who had gotten pregnant and had gotten married and dropped out of school at that time.

- 064 G: Oh, two or three.
- 064 N: Two or three.
- 065 G: One of my roommates. Another roommate went to, my freshman roommate, went two more years and, um, no I take that back, yeah, she got married at the end of the freshman year and the other one was at school a couple of years and then got married and I think she was pregnant because the baby was shortly there after. Umm, what's funny is, um, a roommate I had like junior year, she's, uh, she's teaching up in Northern Idaho, she's not married. Umm, a roommate I had after I moved out of the dorm, uh, is head of the science department at Lane Community College, if she hasn't retired, and she's married and divorced. See my age I'm the, uh, the last of the depression babies are people who didn't really go out and have lots and lots and lots of kids. And the pill was just coming in.
- 074 N: That's what you had said, umm, which is going to lead me to something else in just a few moments. But for the women that were going pregnant before they were married, was there a social stigma attached to it. I know looking back we have a tendency to kind of idealize the 1950's, the golden years and it was all a
- G: (Laughs)  
bunch a, you know, it was all a bunch of bull.
- 078 G: It depended on age and whether or not you actually got married before you had the baby. People that didn't get married and had a baby, there was a great deal of stigma. One of my cousins, for example, you know it was sort of like you go away and have a baby and come back and maybe you still have a baby and maybe you don't, but, uh.
- 083 N: Hmm. Umm, I know it was illegal at the time, but it also still happened, um, did, was, did you, was there ever talk about abortion or anything like that?
- 085 G: In Portland, there was a women who died, what was it five or six years ago, who was, spent a lot of time in jail for doing abortions. Umm, but they were spendy. You had to know somebody that knows somebody and they were probably a lot more expensive than they are right now. I don't know what one costs, but if you go to the hospital I think it is like 200 or something, anyway. We are talking like 600 or 800 bucks, which you just don't pop up with when you don't have a lot of money. Umm, well people just
- 090 N: Right.
- G: didn't talk about it.
- 091 N: Right. I, I know that, uh, we hear these stories and horrors now of the coat hangers and things like that, so I was just curious
- 093 G: Well people died and they died young, and, uh, it didn't say natural causes, I mean if you say a death notice or something. Umm, well now I,

N: Right.  
G: you know many years later talking to people I know, people had abortions. It was all after 1973 though.

096 N: But it was never really talked about back then, when you were in school here?

097 G: Well it was sort of a joke. I mean rubbers et cetera were  
N: Really?  
G: talked about. And the pill was just, about, you know, like the time I was eighteen, nineteen, twenty, was, the pill was, but you had to find a doctor who would prescribe it because you couldn't go to the health service.

101 N: Right, you, umm, you were saying last time that the health center wasn't in the, uh, the birth control business. And I was just  
G: Oh no.  
N: curious, you mentioned that you guys knew about condoms, and you knew about diaphragms, and you knew about all these different things, how you found out about them. Were there sex ed classes? Just from talking to people?

104 G: Oh yeah. Well my mother was one of those kind of people that told me (Laughs) what was up a long time ago. I mean when I was, uh, you know, beginning in high  
N: That's great.  
G: school. Umm. Well people talked about it. I mean girls  
N: O.K.  
G: about it, they always will. Umm.

108 N: Right. There seems to be this image now that oh back in my day we never talked about that kind of stuff, we never talked about sex, or what, or dating or anything like that.

110 G: It wasn't talked about in, oh, public that much. It certainly wasn't, and it wasn't talked about in, umm, see I didn't watch television when I was in college and there wasn't that much, you know. And there certainly wasn't, uh, frank and earnest discussions on television or anything.

114 N: Oh no. Not when they had to sleep in twin beds, married people on television, so  
115 G: Right, right. Ummm. Well grade school and high school. And they had, they had a class that you had to take with P.E. that was health, whatever.

117 N: Uhhmmm. (?) I was just kind of curious. I didn't think it would be frank but I didn't know if it was something more informal that was actually discussed amongst friends, kind of thing. Umm,  
120 G: Oh yeah.

122 N: there seems to, uh, have been, uh, drinking has always been a traditional college pastime. Umm, was there also drug use in  
G: Oh yes.  
N: the 50's? Maybe marijuana?

123 G: There was but I didn't know about it (Laughs). I didn't know about it until after I was, uh, oh early 60's. I

- G: found out that marijuana, the smell of marijuana makes me ill.  
(?) And yeah there were people around who, well you could smell  
it in the elevators. Oh yes.
- 127 N: Really? In buildings?
- 127 G: Oh yes. I mean, you get around people you smell their clothes  
and you think "hmm I know where you have been".
- 128 N: Wow. And that was socially accepted?
- 129 G: Not really.
- 129 N: I mean to be doing it in an open place like an elevator.
- 130 G: No they weren't smoking it but it's where you smell it, you know.
- 130 N: Oh O.K. the smell would linger from them.
- 131 G: Yeah you know how it gets in clothes, well it did, anyway. It's  
N: O.K.  
G: does. It's like the, uh, cigarette smoke, you know it, uh, if  
you get it on, in your clothes, and, you, or not doing it you can  
smell it like liquor to an alcoholic. I mean it's uh
- 134 N: Right. It has  
an interesting aroma to it.
- 135 G: Yes, and I didn't know til much later, well, that was, uh, the  
early 60's was marijuana. I didn't know of anybody doing it in  
those days, but then I found out much later that, in the 70's  
then it was more the, some people were into recreational use of  
cocaine.
- 138 N: Heroin also came with the 70's.
- 139 G: Yeah. In fact I knew somebody that was a heroine addict, I  
didn't know they were, but that shows you what I know. You know  
maybe come to think of it, uh, talking about frank and ernest  
sexual things, my mother worked in the Portland City Health  
Department and she would always come back with the stories of  
when they find a severe syphillis case they try and trace  
contacts, and some peoples contacts are quite varied and (?). I  
mean, so it was unaware of shall we say.
- 148 N: Would you say that your situation was more of an unusual  
situation or pretty
- 149 G: I think so, I was, I mean as an only child I was always  
around people who had adult conversations, so it wasn't, I wasn't  
as surprised by some things as other people were.
- 151 N: What was the diversity like on campus when you were living in  
Waldo? You talked about having a Hawaiian roommate, but was she  
a native Hawaiian or was she?
- 153 G: She was partly Japanese and Hawaiian. Umm, there wasn't much.

- G: It was mostly W.A.S.P. Period. Umm. But see, uh, Hawaiians didn't have to pay out of state tuition then, because the University of Hawaii wasn't a great big institution. So, they came to like Washington and Oregon and California to go to school. So there was a lot of Hawaiians, but that was mostly male football players, come to think of it.
- 160 N: Were there any African-Americans on campus or I now this was kind of pre the Civil Rights movement, but Oregon seems to have been kind of a very liberal
- 163 G: I don't remember one in the dormitory. There were very, very, very few.
- 164 N: Just the, uh, they uh, they were just starting to kind of break in the doors.
- 165 G: I'll take, oh, O.K., the, the only times I met people was, uh, football players.
- 167 N: You didn't have any women in the building?
- 167 G: No.
- 168 N: Mostly W.A.S.P?
- 169 G: Oh yes. And a few Catholics. (Laughs)
- 170 N: Did you think about anything from the last time we, we talked, that you just had to get out, that you just had to,
- G: No, not really.
- N: uh, talk about?
- 172 G: I was thinking, I was thinking though, it wasn't the most interesting days of my life, so it's probably why I don't remember very much. Umm. Well I didn't know anybody, you know I didn't start out with a group of friends that I knew when I came to college so it was like I didn't, I mean I met people in classes and the dormitory but that was about all (?). And you really, I mean, umm, well I was very dumb, it was like, you know, if you don't make noise, people don't notice, you do your thing and you don't get in trouble. Umm, but people did not spend very much time going to the professors because it was kind of like a waste of time, I mean (Laughs).
- 182 N: That certainly has changed. I see my professors just about daily.
- 183 G: Well. Well, since I started out in education and I switched later, but, that was, you know, you came up with a schedule. That's what's, O.K., the big, the biggest difference is how you arrange classes and how much you pay to go to school. Umm, in the dark ages, you went to the, uh, Gill Coliseum and it was by, ranked in class but seniors got first choice and then it was by the letter of your last name what time you got to register and you had to go and collect from each department for each class a



G: IBM punchcard. And you knew when you got the card that you were in the class because they only had so many cards. And you had to figure out your schedule before you started. And if something screwed it up, then you had to all the way around and hand 'em back and get new ones. But when you walked out of Gill Coliseum, you knew what your schedule was and you paid your money right there and it was over. So, the computer scheduling is great in many ways, but the idea that you actually knew what classes you had when you're through registration.

200 N: Well, the When I first got here, we still had it in Gill Coliseum and you didn't know immediately, you, you kind of turned in your registration, but

202 G: Yeah.

N: now with the telephone registration you do find out immediately whether you get in or not. So that, that kind of gets

203 G: Oh. Yeah.

N: back to that basic.

204 G: Yeah well the other thing was that, you know, they only had so many cards, so at least you knew that, and of course you tried to get in as early as possible.

205 N: Yes my last name starts with an A and I have been very fortunate the last several terms to always go on the first day.

206 G: Well N always seemed to be one of those things, it was never, it was always in the middle no matter which way they did it. Of course and the other thing was seniors didn't have to take finals. Which is why I graduated in 1982 which was the last year you could do that.

211 N: I wish that was they case here, this is my last term here. I'm stressing over finals coming up in a couple of weeks. But it's been a lot of fun. It has.

213 G: Have you ever lived in a dorm?

214 N: Yes, yes, I lived in Callahan hall as an R.A. for two years and

G: Oh.

N: now I am currently living in the College Inn. So, had the residence hall experience myself. Many aspects of it have not

G: (Laughs)

N: changed. Is there anything else?

218 G: No.

219 N: I just want to really thank you for taking this time. I mean I appreciate you setting aside a couple of different nights to meet with me. Umm, once I have both of, this tape transcribed down, I'm going to be sending you a copy as well so you can keep it as well. Do whatever you want with it, so you can say "oh that's (Laughs) what was said". And I really appreciate this.

