

Bridgewater State University Oral History Project

Interview Subjects:

Bill Clifford
Mike Hughes
Jim Tartari
Charlie Worden

Interviewed by Ellen Dubinsky

May30, 2012

at the John Joseph Moakley Center for Technological Applications
Bridgewater State University
Bridgewater, Massachusetts

Interview Length: 1:13:14

Transcribed by Ellen Dubinsky, September 2012

Bill Clifford - BC
Mike Hughes - MH
Jim Tartari - JT
Charlie Worden - CW
Ellen Dubinsky - ED

ED: ... [cuts in mid-sentence] ... Ellen Dubinsky. I'm the Digital Services Librarian at Bridgewater State University. As part of our ongoing and newly-founded Oral History Project, this is recording number two with some of our noted alumni from the 1960s and 1970. I'm sitting here with Bill Clifford, Charlie Worden, Jim Tartari and Mike Hughes. All alumni and participants in the football program during the years that they were here. I'd like to just start by asking everybody to go around the table and introduce yourselves, where are you from, and what year did you graduate.

BC: I'm Bill Clifford. I'm from Brockton. I played from '64 to '67. Captain of the team in '67. And graduated, of course, in '68.

CW: Charlie Worden, originally from Newton. I live in Rehoboth now. I taught in Easton for thirty-five years. I'm retired. I played with Bill in his last two years. I credit Bill and all the players in those two years as turning the program around. I try to speak about annually -- for my fallen roommate and teammate, Tommy Cook, at the Alumni Banquet. That's seemingly the main point of my little speech that I give before I give out the award [*editor's note: the Tom Cook Award is given annually to honor an exceptional senior football player*] about how football actually changed the face of the campus, especially starting in those two years that I played.

JT: Jim Tartari. Class of 1964. I played on the first team, 1960, and played through 1963. I'm from Wellesley. I continued on to University of Massachusetts for a Masters degree. Went in the Air Force and then went through several convolutions since then, and I'm now retired.

MH: Mike Hughes. Class of 1965. History major here at Bridgewater. I played from 1961 to 1965. I taught for thirty-seven years, thirty-seven years and three months. Also an administrator for awhile. I coached mostly track. Did a lot of other things besides that -- painted houses in the summertime. Still do.

ED: [Laughs] Very good. Let me start by just asking ... I know that some of the early teams, certainly in Jim's time and maybe a little later, Coach Swenson recruited pretty much anybody who was game to participate in the football program. Had you all played football prior to joining the team or were you newbies on the field?

BC: No, I had played and I think all of us had played previously.

CW: Yep.

ED: Were you participants in other sports at Bridgewater while you were here?

BC: I ran Track my freshman year. That was the only other thing, other than the football.

CW: Just football. I was too busy studying.

MH: I ran Track [unintelligible]. I shouldn't say "ran." I was on the Track team for one year. I ran hurdles in high school, and I showed up for the Track team, and I mean "notice to me," there was no hurdles here at Bridgewater so I couldn't run the hurdles. So I said to Coach Swenson, "What do I do?" "Why don't you try to throw the javelin. Can you throw the javelin?" So I said, "Yeah." I threw the javelin in one meet, and he put me in the 440 -- it wasn't meters in those days -- 440, which I had never run. I think I came in dead last -- it was awful. It was awful.

ED: Most of you spanned, or were around, close to the 1964 and '65 seasons. And those must have been fairly disheartening. The team had started in the fall of 1960, but by '64, '65, there were zero wins on the season, and all losses. How did you rally to play in those years?

BC: It wasn't easy. The hardest year was the '65 season. I came in '64 as a freshman from a fairly successful high school. To come in to play and not be able to win was tough. But then following year we had changed the offense into a single-wing offense, which was an unbalanced line. There was a wing-back out on the end of it, and that was me. So I was so far away from the football before it was snapped, I very seldom saw the football. It was hard just to get yourself up to ...

CW: Which was part of the problem.

BC: Yeah. To do that every game. Thank God I also was playing defense, so I could release some aggression that way. It was difficult that year.

ED: Were the fans supportive? The cheerleaders?

MH: Yeah, I think so.

CW: The cheerleaders, yes.

MH: I feel the same way. The only thing I think, from my narrow perspective, was that even though we were losing, I almost felt like a pioneer to some extent. This was new. You almost – I didn't expect to lose – but you didn't give it a second thought. You moved on to the next game. And I think the way you kept yourself together was the camaraderie. The camaraderie amongst a small group of guys was something, I think, really unique. It was unique on the campus too. And other people saw it as being a unique situation, I think. You were a football player. You weren't always looked upon with a lot of approval. If I was going to say how did we keep it together, I think we kept it together amongst ourselves.

BC: There were a lot of my classmates that never even knew I was on the team.

MH: Right.

BC: When I was elected captain there were people I had been [in] classes for three years who never even knew I was on the team.

MH: That brings up something kind of weird. I didn't remember this. We were in "Dippy" Doiron's [*editor's note: Gerald Doiron*] class. Mr. Doiron's class. [Laughter]

BC: We can edit that word later.

MH: We were sitting there before -- he hadn't even come in yet – it might have even been Tuffy Klaiman [*editor's note: Louis Klaiman, class of 1965*], who was my roommate at one time... There was a girl sitting there and he shows this girl, I don't why, he shows a picture of me in my football outfit. He says to her, "What do you think of this?" She says, "He looks like an animal." That's what she said. "He looks like an animal."

CW: In front of the class ...

MH: So, I mean, in her opinion, you can image what her opinion of football players was. [Laughter]

ED: Not your next date, apparently.

MH: No. I think that's what he was trying to do, too. Get me fixed up with her.

JT: You guys talked about a lot of support that you felt in the stands when you were here.

CW: In my freshman year -- we've recalled this already today. But I remember, it was about three or four days into practice. I just wanted to play football and get an education. I had several other schools I could have gone to, but I couldn't afford it. And I remember after about the third day of double sessions that we had, I struck up a conversation with Bill, because he was from Brockton, I was from Newton. We used to play against each other. I said, "Bill, how did the team do last year?" [Chuckles] He says, "Charlie, we haven't won a game in fifteen games. And if we lose this one, we're going to own a national record for losing." [Laughter] I said, "Oh, my God." I just showed up and played. I did have a little dialogue with Swenson through my head coach at Newton about maybe coming down to play. But, after talking to Bill, I said, "What, what did I get myself into?" Luckily, that first game of that season [*editor's note: September 19, 1966 game against Springfield College "B" team*] we won and we broke the losing streak. We went on that year to have a pretty successful [season]. We were three and four and lost two games by a point. Then the next year we ended up with a winning season. I think it turned things around because...

MH: Yeah.

CW: ... the atmosphere at the college, I remember, was very strange. You were either a football supporter or you weren't a football supporter, and they wanted football to go away. They were more interested in the school being an academic [institution], with the beginning of the Bachelor of Arts program ...

MH: Right.

CW: ... which I got in to. And it nearly killed me [laughs] with the courses I had to take and play football at the same time. It was quite a turnaround, and I was glad to be part of it.

MH: There were a few articles in the school newspapers ...

CW: Yeah.

BC: Yeah

MH: "Why should we keep football going?" and all that stuff.

BC: That was just ... there were just a few people, I think, that wanted to express their own opinion. I thought the majority of the school was behind us. Even in the tough years. We played at Legion Field and the stands behind our bench went maybe eight rows up. But they were almost always full. Even when we played Friday night games ...

MH: Played in the rain.

BC: ... in the rain and stuff and there was always a good crowd there.

MH: Yeah.

BC: The kids that stayed on campus – not all that many did stay on for the weekends – but those that did, came out and supported us.

MH: Yeah.

ED: I hadn't even thought about that – kids who would go home for the weekends, who lived close enough to leave.

MH: If I remember, there was a not very big, but small, group of townspeople that would show up too. Mostly men, maybe from the Vet's Club and stuff.

BC: Yeah.

MH: I remember a couple of those people.

BC: Probably Coach Joe's buddies.

MH: Yeah. They were Coach Joe Lazaro's friends.

JT: Gino Guascone would come all the time. Even after I graduated I'd run into him at games.

MH: No kidding.

JT: Yeah. And he'd always talk to us and he'd always be behind the bench, encouraging people. Joe Lazaro, of course ...

BC: Lester Lane was always there, too.

JT: Lester was always ...

CW: Lester was ...

BC: Lester was there with his galoshes on and ...

JT: And actually, Doug Bromley [*editor's note: class of 1968*], before he played.

BC: Yeah.

CW: Really? I always remember being ... When we're on the stands, you could look over to the left – there was a fence -- there was Bob Bent who would watch the game from his back yard. He was my first math teacher – I was a math major – and he always took the time to say, "I saw your game. You did a good job. Good luck in your next game." He was very supportive. But there were other teachers who, if we had to go somewhere on a Friday – we had to go to ...

MH: Yeah.

CW: ... another state somewhere, New York or whatever – “Why weren’t you in class?” “I had a football game. I thought ... you didn’t get the note that I was excused from class?” “No, I didn’t get the note and try to be here next time.” It’s not really a supporter.

MH: They used to take attendance. There was a “no cut” policy.

CW: Yeah, it was attendance.

MH: What were you allowed?

CW: Ninety per cent. Three cuts. Yeah, it was three cuts.

BC: Yeah.

MH: Something like that.

CW: Then they could make you write a paper.

MH: It’s not like that today, is it?

ED: I don’t think so. [Laughs]

MH: I doubt it. I doubt it’s like that today.

JT: No. Not today.

BC: But you had mentioned Mr. Bent. I was a math major also. One of the questions you said was about how the faculty would accommodate you as a football player. My senior year, I had classes from nine to ten in the morning, and then we were off until four to five in the afternoon. There was a calculus class at that time, advanced calculus. And I had Professor Bent for it. What they did is – I explained my situation to them that it was cutting into practice all week long, because it was Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. And it was important to be there at those practices at that time. So they went and tried to deal with the situation for me. There were a couple of options that they had. One thing that they did do is that they cleared one whole day, Wednesday, of our classes, which meant they moved that class and one other class. They couldn’t do the other three days, but they did that. Or Professor Chiccarelli [*editor’s note: Joseph B. Chiccarelli*] said that I could – because he could come from Stonehill – he said that I could take the class in Stonehill if I wanted to during the day. So they had arranged that for me, too. They were quite accommodating – at the least the math people were.

CW: The math department – I remember them as being total supporters.

BC: Yeah.

MH: Yeah.

BC: Mr. Bent was terrific, too. He was the professor willing to go along with all of that, too.

CW: He was quite an athlete at Boston College. He was a pitcher. He's very active in sports. All his kids were, too.

ED: You mentioned that breaking your losing streak the first game of the 1966 season. That was the season that Pete Mazzaferro came on as the assistant coach for the first time. Do you think that some of the turnaround of the team can be credited to his presence?

BC: Definitely.

CW: Oh, yeah. Without a doubt.

ED: Did Coach Swenson start passing along a lot of responsibility to Mazzaferro?

BC: Yes.

ED: That early on?

BC: Pete came in with the understanding that he was going to be the head coach eventually. It was supposed to be just one year tenureship – trial – and then he was going to be head coach. But it ended up being two years. He came in and he just took the program over. He changed the whole offense. He changed the practices and everything around. So he came in with the idea that he was going to be the head coach.

CW: I think what happened was this became almost what modern-day football is, where the head coach is a delegator. And that's what Swenson ended up. He delegated the responsibilities to the other coaches and he just showed up to practice and made sure everybody was happy and didn't get hurt. That was his job, basically. And if there was a decision to be made, against who should play or not play, it ended up in his lap. And he made – because I know, it happened to me – he made a decision to make sure that I played in the next game, when Coach Mazzaferro didn't want me to play. He wanted to put somebody else in my spot. And we settled it in a friendly way – with a nice coffin drill – and if you wanted to keep your job, that's how you did it. You did the coffin drill. Especially if you're a linemen. That's how Swenson settled issues. But he had the final word. I'll give him that.

ED: Jim, in the earlier years did Coach Swenson delegate as much?

JT: Not as much. He pretty much controlled the entire ... Except the first year when Frank Jardin was the backfield coach. He gave the complete backfield to Frank Jardin. The he brought in the next year – Jardin didn't come back – the next year Charlie Varney came in and he ran the backs a little bit. Swa was always stepping in and Swa had the line, and he gave Charlie some responsibilities for the defenses. He continued that, but he was basically trying to do everything himself. One of the problems was – I forget who mentioned it, I think it was Ed Meaney –that our freshman year Frank Jardin would call a play, Swa would call another play, and send in ...

Both of these plays would come in. And Morwick [*editor's note: quarterback David Morwick, class of 1964*] would decide on which play, either ...

MH: Yeah. He split the difference.

JT: He would run either of those plays or one he wanted to play himself. It was sort of a mish-mash like that. So I think after that year ... It was really -- Jardin was supposed to be calling the plays, but Swa would come up with something on the other side of the field almost and send in a player with it. And it continued like that with, I think, Swa sending the plays in.

ED: You said the offense changed, certainly, with Coach Mazzaferro.

BC: Yes. Yes.

ED: How did the practices change? Did you start pre-season earlier or change the kind of scrimmages you did?

BC: I don't know if we did ...

CW: I think it was about ...

BC: About the same.

CW: From what you guys -- I've read about the practices. The pre-season -- we got up very early in the morning.

MH: Yep.

BC: Yeah.

MH: Double sessions, and then at night ...

CW: I can remember it was the crack of dawn, I think, that we started our first session.

JT: Seven a.m. to ten.

BC: Yeah.

CW: Seven. It might have even been earlier.

JT: Really? Well.

CW: I remember it was so early in the morning.

BC: Well, Coach had to get up to his farm and tend his farm.

MH: To get the tomatoes and the cucumbers and ...

BC: So get this [practice] out of the way fast.

MH: ... the lettuce and all that stuff.

JT: Maybe by nine o'clock he had to be back at his farm.

CW: And we had so much time off during the day. I remember practicing and then going back and being able to go back to bed.

MH: Right.

JT: Yeah.

CW: Because I do remember after about the fourth or fifth practice we had in the morning. Went back to the dorm – they put us up in Kelly Dorm – and I remember I was pretty tired and exhausted and I woke up suddenly. I got out of bed and my legs gave way and I fell to the floor like a sack of potatoes. And my roommate – he couldn't stop laughing. He thought it was the funniest thing in the world. He came over and he picked me up and got me out on my feet. I must have been still asleep, but so exhausted that I just collapsed. But he thought that was pretty funny.

MH: Freshmen year that was really good because we got a jump on everybody else in college. We came at least a week ahead of time, I think.

JT: Yeah, it ...

MH: It was in 1961. So I was able to meet everybody, so I already had a group of friends after that first week, when everybody else was coming into school completely oblivious to what was going on. I felt like a veteran.

BC: The food changed ...

MH: That was something.

BC: ... a little too, didn't it?

MH: Awful. Oh, God.

CW: I liked the food.

BC: We didn't have those cucumber and tomato sandwiches.

JT: Was this Swa's food? Tomatoes and cucumbers?

BC: You didn't experience that, did you?

CW: Thank, God. I heard, read, about it.

BC: But the tomato and cucumber sandwiches and stuff.

MH: And bug juice.

BC: Bug juice. Yeah.

JT: We had luncheon meats.

BC: He would bring from his farm – there were some cold cuts. But if you arrived late, they were gone. If you weren't the first ones in line, the cold cuts were gone.

JT: You didn't miss anything. Those were the worst luncheon meats you ever tasted.

MH: It was in the church hall, in back of Boyden, too. It was the Christian Formation Center, which was the Protestant ...

CW: Somehow, when I came on board in '66, after practice in the pre-season, we all went up to the dining room. It was pretty fancy for me. I was used to cafeteria ...

MH: There were a lot of us working class kids ...

CW: I don't know if they still have them – these big round tables. We'd sit at a table and they'd just kept coming out with the food. It was roast beef and mashed potatoes.

JT: Swa must have ...

MH: That was a lot different than us.

BC: The year before, Swenson would – after we left the first session of practice in the morning – he would hand us three dollars. And we'd go up town.

CW: Yeah.

JT: He gave it to you every day?

BC: Yeah.

JT: He gave us a two dollar bill for the entire week.

BC: Oh! [Laughter] Things must have been going well on the farm then, when I got there.

JT: Because nobody was going to breakfast.

BC: I think it was three dollars a day is what we got.

JT: Good for him, because nobody went to breakfast.

BC: What was the name of the place that we went out for breakfast up in ...?

JT: Larry's.

BC: Larry's, yeah.

MH: Larry's.

BC: Large orange juice, double order of English, and a cup of coffee.

JT: Nobody went to breakfast, so he decided – since we weren't eating – he gave everybody a two dollar bill. This was, maybe, Tuesday, after the first Monday session. Tuesday – since nobody went – he said, "OK. Everybody, here's money for the week." And it's a two dollar bill. Well, that was something, anyway.

BC: Yeah.

JT: Because we'd go down to Larry's afterwards.

MH: Speaking of meals, while we're on this subject. If you lived in the dorms, you ate in Tillinghast. All the men had to wear a tie. I don't think we had to ...

JT: Coat and tie.

MH: Coat.

JT: Coat and ties.

MH: Sport jackets?

JT: Yeah.

ED: For all meals, or just dinner?

JT: For all meals.

MH: Just for dinner, I think.

BC: Dinner.

JT: I'm sorry. For dinner.

MH: Supper. Whatever you want to call it.

JT: Except on Saturdays.

MH: The women had to wear a dress.

JT: Yeah.

MH: And a skirt. Or whatever.

JT: And Saturdays ... Well they had to wear dresses all day long.

MH: And there was never enough food to go around. It wasn't like your situation.

CW: It was family-style when I got here.

MH: And we ...

CW: It was good.

MH: And the football players were always complaining that there wasn't enough left. So by the time we were seniors – 1964 – we ate in the back. We had a so-called training table.

JT: Which was the same food.

MH: Did you guys ever do that?

BC: No, the first year I was here, we ate at the Snow Lodge at night.

JT: Oh!

MH: Really?

BC: Yeah. Those meals weren't that bad.

JT: I bet they were [good].

MH: I think it was combination of us complaining we weren't getting enough food and other people complaining about football players. "Let's get rid of them."

JT: Probably. [Laughter]

MH: "Let's get rid of them" -- so they put us in a back room.

JT: They put us in a separate room at Tilly [*editor's note: Tillinghast Hall*] my senior year.

MH: Yeah! It was the back ...

JT: It was so we were away from everybody.

MH: We called it the Training Room or the Training Table or whatever the hell it was.

JT: It was the same food. It wasn't ...

MH: No, it was the same food.

JT: We didn't get big steaks or ...

MH: I don't think we had to wear a tie either.

JT: Maybe not.

MH: And that made us look a little different. [Laughter]

CW: When we all sat down at the big table -- you had to sit down -- and then they would ring a ... what was it, a bell or something? For prayer?

JT: It sounded like the NBC ...

CW: A prayer of ...

MH: Evie. She had red hair.

CW: A bell.

MH: She was almost blind.

JT: [unintelligible] named Evelyn.

CW: And there was a moment of silence. And then the food came out. And you had to be quiet during that time. Do you remember that?

BC: No.

MH: She did ring a bell. You weren't living on campus?

BC: I didn't live on campus, no.

MH: So he wouldn't ...

BC: But during training days.

MH: Were you ...?

CW: My freshmen year, they didn't have the men's dorm – well, they had Kelly – but usually it was filled.

JT: Kelly? Which is Kelly?

CW: The dorm.

JT: Kelly was the gym.

CW: I'm sorry. It's not Kelly. It's ...

MH: It's Scott Hall now.

CW: Scott Hall.

MH: This was the men's dorm.

CW: Scott Hall. The original floors. I see they added a couple of floors to it – I remember hearing that.

MH: Yeah.

CW: But a lot of the upper classmen got to live there. Maybe a couple of freshmen. But if you were a freshman, you lived off campus somewhere, in somebody's house.

JT: Back to that.

CW: I lived down on South Street, a good two and a half miles down on South Street. It was pretty good for a little while, because I had a motorcycle. But when the cold weather came, it was done. In any event, we'd have our dinner and then we'd go back two and a half miles down the road to this house.

MH: Think of that philosophy. It's kind of a backward philosophy. You're taking freshmen and you're putting them off campus. When they should be ...

CW: It's hard enough ...

MH: under control on campus.

BC: Right.

CW: Luckily that ended first semester and second semester I had the luxury of living in town – there's a little park in the middle of town there ...

MH: Yep.

CW: I lived upstairs, above Western Auto, the hardware store [*editor's note: Fairbanks Hardware*] and Western Auto. And then there was a restaurant in the middle. I had the room in the back. So at five o'clock in the morning, I'd be sound asleep. The next thing you can smell was bacon and eggs coming out of the exhaust – my window was right next to the exhaust.

MH: Right there.

CW: You had to shut the window, but the smell still came through. It was bacon and eggs. Oh, my God.

JT: Was that Buddy's Shop?

CW: Buddy's.

JT: Yeah.

CW: Buddy's.

JT: We had guys who'd work there and they'd come in smelling like a donut. [Laughter]

CW: Yeah.

JT: The smells ...

CW: It was awful.

JT: You'd walk in the hall. Constant. It was Constant [*editor's note: referring to Robert Constant, class of '65, who worked at Buddy's*].

MH: Oh, really? Yeah, yeah, yeah.

JT: Ahhhhh -- the french fries here, the donuts ... Whatever they were cooking.

MH: So, he was smothering us ...

CW: Anybody my age that has cholesterol problems – that's where it came from, because the grease there was pretty thick.

MH: Couldn't get away from [unintelligible] ...

CW: But at least I was within walking distance of the campus and that worked out pretty good.

ED: You had mentioned that Coach Swenson used to give you cash for meals. Do you think that came out of his pocket or did he have some sort of discretionary funds?

JT: I think some of it – I think that first year it came out of his pocket. I would guess that ...

CW: First year, yeah.

JT: But maybe he got funds from the MAA [*editor's note: the Men's Athletic Association*].

BC: I think someplace along the line he got some of it. At least some of it anyhow.

JT: Because then he started giving us five dollars on trips, on overnight trips. He gave us five bucks and then my senior year he gave us ten bucks.

ED: But even with a small team -- that still adds up with three or four away games.

JT: Oh, sure.

MH: Yeah.

BC: Yeah.

JT: Forty people or so.

MH: I wouldn't be surprised if professors like Lee Harrington ...

JT: Would kick in.

BC: Yeah.

MH: ... would probably kick in money.

CW: Well, they had ways to find money...

MH: Oh, yeah.

CW: ... to fund this stuff.

JT: Harrington was very supportive. And he was very generous, too.

CW: Certainly was.

MH: Harrington and Dooley [*editor's note: Philip Dooley*] and those people kind of balanced any anti-football stuff, I think, that was taking place with the faculty.

JT: Harrington was very well-connected politically.

MH: Oh, yeah.

JT: So that when he went to bat for Mase [*editor's note: Robert Mason, class of 1965*] when they were jumping all over Mase because of that dining hall incident, which ... Let Mase talk about that. Harrington went to bat for him. And Dooley. And got him reinstated.

MH: Right.

JT: I think Harrington helped Swa out of a lot, just because of his political influences. If he hadn't been there, they might have just given it the chop.

CW: Right.

MH: By the way, Bob [Mason] said he couldn't be here. He said he was going to actually answer those questions.

ED: He sent me an email already.

JT: Did he? OK.

ED: We'll get him again. [Laughs]

JT: He's a treasure. You can't miss him.

CW: Dean Harrington – I wouldn't have graduated if it wasn't for him. It's plain and simple. I had some issues after I was done with football – a terrible car accident on campus, with poor Tommy [*editor's note: Tom Cook, basketball and football player*] dying. But he stepped in and kept me going. I'm sure he responsible for me getting out of here in one piece and surviving. He was great.

ED: If I understand correctly when ...

CW: And he was a member of the math department.

ED: Well, there we go. [Laughs]

CW: He used to teach math here. He still did, when he was dean. He taught night school.

JT: He taught statistics.

CW: He was a math teacher.

JT: I took ... And he passed me. That was a ... He gave me a C.

CW: "C"?

MH: Who was that again?

ED: A leap of faith?

JT: Lee Harrington.

MH: Oh, yes, yes.

JT: Probability and statistics.

MH: I never had him [as a teacher].

CW: I remember there was an expression going on: “Give the kid a “C” and let the world judge.” [Laughter] If you’re lucky enough to get one of those teachers – you give them a “C” and let the world judge.

JT: Who was it? Dinardo [*editor’s note: V. James DiNardo*] said, “A ‘C’ is not a poor mark” when people would complain about ... “A ‘C’ is not a poor mark.” Try getting into grad school with that. [Laughter]

CW: Yeah, right.

MH: Right.

ED: I’ve been led to believe that when Swenson started the football program, there was a little push-back from the women’s Physical Ed department. Because there were so many more women on campus and that program was more developed at the time. There might have been some resentment of some sort – that monies and time was going to ...

JT: Probably funds.

ED: ... to the men’s football program.

CW: That women’s program ...

ED: Plus the soccer program was discontinued.

MH: Yes. It was.

CW: ... was like Springfield’s. If you wanted to be a gym teacher, and you were male, you’d go to Springfield [*editor’s note: Springfield College*]. That was the main ...

JT: Yeah. Or UMass.

CW: ... curriculum at that school. Or UMass.

JT: If you couldn't afford Springfield.

CW: But if you were a woman and you wanted to be a gym teacher, you went to Bridgewater.

JT: Right. They had a terrific program. I think the resentment was that the first few years, the funds were paid through student fees for the football team ...

CW: Yeah.

JT: through the Men's Athletic Association.

CW: Thirty-five dollars.

JT: I think the feeling behind the [women's] athletic department was eventually they are going to be asking for our funds, or sharing our funds.

CW: Exactly.

JT: And that was what was part of it. Harry Lehman was the head of the athletic department at the time [*editor's note: Lehman was the Men's Physical Education department chair*]. He was not at all supportive. He was worried about his baseball program.

CW: Yep.

MH: Do you think there was – was it out of the realm of possibility that the women felt that there was a possibility that you could bring in a men's Phys Ed major?

JT: Yeah. It might have been that too.

MH: And that would have been even worse for them.

JT: A lot of people, we were asking, "How come there's no men's Phys Ed major?"

MH: We always asked that.

BC: Yeah.

CW: Yeah.

JT: They said, "Facilities."

MH: Right.

JT: Which was probably true.

MH: It was. There wasn't enough facilities.

ED: Toward the end of the 60s, certainly as the football program became more successful, did you sense less push-back or resentment?

CW: When we started winning -- people around campus started to get to know you, especially some of the teachers.

MH: Right.

CW: I think, yeah. It was '66 through '70 was just over five hundred for all four years [*editor's note: the football win/loss record*]. I think it changed everybody's mind about football -- as far as I can remember -- especially in '70. They did have a tough year in '71. No '70.

BC: There was one ...

CW: The fall of '70.

BC: My second year of coaching.

CW: That was your second year of coaching? They lost a lot of starters.

BC: We got fairly well beat up in the beginning of the year. We lost a number of kids that just weren't available to us. Just had a tough year after that.

JT: Bill coached for a few years here.

CW: But the next year they came back fairly strong.

BC: Yep, yep.

CW: I think Coach Mazzaferro had established the reputation that he was a winning coach, even though they had that one bad year in '70. He was able to get players.

ED: Was he actively recruiting players?

BC: Yes. Actually, being assistant coach for a few years I would have to go out to some of the high schools, local high schools. All the assistants went out to present the program to the football players out there. He himself went to some of the bigger high schools, the major high schools. He would always go to Brockton and try to recruit from there. Or New Bedford or Fall River or Durfee and stuff like that and trying to grab kids. So he was recruiting.

MH: They did send out literature, too, wouldn't they?

BC: Yeah.

MH: There wasn't much. There wasn't much. They probably didn't have a huge budget.

BC: But they sent it out to everybody.

MH: But they would send it out to everybody.

BC: I had a kid that was ...

MH: Oh, I know.

BC: ... who drove to school, that was about four foot ten, about eighty pounds. He got a letter, too. "Come play football."

ED: [Laughs] Was there an increase in funding for the football program? That you know of? Over the years?

JT: While I was there, I don't think so.

MH: I wouldn't even know.

ED: New uniforms even? At some point – I know you stated with the Abington town team's uniforms.

MH: Yeah.

JT: They actually came out with away jerseys. White jerseys that we wore for our first three years. The fourth year they came out with a home red jersey.

MH: A home red jersey. Nice jersey.

CW: Nineteen sixty-eight they came out with new uniforms. The year after I left. They were brand new. I remember the old jerseys – Mac [*editor's note: John "Mac" McCallum was the equipment manager and general maintenance custodian*] was giving them out and he gave me one of the old jerseys, and it happened to be Geoff Fanning's [*editor's note: Geoffrey Fanning, class of 1967*]. And I couldn't wear it, because I knew it belonged to Geoff and he was, at the time, coaching at Stoughton High. So I put it in a box and mailed it to him. To Stoughton High School. I was trying to email him to find out some information about the conference and I asked him in the email if he still had that jersey that I sent him.

ED: Tell me about some of your memorable games. Does anything stand out in your memory?

BC: Oh, yeah. I think the most memorable game was probably the first game of the single-wing year, my second year in there. It was our first game of the year. We were playing in Maryland -- Frostburg, Maryland -- which is out on the tip of Maryland.

ED: What, about a sixteen hour drive, or something ridiculous like that?

BC: Yeah. It's a long haul. It's a long haul.

MH: You have to go through the Cumberland Gap to get there.

JT: Right.

BC: And it was their second game, so we had an opportunity to go send scouts down to watch them play. But unfortunately, nobody really wanted to take that ride. What they did is, Coach Swenson called them up and said, "Seeing as we can't get a chance to scout each other, let's talk about it." So we told them – we actually lied to them – we told them ...

CW: Misrepresented.

BC: Yes. Misrepresented. OK. [Laughter]

MH: It was a misunderstanding.

BC: We ran the same exact offense that we ran the year before. Wing T, basically the same plays, basically the same defense. Well, they told us the same thing. They told us that they ran the same thing that they ran the year before. So that was the scout. We prepared and they prepared based on that. So all the while we were driving down there, every time we stopped to get off the bus to eat or something, Coach Swenson would always – in the front of the bus – say, "Remember, if anybody says anything to you, it's the 'T', it's the 'T'." No single wing mentioned. We played that game at night. We got down there, in time to have lunch down there, and then after that, a pre-game meal. But again, "When you're on the campus, and anybody says anything to you, it's the 'T'. It's the 'T'."

MH: It's like espionage. [Laughter]

BC: What was happening then -- I was playing just offense for that particular game. And there was another fellow who I usually played defense with, Carmen Guarino [*editor's note: class of 1968*] who was – he was a heck of a football player – he was being disciplined for missing practice or something. So he wasn't going to start. He was kneeling on the sideline and I was on the kick-off team. We had to kick-off to them. Kicked off to them. Stopped them. I come out and I kneel down next to Carmen. Frostburg comes out, breaks the huddle and they set up in an unbalanced single wing. The same exact thing that we were trying to hide from them. They were hiding from us. [Laughter] Carmen and I were on the sidelines, rolling around, killing ourselves laughing, saying "This is the single wing battle of the powers of the East." [Laughter] That had to be the single-best recollection I have of a game. It was hysterical that day. We lost. [Laughter] But not by that much, we did lose. [*editor's note: the score was 19 to 6*]

CW: You got them back senior year though. [*editor's note: Bridgewater beat Frostburg State College on September 12, 1967 by a score of 13 to 6*]

BC: Yeah, we did.

ED: You were playing a team that was much longer-established ...

BC: Yeah.

CW: Oh, yeah.

ED: ... and probably a larger team, I would gather.

JT: Oh, they were big.

BC: Yeah.

MH: If you played down there, for some reason you would get a lot of bad calls. But I'm not saying that officially. I wouldn't say that. Marty Rizzo [*editor's note: Rizzo, a member of the Class of 1965, died in January 1965 from an injury sustained while playing a game in the late fall of 1964*] had something like a seventy-five yard run ...

JT: Either seventy-five or eighty-five. Something like that.

MH: ... run called back

JT: Called back, yeah.

MH: Everybody said, "Where's the foul? What happened? There was no [foul]."

JT: "It was a clip."

MH: Speaking of that. Unfortunately, those two memories – that last game of my junior year – was indelible. That's when Marty [Rizzo] got hurt and got carried off. And then, at Brockport, senior year, Bob Mason gets hurt and gets carried off. It was like déjà vu. We didn't know what was wrong with him at the time. Luckily, it was just broken ribs and stuff. I was not a starter, so the only other thing I remember is blocking a punt at Nichols – like crashing in, blocked the punt successfully, almost blocked another one.

The other thing was a practice game against Tufts. I was talking to these guys. The only time I ever scored in my life. It was a two-point conversion from ... It was Tufts B team. Two point conversion from Rodriquenz [*editor's note: David "Skip" Rodriquenz, class of 1966*]. I'm lucky I even saw the ball because I wear glasses and stuff. But that was it. And that was the same game Ozzie Conners [*editor's note: Tom "Ozzie" Conners, class of 1965*] broke his nose and we thought he was hot-dogging me because he made a great tackle. Come running off the field like this and I said to somebody, "What? Look at him. He's being a jerk." But when he got over here – there's blood all over the place. And what did he do? I didn't see this. I didn't see this.

BC: It was ...

MH: I didn't see this.

BC: It had to be a hundred degrees that day. It was pre-season so it was still summertime and it was really hot. And we used to have just these buckets of water around there. So Ozzie came over. They gave him a towel to put on his face [covers face as if with a towel]. He was just steaming hot. So he dumps it into the bucket of water ...

JT: Drinking water.

BC: And brings it out like this [covering face]. So the other kids coming off the field see the ladle in there and [swishing sounds]. [Laughter] They're scooping up the water that Ozzie had just ...

MH: Changed that one to a vampire's ...

CW: They could use the extra platelets. [Laughter]

BC: Games – in here we've mentioned Brockport. Charlie, you were there with the game in the snowstorm. We had gone up there – it had to be my sophomore year then?

CW: Junior.

BC: Junior year. We were going up there. And it was outside of Rochester. We stayed in Rochester and we had got there and it started to snow. It snowed about six inches during the night. There was nobody there to really clear off the field, since everybody just went home from there. So what they did is they got their football team and as many kids left on campus as possible and they rolled the snow off the field. So they'd start on one end and just roll a snowball until they got to the other side. Move over, and start another snowball and come back this way.

CW: Yeah.

BC: So all down the sideline you had these huge snowballs.

CW: Yeah.

BC: You're running down the sidelines and you'd get knocked into one of those things.

MH: Where did you guys stay when you were went ...

BC: The Hotel Cadillac. [Laughter] Oh, yeah!

MH: What a funny kind of outfit that was.

CW: Rochester?

MH: Yeah. Rochester, New York, Hotel Cadillac.

BC: And what was the place that everybody went to?

MH: I don't know, but we all ...

BC: The Bamboo Room.

MH: ... but we all snuck out and we all got beers.

BC: You could drink when you were eighteen up in New York.

MH: I still have a couple of beer cans -- I have a beer can collection -- I still have a Jaguar Malt Liquor. That's a gorgeous can.

BC: First beer we ever had -- Genesee's.

MH: Genesee.

BC: From one of those trips. Yep.

CW: Yep.

MH: There was prostitutes in that, wasn't it? No.

ED: [Laughs] You were just like naïve little guys.

MH: There were like rules. You could fit two guys in a room.

BC: And we stayed there ...

MH: There was all kinds of activity going on.

BC: ... when I was coaching. The last two times I was up there we still stayed there.

MH: You stayed there?

BC: Yep.

MH: They probably stayed open just because of us.

BC: Went to the Bamboo Room with the coaching staff and chased all the kids out of there.
[Laughter]

MH: Oh, my God. The Bamboo Room.

CW: That game – they didn’t get all the snow off the field. They got enough for us to play, but they really didn’t get enough. Usually – my height is five foot nine – but during that game I went to six foot one. Because if you looked at the bottom of my shoe – I had inch and a half cleats on, which had a clump of snow on there like this. [Gestures] I felt like I had high heels on. [Laughter] I was trying to run around ...

MH: You were probably skating.

CW: ... on balls of snow. It was just ridiculous. It was freezing. It was cold. It was wet. We had just drove seventeen hours.

BC: Yeah.

CW: Stopped for practice at either Hobart or Hamilton – one of those schools ...

BC: Yeah. Hamilton, I think.

CW: Stopped for practice there. And we took a pretty good razzing from the kids at that school. “You guys are football players? What, are you serious?” They’d yell, catcalling us. And then to go play the game. It was a good game, but we lost. [*editor’s note: Brockport State of New York won by a score of 20 to 0*] I don’t think we ever beat Brockport.

MH: I was going to say ...

BC: No.

MH: I don’t think we ever did beat Brockport.

ED: You mentioned Marty Rizzo. Who were some of the other really memorable guys on your teams? Not only just the gentlemen who have passed away.

MH: The most memorable was Bob Mason. Unfortunately, I more or less see him all the time. [Laughs] I’m only kidding. Bobby Lane [*editor’s note: Robert Lane, class of 1964*] was something else. I could go on and on. There were some characters, too. You mentioned in one of the questions was veterans. We had a couple of guys that came back from the service. Some of them succeeded. I think if they lived on campus and were serious, they probably got through. But there were always a bunch of guys that came in who just wanted to play football and have a hell of a time. After the season was over, they were gone. I won’t mention any names, but one guy was huge. They had to get a special helmet for him. Remember that?

BC: I remember you telling me that. I don’t ...

MH: It was huge.

BC: ... remember that.

MH: He was huge.

CW: We used to call those kids that come in freshmen year, play one year and you'd never see them again, "One and done."

BC: Yeah.

CW: "One and done."

MH: But these guys were vets. There were a couple ... There were a lot of vets in school, too, but they were taking it seriously. I think a lot of those guys were married and probably had families. These guys were just, "Hey, let's go play college football and have a great time."

JT: That was Ray Daviau [*editor's note: class of 1965*] you were talking about.

MH: Ray Daviau.

JT: He weighed about two fifty or so. Came from Wareham. "Cousin Bones" played with him down there, Steve Govoni [*editor's note: class of 1965*]. He knew him. And Daviau – there's one picture that Ed Meaney sent out with – Daviau is chasing after a ball, he was shagging balls for Morwick to throw. We were up there. It's almost like in a ballet. You see how tight the outfits run. We had to go to the Boston Patriots to get a helmet for him [because] his head was so big. He played center ...

MH: Right.

JT: ... on offense. And Morwick says he always hated playing behind him because he was so big he'd split his pants.

MH: For a quarterback, that's not very attractive. [Laughter]

JT: [unintelligible] ... bare ass. I said, "Was that his practice pants, Dave?" He says, "You name it. Practice or other ..."

CW: All purpose.

JT: It was practice and ...

CW: The only ones he had, probably.

JT: It would happen on the field, too. On the game pants. Ray Daviau.

CW: You mentioned about memories of games and stuff. My memories -- I don't have very many that I can pinpoint, but I was telling these guys. One of them came -- Billy [Clifford] had these game films (which I gave you the first one that I turned into a DVD). On that one, I had totally forgotten, but it was towards the end of the game at Frostburg and Dan Hennessey

[*editor's note: class of 1971*] -- who later broke his leg very badly and had to quit – he chased the quarterback down and caused him to fumble, and I was also in pursuit of the guy. He fumbled the ball and I fumbled [*editor's note: recovered*] on their three yard line. I had totally forgotten about that. Probably the good reason is because the next play, we were on offense, Peter Rowe [*editor's note: class of 1969*] fumbled the football.

MH: Oh, jeez.

BC: Yes.

CW: On their two yard line. So that was one memory. The other memory ... there's another game film that I'm working on -- I'll send you a copy of it when I'm done. The one memory -- I still remember -- Buddy Fanning [*editor's note: Leo Fanning, class of 1970*], who was captain his senior year, he and I lined up and we had to block, double-team, this pretty-big tackle that was in front of us. We're running up to the line, and I say to Buddy, "Post and wheel." Which is I'd be the post. I hit him and then he comes in from the side and wheels him, and you turn him, and you double-team him that way. And it was probably the best play ever that I can remember, because I hit him. I kind of got him in the back. He turned and he stood up – which is the big mistake when you're being double-teamed. We drove that guy ten yards down the line, and in the second film you gave me ... I was down in the basement, I had the old projector going, which was breaking down on me left and right, chewing up the film as I'm trying to get it on the DVD. And wouldn't you know it, that play showed up on the screen and I caught it on the DVD. I have that one play. I'll email it to you.

ED: I can't wait to see it.

CW: That's just the one play.

MH: You were just running him right over to the sideline almost.

CW: You can see it. Ralph Robinson [*editor's note: class of 1968*] ... We blocked the guy to the right and it might have been you [to Bill Clifford] that made the block on the tight end. Wide open. He makes an easy ten yards gain on that play. So that was a ...

BC: Ralph Robinson.

MH: It's amazing that the guy stayed on his feet. That he stayed on his feet.

BC: Very interesting character.

CW: He stayed on his feet the whole time. He should have folded, but he didn't.

BC: I was telling you guys about Ralph Robinson. We had one game we were playing in Quonset – I think it was Quonset or Newport, I forget which one, I think it was Quonset – in the morning.

CW: Oh, yeah. That was your senior year.

BC: Yeah, Yeah. Did we spend overnight there?

CW: We spent the night in the barracks ...

BC: Yeah.

CW: ... which was interesting.

BC: Yeah.

CW: They fed us ...

BC: Somebody got up in the middle of the night screaming at the top of his lungs, "I can't see. I can't see." [Laughter] So nobody got any sleep that night.

CW: But he forget what Fournier [*editor's note: David Fournier, class of 1971*] said. We couldn't go to sleep. Coach kept coming out and said, "Alright you guys. We've got to go to ..."

BC: "Knock it off."

CW: "Knock it off." Yeah. Three times he comes out. Then everybody starts falling asleep. And Buddy Fanning fell asleep, but he's having a nightmare, and he saying, "I can't see. I can't see." And this kid from Leominster, John Fournier, he could get Mazz [Coach Mazzaferro] to laugh.

BC: Well, that's something.

MH: I guess that's something, yeah.

CW: He yells out, "Why don't you open your eff-ing eyes." [Laughter] Coach comes out. The whole place goes nuts. The coach comes out and yells at us again. Oh, he was really ticked off.

BC: Ralph happened to skip that game, because he and his father were going duck hunting in the morning. So he didn't want to make that overnight trip. He went duck hunting instead.

MH: That was a great decision. That's not that far away from here, is it?

BC: No. It's an hour.

CW: No. it's an hour drive. It was easy. But we stayed overnight.

BC: But we stayed overnight in one of the barracks there.

CW: Morning games.

JT: I remember we had morning games there. We just drove straight down.

MH: Yeah.

JT: Like a ten or eleven o'clock game.

CW: I think it had to do with their duties for ...

MH: Yeah, most likely.

CW: ... to get shipped out or whatever.

ED: Didn't the naval air stations – their teams – vary as to who was on their team depending upon which ship was in dock?

MH: Oh, yeah.

BC: Oh, yes.

CW: Yeah.

MH: Newport. Always Newport.

JT: Newport had a good team. Quonset was beatable. But if Newport didn't have a team, all the players that were at Newport would come and play for Quonset and they'd be tough. You'd play -- "Remember that guy, he played for Newport last year ..."

MH: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

JT: You remember that?

BC: Of if the boat came in, you were in trouble.

JT: Well, if the fleet was in.

CW: In '66 they had this guy. What was his name? Will ...

BC: Willie Williams.

CW: He was honorable mention for All-American. And he killed us. He killed us.

BC: He had a write-up the year after in "Faces in the Crowd" in *Sports Illustrated*. They mentioned him against, scoring twenty-something touch-downs or something. He was a character. At the end of the game, his girlfriend would come out, hand him a beer, and he would

walk off – one arm around his girlfriend, one hand on the beer, and he would talk to all of us, “See you next year, Willie” “Oh, yeah, yeah. I’ll be here. I’ll be here.” [Laughter]

He was something. There was one play – you were talking about plays that you remember – we were playing on Legion Field, and he was sweeping the end. And they tried to hit him – he didn’t make the hit, he went right over me. But I got up and I started chasing him. I was pretty quick. He was moving on. He’d run about thirty yards and I caught him and I tackled him. And he looked at me and he says to me, “Man, I thought I left you behind back there.” [Laughter]

MH: My god.

JT: On those service teams, there was a lot of chit-chat.

BC: I told him, “Willie, you’re getting old. You got caught.”

MH: There was a lot of chippiness going on.

BC: Oh, yeah.

CW: I remember that game in ’66 against them was the first time I ever played at night. I had no idea what was going to happen. So we get on the bus and we go up to the field and I’m looking at Legion Field and all I see is all these ladders – forty foot high ladders with lights on top. They were held down with ropes.

BC: Yeah.

CW: And this big, big truck with a generator on it. It just drowned out all the noise in the whole place.

BC: You didn’t have to catch punts in those games.

CW: Oh, my god.

BC: They went up above the lights and disappeared.

MH: I remember that. You couldn’t really see. Especially if you didn’t have good eyesight, like I did. You couldn’t see ...

CW: It was guesswork, huh?

BC: Yeah.

JT: It was spooky. It was spooky because it’s not natural light. Even if you’re playing in a rainstorm ... But those lights at Legion Field – it was like you’re in another dimension. It’s not real. What you’re doing is not real. It’s like a dream.

CW: It was weird.

MH: Do you remember a game we played where we were like fogged in?

JT: Oh, that's when Bobby Lane ...

MH: Oh, man.

JT: ... they didn't know he had the ball.

MH: You couldn't see the crowd.

JT: There was delay [play] – you couldn't see the other side of the field. Morwick slips him the ball. Bobby's like this. People ran by him and go "pshew". He took off for about forty yards for a touchdown. And that's why we won.

MH: Right.

JT: We beat Maine Maritime. And they were on some sort of a streak.

BC: They were pretty good back then.

JT: They really were the top team ...

MH: They didn't like it too much.

ED: Let me bring the conversation back to campus. The 1960s are a pretty interesting time in American history, certainly. Though Bridgewater may not have been the most liberal or progressive or socially-conscious campus in the country, there was certainly some growing awareness of various social movements at the time. The feminist movement, or women's lib, and Black Power, and certainly sentiment for or against the Vietnam War. How cognizant were you of these greater societal changes of the time or were you so insulated, being in southeastern Massachusetts?

BC: I didn't live on campus, but ... Being on campus you were aware, of course, of the Vietnam War. It was a starting, growing movement against it in those days. There wasn't very, very big, but it was there at Bridgewater. And it grew after I left. When I was coaching there, it was quite vocal at times. But when I was attending, it was there. There were people speaking out, but it wasn't a big thing like that.

CW: I remember being in Alpha fraternity and we were trying to raise funds to buy the fraternity house. And we had that magazine called the ... What was the name of the magazine?

JT: *Collage*.

CW: The *Collage*. Right. Which was pretty much generated by a football player, Jimmy Accomondo [editor's note: class of 1969]. We'd sell four or five hundred copies of the thing. And in that magazine – which you've got a copy in the library – there's quite a bit of discussion about issues that were facing us and a lot of stuff about how Bridgewater ran their programs. And their grading and student teaching and a lot of different issues. It wasn't the best-written magazine in the world, but it's significant of what kind of conversations kids were having back in those days. I think it captured it pretty close to where it was. There was a lot of stuff ... I went to Newton High School, which is really a liberal school and I can remember the anti-war kids. Back then, you were either anti-war kids or you were just ... played sports or did something else. There was that clique. That really wasn't here at Bridgewater. I didn't see very much of that where kids would get together under that one purpose to demonstrate against the war. Although there were a lot of kids that were obviously -- didn't want to go to war and didn't want to be drafted. So that's one reason to be in college. But also to get an education, to become a teacher, which is a heck of a lot better than getting shot at. But if you didn't make it through school, you were probably going to go to Vietnam.

MH: In '65 it hadn't heated up ... when I got out in '65 – Vietnam, from '60 to '65 -- hadn't heated up yet, so there wasn't a lot of anxiety towards it, especially on campus. Don't forget, this college was basically a middle class, working class school at the time. The number one thing was to get through school. You knew that if you didn't get through school, you were going to get drafted. And there were a few professors that were kind of nasty about it. There was one speech professor who used to say, "If you don't come to class I'm going to flunk ..." He was actually from the South, so I'm not trying to make [fun of him]. He's say, "If you don't come to class, you're not going to pass and it's going to be Vietnam for you." And he used to say that, you know. But outside of that – individuals -- I don't think there was a hell of a lot on campus about the Vietnam War.

JT: Actually, it was probably one of the most apathetic campuses – I don't want to say that there were liberal, illiberal, or conservative – it was just really a lot of apathy towards what was going on. It was "let's just get through ...

MH: Exactly.

JT: ... let's go to our social activities." In fact, I'd say, it was pretty much ... the four years I was there, were probably more like the 50s on other campuses. There were a few lights. You'll read an article in the *Campus Comment* or an article in the *Olympian*, which was the Kappa paper [editor's note: newsletter of the Kappa Delta Phi fraternity], by someone who would be expressing or espousing an opinion pro or con. I notice in a lot of the *Campus Comments* you have a lot of articles "Support the military", and that sort of thing. I think basically the feeling in the faculty was pretty conservative, very conservative in ...

MH: We were a tightly controlled campus, too.

JT: Yeah.

MH: Let's be honest. Number one, you were going to class, I don't know, twice as much as they do now. And number two, there was so many rules and regulations, you were really ... you were more focused on doing what you had to do and following the rules and regulations. There was not a lot of room for ...

JT: The few things I remember – there was a big swelling of support for John F. Kennedy in 1960. Because probably eighty per cent of the college was Catholic. They wanted to see a Catholic ...

MH: Working class, Catholic kids.

JT: Yeah. So there was big support. And also for his – what do you call it, the New Frontier program? And there were guys like Condron [*editor's note: Dave Condron, class of 1964*], my roommate, who wouldn't get up to walk across the room, but he was doing push-ups because ... it was some sort of program that Kennedy was ...

CW: Fitness program.

JT: Yeah, fitness program.

BC: Presidential Fitness Program.

MH: Fitness program and the Peace Corps. My wife and I almost went into the Peace Corps when we graduated. Went to Brockton, took a Peace Corps test. They tested us in some foreign language, which ended up being Kurdish.

JT: A lot of people went in the Peace Corps.

MH: And we were ready to go, but we both got jobs. We were going to be sent to Chile right before Allende got ousted by the C.I.A. So we would have probably never come back from Chile if we had been there.

JT: I remember that my freshmen year there was a march, a fifty mile march, as part of the fitness program, from Fall River to Boston. The picture in the *Boston Globe* or *Herald* was a couple of freshmen in my class that were sprinting to the finish -- where everybody was walking, they were sprinting to the finish. So there were people who were getting in that effort. But politically, you didn't have that much dialogue going on. In '64, when I graduated, I went to UMass – it was night and day. You had real programs going on. Anti-war, feminist – you name it—that just wasn't generating any activity here.

CW: As far as the football program was concerned, I remember sophomore year we had this prospect from Northeastern. He was a black kid -- he was a friend of mine. His name was Kenny Smith. He was an All-Scholastic player from Silver Lake. He was suiting up – he came from Northeastern – and he was the first black kid I saw in the two years that I played there. And even in the next year, even though he didn't finish the season, he was the only black person that ever put on a uniform. But after ten days or so of practice – we were really excited because we had

some good backs as it was, and then we'd have him, too. And he couldn't play because they found out that he had played in one game at Northeastern. One game, one play or something like that, and he was disqualified. He had to sit out.

MH: Ineligible for the ...

CW: Ineligible

JT: For the whole year.

CW: Just because of that one thing.

MH: In reference to the question ... I was thinking about that. When was the first African-American ...

CW: Did you have any black ...

MH: No, we didn't have any African-Americans.

JT: No, except Manny Costa was a coach.

MH: Yeah.

JT: My freshman year.

MH: We had a fraternity brother, but these kids were Cape Verdeans from New Bedford.

ED: There certainly aren't a lot of pictures of African-American students in the yearbooks. I was sort of wondering ...

BC: In my graduating class, there were very few.

JT: There were very few.

MH: Teams we played, of course, like Newport or Quonset.

BC: Oh, yeah.

MH: Frostburg.

BC: Frostburg had ...

MH: Bridgeport.

JT: Yeah.

CW: Oh, yeah.

MH: And Central Connecticut. The big schools.

JT: All I remember in my class was Julie Johnson [*editor's note: Juliette Johnson, class of 1964*], who was from Roxbury and she was a Phys Ed major.

MH: We had Louie Gomes [*editor's note: Louis Gomes, class of 1965*], he was a fraternity brother, too.

JT: Louie Gomes. Barbara Burgo [*editor's note: Barbara Ann Burgo, class of 1964*]. But as you say, Cape Verdeans.

MH: Cape Verdeans, yeah.

CW: One other thing about ... I was here – you guys had already graduated. I was here in the spring of '70 and that's when things went absolutely nuts. We lost Martin Luther King – I think that was in April.

JT: Sixty-eight.

CW: Was that '68? Well, that happened.

JT: And then there was Bobby Kennedy got shot.

CW: In June of ... It was in June of '70, wasn't it?

JT: It was in May of '70? Are you talking about Kent State?

CW: And then Kent State.

JT: Kent State was in May of '70.

CW: It was the first week of May. That really spurred on a lot of kids to come out of the woodwork. There were people out in the quadrangle, after that happened. You could see – there were kids mulling around and stuff like that. I remember because that semester I was trying to ... I had two majors – I had math, I had pretty much gotten enough credits from that. But I needed to graduate, so I picked up eight courses in history. I already had four, so I said, "Eight more and I can get another major and get out of here." So I was taking four history courses. One of them was with Ralph Bates, and a night course with Far Eastern History, with all those names.

MH: I bought the textbook [groans].

CW: I said, "Oh, my god. What am I getting myself into?" It's sad that we lost four kids at Kent State. But the college just turned from being very easy-going, conservative – these people started coming out of the woodwork. People got a little nervous about it. The administration. So

here I was, facing getting ready for this final exam, even with Ralph Bates but all these names – I couldn't even spell half of them. They gave you an option, if you didn't want to take the final, you could write a paper. So I wrote a little paper – had my dictionary – wrote a little paper, turned it in. Thank god, because I wouldn't have graduated. It was sad, but they were worried enough that they gave kids the option to ... And some of the finals were just cancelled. Just give them the grade, get them out of here. We only had another week of classes.

JT: Ralph Bates was Mabell Bates' husband.

ED: Right.

MH: I remember the Cuban Missile Crisis, and Kennedy coming on TV.

JT: Yeah.

MH: A couple of guys were nervous. We had a couple of fraternity brothers that were in the Air Force Reserve.

JT: Kingsley. [*editor's note: Wilfred E. Kingsley, class of 1963*]

MH: Kingsley got a call. He got a call right after the announcement [whistles]. "Get your uniform." He had to go to his local base. That was kind of scary actually – the Cuban Missile Crisis. What the heck is going on here? They showed the pictures of the missiles on the Russian ships and everything.

ED: Were there even televisions on campus anywhere where you could follow the news?

MH: Downstairs in Tilly everybody would congregate downstairs in the lounge.

BC: One TV. One TV in there.

JT: They had one in all the dorms.

MH: Yeah, in the dorms.

JT: We had one in the entranceway, in the lobby.

MH: Yeah.

JT: And then we had one ... We would watch basketball games ...

MH: Right.

JT: ... and movies, because the other guys would be studying downstairs. There was also ...

MH: Right. The cellar.

CW: Was it black and white or color?

MH: No, it was black and white.

JT: Black and white. [Laughter]

MH: There were no TVs in any of the ... You had a radio in your room, maybe. No TVs, no phones, no anything in your room. If you wanted to make a phone call, you'd go downstairs. Use the pay phone.

CW: I wasn't in school at Bridgewater at that point. I was a little younger. But I was working in a restaurant with a TV in the back room and I can remember worrying if I was going to be alive the next day. That was a crisis where ...

MH: It was kind of scary.

CW: ... they had their hands with the key, on the button. They were ready to go at it. It was that close. It was scary. I felt so good the next day when they ...

BC: Khrushchev blinked. Turned them around.

JT: I must have been the coolest guy in town, because I didn't think anything was going to happen.

CW: No?

JT: Nobody's going to push a button. That would be crazy. A lot of people were worried about it.

MH: A lot of it was media.

JT: Yeah. They're going to drum that stuff, but I [thought], "This is going to blow over. This is just posturing." That's pretty much what it turned out to be.

CW: Yeah.

MH: You were ahead of your time, Tartari.

CW: Ahead of your time.

JT: What's the use of worrying? [Laughter] Nothing you can do about it.

MH: Right.

CW: You're right.

BC: You were talking again -- with the black kids ... I coached in the 70s and it slowly, slowly progressed as time went on. I'm trying to think of the first kid we had. I think it was actually a basketball player who just wanted to play football his senior year. And he came out his senior year -- Curtis Caldwell [*editor's note: class of 1973*] and played. We started him off -- because he'd never played football before -- doing something simple, react to us catching punts. But by the end of the year, we were really using him. He turned out to be one heck of a football player. Better football player than he was a basketball player -- the reason he was here. If we could have had him for four years it would have been great. Little by little, we picked up more and more black kids, getting involved into the program. It was slow.

CW: I don't think basketball saw a black player until Joe Wise [*editor's note: Jordan W. Wise, class of 1973. Wise was the ninth-round draft pick of the New York Knicks in the spring of 1973.*]

BC: Yeah.

CW: And he came here in, I think it was '70 or '71.

JT: When you think about it, we didn't have any black kids playing basketball.

MH: No, and Louie [Gomes] was a great high school basketball player but he concentrated ...

JT: [unintelligible]

MH: No, he concentrated on his studies. Speaking about athletes in general -- there was a lot of great athletes walking around not playing anything.

JT: Yeah. True.

MH: Because they were -- some of them were a little older, some were ... But they were studying.

JT: You mentioned [unintelligible] -- played one year ...

BC: There were a couple of other kids ...

JT: As freshmen and never played after.

BC: ... from Brockton that I played with in Brockton that came here. Maybe not directly, but did come here. But didn't play.

MH: Yeah. Jimmy McMahon [*editor's note: class of 1965*] was a good back at Durfee and he came out one year, but I don't think he even lasted.

JT: He'd come out, and quit. I think my senior year he came out for a while. Got his picture in the ...

MH: He ended up playing the guitar and singing folk songs and stuff. Bob Dylan, whatever.

ED: Speaking of Bob Dylan. Did any of you see Bob Dylan when he was on campus?

MH: I did, but I can't remember a thing because I think I had too much to ... [laughs] whatever.
[Laughter]

ED: I think around '67.

JT: We didn't have anything when I was here. We didn't have anybody ...

MH: I think it was '65.

ED: Sixty-five?

MH: My senior year.

CW: My freshman year.

MH: He was the biggest thing that ever hit the campus.

BC: You're right.

CW: I lived two miles down the road, with two other kids in the same room.

JT: We had the Harlem Diplomats and that was it.

CW: One of the kids was a Dylan fan...

BC: I remember Wilson Pickett being here.

JT: Yeah?

BC: Yeah. Wilson Pickett.

CW: All he did was play Dylan songs. We used to jump on him for that. "Get that record off. We hate ..." Either you loved Dylan at the time or hated him.

MH: He was singing a lot of peace music there ...

CW: So no, I didn't go to the Dylan concert.

MH: Anti-war stuff.

JT: Those later years I saw ...

CW: Anti-war stuff. I wasn't into that.

JT: ... in the *Comment* you had the Clancey Brothers were here.

CW: Yeah.

MH: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

JT: I was surprised. Wow -- this was something.

ED: Ike and Tina Turner played here.

JT: Wow. That's amazing. Because we had nothing. Absolutely nothing my four years.

CW: If I did go to any concerts, I was too far gone to remember who they were. [Laughs]

MH: I shouldn't have admitted that, because I don't remember much.

JT: They had a Swedish gym team.

MH: Oh, you probably went to that.

JT: Yeah, I did. It was Swedish gymnastics.

MH: Because you used to do gymnastics in high school.

JT: I did gymnastics in high school. They had the Harlem Diplomats one time.

MH: Wasn't part of that ...

BC: Yes. I remember that.

MH: ... a fundraiser for Marty Rizzo fund, I think? Was it them or was it somebody else?

JT: It must have been somebody else.

BC: It was similar to the [Harlem] Globetrotters, but it wasn't the Globetrotters.

MH: No.

JT: They weren't good enough to be the Globetrotters, but ...

MH: They were the second tier.

JT: ... they had a lot of gimmicks and stuff.

CW: Yeah. They were good.

JT: And remember “Bogger” Curry [*editor’s note: Philip Curry, class of 1964*] was playing against them. “Bog” is about this high.

MH: That’s another nickname for you. He comes from the Cape. You know, cranberry bogs.

JT: These guys were playing tricks, and Bogger goes running around one guy and unties his shoe strings. [Laughs]

MH: Bogger did?

JT: Bogger did.

MH: He got right into it, didn’t he?

JT: Bogger got right into it. The funny thing is – you know, he’s short, very short. And of course you’ve got Scudder [*editor’s note: John Scudder, class of 1964*] out there, who’s fairly tall. The ball goes off the rim and who jumps up between everybody and taps it in but Bogger. He was a good little athlete.

MH: Oh, yeah.

ED: Any other parting things you’d like to tell us about your experiences here? Any last ...

MH: I loved it.

ED: ... items to add?

MH: I loved it.

ED: Always good to hear.

MH: I grew up.

BC: I’d do it all over again.

MH: I grew up at Bridgewater. I guess.

ED: Maybe with better protective equipment, though. [Laughter] Better knee pads. Go ahead, Jim.

JT: I was just going to say I know that you get a laugh out of our nicknames, like Baby Hughie [*editor’s note: Larry Bernard, a player on the 1961 team*] and stuff like that, but some of these – you guys come up with a few nicknames today I hadn’t heard before.

BC: God, I can't remember them now. [Laughs] We were talking earlier.

MH: Some guys came to school with nicknames and other guys ended up with nicknames.

BC: Yeah.

MH: Somebody here started calling me "Hugger" or "Huggies," because of the way I spelled my last name.

BC: Herbie Lynch [*editor's note: class of 1970*] was "Thumper." I remember that.

MH: What was his name?

BC: I don't know why. He was "Thumper." I don't know why.

CW: Thumper.

BC: Thumper, was Herbie. Yeah. But I don't remember why he was called that.

MH: I can't remember ...

JT: Here we go ...

MH: We used to call Bob Peluso "Caboose." [*editor's note: class of 1964*] He was about this tall, but he weighed about two hundred and fifteen, twenty pounds.

JT: Pretty wide ...

BC: Tuffy Klaiman was "Kick Twice Tuffy."

JT: This is good.

MH: Kicking Twice Tuffy.

JT: He earned that nickname because – my freshman year, Mike's senior year – Tuffy was our kick-off man. We were kicking off one time – it had to have been either at the half (we didn't score too many touchdowns so it was either at the beginning of the game or at halftime).

MH: It must have been the second half kick-off. [Laughter]

BC: And he kicked it, and he practically just barely touched the ball and it only rolled a few yards, so he had to get more than ten. So he stopped, took a step back, and kicked it a second time. [Laughter] To get it to go ten yards. So ever since then he was "Kicking Twice Tuffy."

MH: Our senior year, Mase [Bob Mason] got hurt. Tuffy tried to ... I don't know what the heck it was for. It might have been a kickoff. He missed the ball completely. [Laughter] Missed the ball completely.

JT: Was it a punt?

MH: No. It was kick [off].

BC: Set up and kick.

MH: Of course there was no side-winder there. He was kicking straight on.

BC: Straight on. Yeah.

MH: So it was easy to miss the ball.

CW: So was that off-sides?

MH: I think so.

BC: More than likely.

CW: Five yard penalty?

MH: Yeah.

CW: Re-kick.

MH: Five yard penalty. You have to re-kick it. I don't think he went down on his back. That would have even been worse. But he did miss it and kind of stumbled.

CW: Sounds like one of us, playing golf. [Laughter]

MH: That's right. In the woods.

ED: I would love to thank you all very much for sharing your memories with us and your stories. As always, it's a delight to see you all and to learn more about Bridgewater State and your experiences here.

JT: Thank you. For all your support.

MH: Thank you.

CW: Thank you.