

Bridgewater State University Oral History Project

Interview Subjects:

Paul Callahan
David Fee
Philip Curry
David Morwick

Interviewed by Ellen Dubinsky

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Paul Callahan - Callahan
David Fee - Fee
Philip Curry - Curry
David Morwick - Morwick
Ellen Dubinsky - Int.

Int. I'm Ellen Dubinsky. I'm the Digital Services Librarian at Bridgewater State University and this is the third of our recording sessions in our Oral History Project to record the remembrances and memories of some of our alumni and faculty of years past. I'm happy to welcome three players from the Baseball Teams of the early 1960s. I'd like to start by just asking you to introduce yourselves, where you're from, and the year you graduated. And then we'll get started.

Callahan Paul Callahan, originally from Natick, Massachusetts, now from The Villages, in Florida. And I played from 1960 to 1962, four years at second base.

Fee OK. David Fee, originally from Chelsea, now from Fairfax, Virginia, a little town called Burke. And I graduated in 1962, played from '59 to the season of '62. And Paul, I think you played through '63. You probably did.

Callahan Oh, yeah. I'm sorry. '63. Yeah.

Curry My name is Phil Curry, originally from Cape Cod. Moved to Franklin for 35 years, now I'm back to Cape Cod. And I graduated in 1964, and played from 1961 through 1964.

Int. Great. Again let me welcome you all. I wanted to preface this by saying that we could find reference in our archives to Bridgewater Normal School baseball teams dating back to the early 1890s. So there had been a long tradition of baseball in some formal program at the school for many, many years. Now at that time certainly the opponents were area high schools, groups of alumni, maybe a few neighboring colleges and/or town teams. But by the time you were playing, by the late '50s, early '60s, who were some of your opponents?

Callahan Were we not in the New England Coastal Conference League, which had most of the state colleges?

Curry We were in two leagues. We were in the Southern New England Conference and we won that championship in 1962, with an 8 and 2 record. The same year we also played in the New England State College Athletic Conference. And I think we must have played in all those conferences through the four years.

Fee Plus we played some independent teams, too.

Int. Was that typical to be in more than one conference at the same time?

Callahan To get a full schedule, yes.

Int. Were there other teams then that you played that were in both conferences?

Curry Yes. And I do have a list. We have a lot of teams we played in Connecticut. Quinnipiac. And major tournaments we played in were in Connecticut. We played a tournament in New Haven; we played in a tournament in central Connecticut. The best tournament we played in we came in third. That was in New Haven. And we played – I have a list of some of the teams we played. Nichols College – we'd always play them two games. Plymouth State – they were known as a teachers college – we played them two games. Played Boston State, Salem State. We played Quinnipiac, Lowell State, Southern Connecticut.

Fee Stonehill.

Callahan Stonehill.

Curry Stonehill was a ...

Int. Was that sort of the rival school?

Curry A rival was Stonehill.

Fee "Rockpile" we called them. [Laughter]

Curry Rockpile.

Callahan Stonehill. Yeah. We had some good games against them.

Fee We sure did. We kind of played our best games against them.

Curry Also we played Rhode Island College, Durphee Tech, Fitchburg State.

Int. So not the same teams that you played football against?

Callahan No. We were the first state college [*editor's note: in Massachusetts*] to have a football team and they were quite a ways behind us as far as developing [programs]. We were basically a pioneer team, that was actually hard to find teams to play [against]. Every other team would say "We have everything to lose and nothing to win playing you." Thank goodness Swa [*editor's note: Coach Ed Swenson*] had naval connections. And Lee Harrington, who was with the school at that time, he had ties with Mass Maritime. So we had the two maritime schools – Mass and Maine Maritime, and then Quonset Naval, Newport Naval, and then any other games he could pick up along the way. He really had to scramble to put some kind of a half-decent schedule together.

Int. But for baseball that wasn't the case?

Callahan Baseball was a set schedule.

Fee Besides all the other schools were already established also in baseball. We were the first in football.

Int. In baseball, how many games were in your regular season? Were there pre-season or exhibition games as well?

Fee I guess we could say our trips were pre-season.

Callahan Pre-season. One pre-season we were going to start a southern trip, April vacation.

Fee Spring break.

Callahan Spring break. And we were going to head south. Harry [*editor's note: Coach Harry Lehmann*] heading south brought us to New York City. And we were supposed to have had a full schedule playing in New York City. However, it was also to be a cultural trip. A fellow by the name of Pete Giannaros [*editor's note: Class of 1961*] – he was a G.I., here under the G.I. Bill – so he was a little more advanced than the typical 18-, 19-year old kids that were on the team. He was the one to put together the raffles, this-that, to make money. Harry figured that while we were there, we have to see a Broadway play, so everybody had tickets for a play. And we had to go to at least one, maybe two, cultural places. You know -- the U.N., fine arts, and this-that and the other.

Curry Radio City.

Fee [unintelligible]

Callahan And so we had played a game in Connecticut the day before, and then we drove. We didn't have vans, we didn't have buses. We had private cars. So everybody got into a private car.

Fee Carpool.

Callahan Carpooled it. Needless to say, on our way down, every car, except Harry's car, had at least two or three six-packs of beer, going down. We were in the car behind Harry, going right down 42nd Street, and we had had a few [beers], [laughter]. We're looking at Harry's car and we see a "full moon" at the back. He had a station wagon. [Laughs] "Full moon" at the back. We swear to God it was "Bogger" [*editor's note: Philip Curry's nickname was "Bogger"*]. He doesn't own up to it.

Curry No. It was Bob Terry. [Laughter]

Callahan Anyhow, we got there and we were looking forward to a lot of good games with New York teams. However, it rained every day for five days. You get 18-year old kids in New York City, a town that you can legally drink at age 18. Well, we all took full advantage of that.

Fee We went on culture trips.

Int. I see. Yes. [Laughter]

Callahan So anyhow, in that way ...

Int. None of which involved a Broadway show, I understand.

Curry It did. I was a freshman, so I had to be with Harry most of the time. So I did go to a Broadway show. I can remember, "Do, Re, Mi" with Phil Silvers.

Int. How great! [Laughter]

Callahan However, the rest of us who were not in Harry's Broadway play [group], we went there early and ended up scalping our tickets for extra fun money. That night we're back in the hotel room. It was David, myself, Rendell [*editor's note: Lee Rendell, Class of 1963*], Wassell [*editor's note: William Wassell, Class of 1963*]. Harry comes in and he says, "Fee, what did you think about the Broadway play?" He said, "Well, coach. I enjoyed it through the 2nd play [act], but when it got to the end of the 5th act, it kind of lost me. And I lost interest." He looks at David

and he says, “Fee, you’re a liar.” He said, “What?” He said, “A Broadway play only has three acts.” [Laughter]

Fee [Laughs] I kind of did us in.

Callahan But we ended up playing one game at the end. We were so out of baseball shape. I think it was NYU.

Curry L.I.U.

Callahan L.I.U.?

Curry Long Island University.

Fee That’s what I thought. One of the side trips I thought was kind of neat. I don’t know who it was, said, “We’re going to go to another university - culture trip - that has a big art program. It’s called the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.” And it’s a world-renowned art school. Well it turned out that the research he was doing was quite detailed, because that particular afternoon, the art students were painting nude women. [Laughs] And where they got these women, interesting enough, were prostitutes.

Int. Forty-second Street, no doubt. [Laughter]

Fee Harry said, “Well, Pratt Institute. That was kind of nice. We saw the art students perform. It was excellent. Very cultural.” [Laughter]

Callahan We were walking down the street. And Harry says to Wassell -- it was myself, Rendell, Wassell – he says, “Wassell, where did you go?” He says, “Coach, I went to the U.N.” “You did? Who did you go with?” He said, “Steve Almeida.” [editor’s note: class of 1962] I don’t know how he picked that name. He said, “Wassell, you’re a liar.” He said, “Why am I a liar?” He said, “Steve Almeida was with me all day yesterday.” [Laughter] “Oh, sorry, Coach.”

And I’m not going to tell about bringing in the bum and putting him in Harry’s room. We weren’t nice. We weren’t nice to him.

Fee He was an interesting coach. The players, of course, were a mixture – we had some veterans on the team, they were older, and then we had us guys, and different age groups were in there too – so it was a real mix. Harry was a man of detail, but he didn’t get into the substance, I think, of what he had to deal with -- his collection of people.

Curry His biggest thing was itinerary, too. He had an itinerary for everything. Every step of the whole trip. And even every game, he had [an] itinerary. Who was riding with who, who was taking the bats, who was taking the balls, who was in charge

of the equipment. It was just incredible how organized [he was]. Every summer we got a full-page report. Not only did he have batting averages and ERAs, but he'd have situation batting records with men on, with men leading off, potential rally starters with one or two outs. I mean he was just incredible with stats.

Int. He certainly pre-dated the Oakland Athletics/Billy Bean ball then.

Fee Yeah.

Callahan Yeah. I know it. There's one story that I got reminded of, on our New York trip. I had a very close friend, Lee Rendell. And the two of us mixed together were not a good mix. Probably our second day we got up and out – it was raining again – go out into the streets. We come across a drunken bum. We say, "Hey, buddy." -- he's got the beard, the whole bit -- "You look like you really need a good night's sleep and a shower." He said, "That would be great." We said, "OK. Come on with us." We bring him into the hotel. We go up to Harry's room, open the door, and say, "Now look. This is our room. Help yourself to the shaving gear. Take a good shower. There's the bed. Help yourself. Take a nap. You look down and out." Shut the door and left. We never heard a word. Harry never brought that one up. But oh my ... we were awful. We were awful.

But it was a fun trip. However, when we got back, the first game we played in was Connecticut. And Rendell, Callahan, Wassell, Fee, were all benched.

Int. Because of your behavior?

Callahan Because of our bad boy behavior on the trip. However, we came in in like the fifth inning, fourth inning, and we rallied the team. We ended up winning that game.

Curry And I had to fill in for five of them at the same time. [Laughter]

Callahan Going around positions. [Laughs] Harry was always the leader and Harry never really had the wherewithal to be a good driver/leader. Invariably we'd be coming to an intersection with a light. He'd be -- fifty feet before going in -- the light would turn yellow. He would accelerate to go through the light and then keep going. Of course, we all had to stop at the red light. And then you'd have to guess where he went, and say, "Well, let's just stay on this road until we run into Harry." One time – he's oblivious – he's driving along, a deer comes down the side. We're going up to his favorite place in New Hampshire.

Curry Lake Winnepesaukee.

Callahan Yeah. And so a deer comes running down and runs into Harry's car. The poor thing is spinning around and then gets up and goes. Did Harry stop, check to see if [the deer was OK]? [Mimes driving car and makes engine revving sound] All the way through.

Curry He did get stopped, on the way to Lake Winnepesaukee, and we were playing Plymouth State. He crossed the yellow line about this much [gestures] and there happened to be a cop [who] stopped him for crossing the yellow line. It was funny.

Callahan Took the book out. He got written up.

Curry He got a fine for it, too.

Int. Besides Harry's organizational skills and driving ability, or lack thereof, can you tell me more about him as a coach?

Callahan From my perspective, he was there. He took us through workouts, this-that and the other thing. As far as preparation and knowledge – apparently he knew the game. However, a lot of us came in from experienced coaches before. Phil and I played in the Cape League [*editor's note: Cape Cod Baseball League*] for some excellent coaches. One of my coaches was down there, Dave Gavitt from Providence, Rhode Island. And I learned more from Dave than from Harry. However, that carried over into playing for him.

Fee You have to look at it from a comparison standpoint. I played in the Park League in Boston in high school and some other summer leagues. Harry was down there pretty low compared to some of the quality coaches I experienced. I was kind of surprised at the college level that ...

Curry He kind of knew, too, that Paul and I and Dave, he knew that we had played a lot of summer ball, and so he kind of, I think, left us alone and let us be on our own. With the newer players, I don't know really how much basics that he taught them. We'd just go through the regular batting practice, fielding practice, hit fly balls to the outfielders. So it was kind of basic. I don't think we ever got into too much to cut-off throws or anything of that sort.

Callahan No set plays or anything like that.

Fee I don't really remember any ...

Curry He probably thought, in my opinion, that we knew—and a lot of us, probably half of the team, had played organized baseball in other areas during the summer. So he kind of didn't really teach us the basics.

Callahan He never really went over situation baseball, either.

Fee Right. I was going to say, situation analysis. Never gone into that.

Curry Never had a cut-off play. We just picked that up on our own. And as for pitching, I don't know how much he worked with the pitchers. And most of the pitchers pitched in high school.

Callahan I know one pre-season we were in the gym and he brought in a friend of his, Paul LePalme [*editor's note: pitched for Pittsburgh Pirates, Chicago White Sox, and St. Louis Cardinals during his seven year career in the Major League*], who was a major league pitcher. And he worked with the pitchers that whole thing. He tried. He really tried to bring in some of the best that he could for his teams. But as far as Harry himself going over the basic fundamentals of the game, what we should know at this level or anything like that ... Like Phil said, a lot of us have been there and beyond.

Fee [Talking about] a pitcher. Dave Morwick was supposed to be here. If he does show up, you can ask him. Dave was one of our pitchers.

Curry Dave was an excellent pitcher in high school. And he ended up playing first base for us and he was the quarterback on the first [football team]

Fee He had got hurt.

Curry He got hurt. He was a real star athlete, also in hockey. He was a three-sport star at Scituate High School. He told me what had happened. He got a stone – this was in high school -- in his shoulder pad, when he was hitting the dummy. He fouled up his shoulder. So he tried to come here and pitch, and he really couldn't pitch. And down in Connecticut we brought him in for an inning or two and we had to take him out, because his shoulder just killed him from that. Old high school injury. And he ended up playing a lot at first base.

Callahan He also got hurt pretty bad at Bridgeport.

Curry Yeah.

Int. In a football game.

Callahan In football. So that affected him.

Curry So that kind of affected his ...

Callahan That affected both football and baseball for Dave. He was one heck of an athlete, though.

It was fun. Basically, Bridgewater was a fun school to go to. It was my first opportunity to be exposed to football. If I had gone to U Mass, where I had a scholarship in baseball, if I had ever gone there, I would have never had the opportunities that I had here at Bridgewater. I think a smaller school has more

avenues of opportunity for people coming in. I was a dormer [*editor's note: lived in a dormitory on campus*], which I thought was great. Phil and Dave were also dormers, so we were around here weekends and all and took full advantage of what the school had to offer, which was the fun aspect of the school.

Int. Right.

Fee One thing we've got to mention, though, is that we were lucky, too. We had some veterans from the G.I. Bill at the college. A couple of them were really great baseball players. Jimmy Hubbard [*editor's note: Class of 1960*] and Don Delutis [*editor's note: Class of 1963*] were very strong baseball players. Played a lot of service ball, which at that time was at a very high level. You had big leaguers who were playing, who were drafted and that sort of thing. They came out of that environment and really they were some of our strongest players on our team. Delutis and Hubbard.

Callahan Jimmy Hubbard, out of high school, had an opportunity to be signed by the Red Sox. And his father and mother said, "No. You're going to go to college." So they brought Jim here and sat down with Maxwell [*editor's note: Clement C. Maxwell, then-president of Bridgewater State College*] and they went over the pros and cons, this-that and the other thing. And so he ended up basically appeasing his parents to come here and go to school first. But he was that level of ball-player. I mean, he was great. And I'm thinking Ray Carvalho [*editor's note: Class of 1960*] behind the plate was another heck of an athlete.

Fee Yeah.

Callahan So when I came in as a freshman some of the seniors were outstanding. And they – like David with football with me – they'd take you under their wing and say, "Hey, maybe you'd like to try this." We got more coaching from the ballplayers than we did from Harry. They were very giving people. Great people. We're still in touch with them now. These are the friendships made, at the school, which is great. I think the greatest thing that the school did, was to invite back the original football team, because we hadn't seen each other for years and years. And since that time there's been a nucleus of us that meet every fall now and we go to the opening day game and Homecoming. At Barrett's after the game, there's what? About 30 of us? Thirty-five of us? It's a great camaraderie, which is neat.

Int. Certainly. Back to baseball a little bit. Where was your home field? Did you play at the high school?

Fee Legion Field.

Int. Legion Field?

Fee It was a decent field.

Curry Bridgewater High School's baseball field.

Int. And how was the attendance for fans? Were the games well-attended?

Callahan Not really.

Fee Not that much. Not as much as football. Baseball – some close friends and classmates. But not a big crowd.

Callahan Maybe about 20. Girlfriends. [Laughter]

Int. Were they enthusiastic?

Callahan There were some others too. Jack Collins was an avid follower. There were a few guys also. Springtime ... it's hard to get some of the people to follow. Their minds were elsewhere, I guess.

Int. As happens. Now you'd mention in a previous interview that some of the baseball players also participated in Track and Field, as time allowed. [They] would almost run off the field, from the ball field to a Track and Field event. I assume that was also at Legion Field then, these Track meets?

Callahan Right. Right.

Fee Yes. As I recall it, at Quinnipiac when we played baseball we had a track meet at the same time.

Callahan Yeah.

Curry Yeah.

Fee At Yale. It was in New Haven. That's where it was. It wasn't at Quinnipiac. We had track and baseball at the same time.

Callahan As a matter of fact, Jimmy Hubbard, was a senior year captain of Baseball and captain of Track. The same year.

Int. In the same season. That's pretty extreme.

Callahan They were able to interchange. I think it was after I was in the New England Coastal Conference Track and Field, I won the Javelin. But I was in my baseball pants and cleats and all of that, and socks. It was after that that they came down and said "They cannot compete ..."

Int. We're now welcoming David Morwick, who is a latecomer but very welcome addition.

[greetings among the interviewees]

Int. We'll get back to Paul in a moment. But Dave, if we can have you introduce yourself and tell us where you're from and when you graduated.

Morwick Dave Morwick, graduated in '64 along with Phil. It was a cooperative venture, right? Phil did anything that required figures. I did the English. And we made it through. [Laughter] I live in Lakeville now. Worked at the college for 40 years, and still working part time.

Int. Welcome. We've been discussing a little about the Baseball program and Harry Lehmann and his abilities as a coach.

Morwick OK.

Int. One of the points that was brought up was that Harry did bring in some outside assistance in terms of coaching the pitchers. Phil and the other gentlemen suggested that maybe you could shed some light as to if that was helpful or not, or your reaction.

Morwick No. It was not exactly helpful. My pitching career was over by the time I finished high school, and I just attempted after that. I had a split shoulder here, separation. But no, it wasn't much success, didn't have much success pitching at Bridgewater State, unfortunately. I would have liked to, but didn't.

Callahan Were you here – it was early, in the beginning of training – we were inside in the gym when he brought in Paul LePalme?

Morwick Yes.

Callahan Were you here then?

Fee But I thought you attempted to pitch?

Morwick Attempted. That first year.

Callahan Even then you were very good. It was fun watching you from the field.

Morwick That's debatable.

Callahan In your mind. Anyhow, Ellen had asked how much information was Paul LePalme, as far as giving you pitches.

Morwick I think he was very helpful. He was knowledgeable. It didn't assist me, but yet others benefitted, certainly. Ralph Ricci [*editor's note: Class of 1964*] in particular. [He] was excellent, if you recall.

Callahan Yes.

Morwick I think we could throw harder from second base to the mound ...

Callahan Left-handed.

Morwick Left-handed, right. But Ralph was very effective.

Curry He had a point two – I got it here – point two ERA.

Morwick Yeah. Point two.

Callahan A five and 0 record.

Curry It was a five and 0 record.

Fee I was remembering Jack Hassard [*editor's note: Class of 1962*] was our work horse, though.

Morwick Yeah. Jack Hassard was. Yeah.

Int. I had a note that Ralph Ricci in 1962 was named the N.C. double A Small College Best Pitcher of the Year with a five and 0 record.

Fee With that ERA ...

Int. That's pretty extraordinary. You've mentioned some of the other outstanding or wonderful players you played with. Tell me about Bernie Powers at third base.

Curry Bernie played third base. I remember him quite well because I hadn't played third base for a long time and we went to Connecticut to play in a tournament. And Bernie's wife was due at that time so he stayed back. So in the tournament I had to end up playing third base. Bernie retired on the Cape and he's probably ... I was a freshman Bernie was a senior – and Bernie was big into softball leagues, and they were big in Chatham and Harwich and Yarmouth. And he took a team, coached a team – and these are formal leagues down there from different age levels – age 60 to 65, 65 to 70, 70 to 75, and they go up over 80. But Bernie took a team – he was the manager of a softball team that took the over 70s to the Nationals and won actually the World Softball League out in California. And then the second year they lost in the finals in California. This year they played – this past year they played in Florida and they lost, in think, in the semi's in Florida. And that's about what I know of Bernie, because I only really played

with him for one year. And I think that same team, Delutis was shortstop. You [Dave Fee] were centerfield. Paul was second base.

Fee Yeah.

Curry Jim Argir [*editor's note: Class of 1961*], my freshman year, I think was first base.

Fee First base, right.

Curry Was Bill the catcher? Wassell was the catcher.

Callahan Yep.

Curry Lee Rendell was in the outfield. And I started; I could hit. So, of course, if you don't have any other position to field, they throw you in right. So I got thrown in right field. First game, though, I had 5 for 5. So I had it made with Harry. [Laughter]

Int. You had a starting position.

Callahan I think Hassard played the outfield, when he wasn't pitching.

Fee When he wasn't pitching, too.

Callahan We were all pretty well used.

Int. You had to be with such a small roster.

Callahan Oh, yeah.

Curry Then Pete Giannaros. We had some pretty good pitchers, too. Pete Giannaros, from Brockton, pitched. And, Rioux [*editor's note: Timothy Rioux, Class of 1961*] pitched, from North Attleboro.

Callahan Tim Rioux?

Curry Tim Rioux was a pitcher.

Callahan OK. And Gerry Hickey [*editor's note: Class of 1961*].

Curry Gerry Hickey pitched.

Callahan He was a good pitcher.

Curry Roland, from [the] Fall River area, was a catcher, too, before Bill. Roland ...

Callahan Rollie Hicks?

Curry Rollie Hicks caught. This was after.

Callahan He caught. He was a Brockton kid.

Curry Yeah. Brockton. I can't remember. I refereed football with Mike, but I can't remember his last name.

Callahan Now we had a kid that came in and he kind of, under the radar -- DeVincentis. Don DeVincentis.

Fee, Morwick Yes.

Curry Dave and I know Frank.

Callahan Yeah. Frank. He supposedly had signed and played with who? The Dodgers?

Morwick I think it was the Tigers.

Callahan Detroit?

Morwick Right. In fact, he went to Rollins on a baseball scholarship.

Callahan Kept in hush-hush, when he came to Bridgewater.

Morwick Right, right. In fact, the Detroit Tigers were paying for him to go to Rollins. That's what they did in those days.

Callahan Yeah.

Morwick As opposed to the colleges themselves putting up the money. Frank was caught during a panty-raid on the top of the dorm trying to escape, coming out of the girl's dorm at Rollins. Was tossed out, and came to Bridgewater.

Callahan And actually got caught doing the same thing. [Laughter]

Morwick Probably the same thing. Right.

Callahan Because he lasted one year.

Curry You know where he ended up? When Rollins had the good teams. He was a cameraman for the Philadelphia Flyers.

Fee You're kidding me.

Curry No.

Callahan Oh, really?

Curry Yeah.

Morwick Frank and I used to play in the Park League.

Callahan I can believe that. Yeah.

Morwick In Boston. Frank was an excellent ...

Callahan We had some colorful people on the team.

Morwick We did.

Curry He did play in the Cape League, for maybe a half a year.

Callahan Yeah.

Curry Or a year.

Callahan He did. He was very upset that he didn't make the All-Cape All-Star team. In the Upper Cape - Lower Cape [game], I think he went 0 for 4. And he said, "I'm a good ballplayer. Just because I didn't get one hit I didn't get picked for the All-Cape All-Star team."

Morwick You did, though.

Callahan I did. Yeah. I went 4 for 5 in that game.

Morwick Yeah.

Callahan That was good. As a matter of fact, Jimmy Hubbard was the coach of the All-Cape All-Stars, which was neat. We did not go to Fenway Park to play. We went to Bourne. [Laughter] You've seen that field. That was Bogger's home field. And Bog was a right fielder. Right field had to be a hundred and fifty feet down the line, but they had a fence that went up about as high as that – double the height of that [gestures].

Morwick It was about fifty feet high.

Callahan Fifty feet high. And they had a big yellow pole in right center field. If it [the ball] went to the right of it, and it went over the fence, it was a double. If it went to the left of it, it was a home run. There was one time – I hit a shot, right off the wall –

and Bogger pulls it off the wall, turns around and fires it to first base. And almost got me out. Because I'm jogging down the baseline. [Laughter]

Curry I led the assist for right field.

Callahan Oh, God.

Curry The reason they had the big fences – they had the railroad tracks, and after the railroad tracks was the roadway that goes along the Canal, and then the Canal. So if somebody got a hold of one, they could put it in the Canal. [Laughter]

Fee It was all those balls.

Curry The field was right under the Sagamore Bridge at the time. Dave saw a few, all those games.

Morwick A few games. What was the name of that field?

Curry Keith. Keith Field.

Morwick Keith Field. Right under the bridge. You could see the bridge. So I used to go down, after work, after summer jobs, and watch Phil play. So I would come down with maybe two or three six-packs, sit in the stands, and start watching the game. And I'd be sitting there, and Phil would run over between innings, off the field, run over and have another beer too. [Laughter] By about the seventh inning, he goes to bat, feeling no pain whatsoever, and does one of his monumental, Babe Ruth-signature [gestures]. Points to left field. Everybody [goes], "What is he doing?" Right? He points again. Next pitch. Off the left field wall. And someone had to help him around the bases. [Laughter]

Callahan Come to the voice. Come to the voice.

Curry See? That's my training at Bridgewater.

Int. I see. Those trips to New York City paid off.

Callahan Right.

Int. I do have a question about the Cape League. Was it highly scouted in those days? Were you playing in that league just to play ball or were you hoping to parlay that into some sort of potential career?

Callahan I, at first – I played in it for four, actually five years, but my first year I severely sprained an ankle so I had to drop out when I finished high school. The games had scouts at them, especially the All-Star games. So, naturally, for every kid that's playing in that league, their dream is to get picked up by a professional team.

Three of the four years that I played in it, it was your basic home-town team. It was all town players. However, two years before they went professional-level, Dave Gavitt came down from Providence and talked the town into bringing his Providence College team to play, which was kind of a difficult situation to put all of the other town teams in. Because here's a high-caliber college team coming to town to play locals. But it was the year after that, and that was my senior year, when the professional teams came in. I was asked to play with the Red Sox in the Chatham team that year. And Phil, was yours a professional team at that time?

Curry Yeah. I've got a true story. One of our pitchers on our team -- called the Bourne Braves now -- his name was Wayne Granger, he was from Springfield, and he played for A.I.C. [*editor's note: American International College baseball camps*] He came down, and to make a long story short, he wasn't that great of a pitcher in the Cape League. He and I worked the Bourne beaches. We raked seaweed -- I'd drive the truck, or he would drive the truck, vice versa. He was pitching that night, so he took a nap under a boat. I can remember a Selectman -- his name was Ernest Forni -- he came to, it was Barlows Landing Beach in Pocasset -- found him sleeping and fired him. Two years later, 1968, he was pitching in the World Series for the Cincinnati Reds [*editor's note: Granger played for the St. Louis Cardinals in 1968; the Cardinals faced the Detroit Tigers in the World Series that year. Granger pitched in the sixth game of the series*]. And he played for five years for Cincinnati Reds, then he played for St. Louis, he played for the Mets, and he ended up playing for the Yankees. That was his last. He played for thirteen years with a two point nine ERA. No way did you think he'd ever make it.

What they're doing now is -- I house one of the players and I housed one last year (he was from Texas; he pitches for Villanova). And the Bourne Braves -- what they all do, all the teams down there -- they have a pitching staff of anywhere from fifteen to eighteen pitchers. They use five starters. They let them go about four innings. And then they bring in -- they have so many other pitchers, and they're all top of the line throughout the country. And they can only play now in the Cape League upon invitation. What the coaches do -- like Harvey Shapiro [*editor's note: field manager of the Bourne Braves*], Schiffner [*editor's note: John Schiffner*] from Chatham -- they have contacts through all the big college coaches and they call and see if they want to send anybody to the Cape League. I was housing a player -- I got really attached to a player from Villanova -- what was the point I was going to make -- they're by-invitation only and all the coaches will call the college coaches and ask them what good pitchers they have. And the college coach will try to send them down to the Cape. At most of our games, they'd have probably about anywhere from five to ten scouts with the [radar] guns. When Paul and I played, it was more of a hitter's league. Now it's basically a pitcher's league.

Morwick Pitchers.

Fee That's when the big league team stepped in. The money stepped in and the organization.

Int. Certainly the fields are much nicer now, too. It looks like most of the towns have really put in a lot of money.

Fee Plus baseball itself changed. Pro baseball. More college kids came through the ranks, rather than just from park leagues and that sort of thing.

Curry The Yawkey Foundation of Major League Baseball appropriates a hundred thousand dollars to two teams each year just to improve their field. And Major League Baseball will provide a lot of the baseballs and the bats. Each field is well kept up that way.

Callahan It's been a time of evolution, though. The first year that they stepped in was 1963. Since that time, everything has just gone straight up, quality-wise, caliber-wise, ability-wise. It's great baseball at the – it's probably the best in the country – amateur status.

Fee Amateur wise. No question about it.

Callahan No question about it.

Curry The playoffs – I went to all the playoffs this year. And the playoffs will bring in about five thousand people. Just in the town of Bourne, for every regular game, the people will get there [early]. There are a lot of banks; in most fields there is a big bank. Chatham has a big ..

Callahan In Chatham it's huge.

Curry And they bring down their beach chairs. And they'll bring them down two or three hours early just to get a good seat. It's good entertainment. You pass the hat around, or you give a little donation. It's a lot of fun. There are a lot of kids who really enjoy it. And they have clinics with ball players. The big fellow I housed, he had to be there -- I think it was 8:30 to 12, and with four or five other players. And he does a two-week training session or clinic, and then they bring in another set of players, and then they get paid for that, so that gives them some spending money.

Callahan When I was playing, every ballplayer had to work. Fathers would say, "Let me just write out a check. Let him stay at the –." No. Every town found housing and a job. And you had to work. That was my job when I was in Chatham – raking the beaches of seaweed, mowing lawns – I was in the Parks and Recreation area.

Morwick That's what they'd say. They were actually at the beach, suntanning, margaritas. [Laughter]

Callahan No.

Morwick You're getting a slanted version.

Callahan You had to work. It was fun.

Int. Let me ask you – I know you all played football as well as baseball when you were at Bridgewater. When Football came in 1960, did you feel that that, in any way, diminished the attention paid to the Baseball program, or in some way your resources were taken away at the expense?

All No. No.

Fee I don't think so.

Int. There was no rivalry?

Callahan One did not in any way affect the other.

Fee I didn't see any competition.

Curry The only thing it took away was – Bridgewater was the state champions in soccer. So they dropped soccer.

Fee, Morwick Right.

Curry So they dropped soccer where they were state champions and then organized football and they sent us against Bridgeport and Frostburg State and Brockport State in New York. And – the fellows they brought up, the ships there –Newport.

Dave Newport and Quonset.

Curry And some of them played professional ball. It wasn't easy for us.

Fee No. That was tough.

Morwick Go ahead.

Fee I was going to say, probably the only competitiveness we had in the athletic area was – and I'll pass this around, your thoughts would be appreciated – is the Women's Phys Ed program. They were a very strong, powerful Phys Ed program. It was like a college to itself, almost.

Morwick Right.

Fee I think – I sensed anyway on their part a threat when Football came in. Because football, in most colleges and universities, is the number one sport, for fan support and school spirit and those kinds of things. And resources, perhaps. I thought maybe, that was about the only [program affected] ... But the other sports, no. It was always complementary.

Callahan I don't even ...

Fee Now you hung around the college for all those years.

Dave No, that was very true. Very true. The women were number one, without a doubt. Their teams and the support they had and the numbers involved.

Callahan When they had teams. Now when we were here, they probably had not even club-level for the women. They had nothing for the women, which was really disappointing. My wife was a Physical Education major and she and her fellow Phys Ed'ers had no outlets at the school. They had like one club -- I think it was field hockey – they went to a local [school], Wheaton ...

Fee Which was a shame because they had good athletes.

Callahan ... to play once. They had no swimming, no volleyball, no basketball, no field hockey, no soccer.

Int. In these pre-Title IX days was it common at other colleges to have women's organized sports?

Fee I think it was similar. Now there were some individual women in this college that went out independently, for [the] Olympics and that type of thing.

Callahan That was Track and Field.

Fee Track and Field, that kind of stuff.

Callahan And they did it on their own.

Fee On their own.

Callahan As far as team sports -- like going to the Hall of Fame, to see these women come in there and say they did this or they accomplished this in their field hockey or their volleyball or their lacrosse [careers]. You say, "Wow! What a great opportunity that these women have now as compared to ..." Between Springfield [College] and Sargent College and Bridgewater you had some of the top female athletes in the state. Maybe Springfield had a gymnastics team that they could go on. Other than that, what did the women have then? It's a shame.

Morwick We really didn't have a gymnasium. The old gym, until '56 or '57, somewhere in that range, that's when that was built.

Int. Right. The Kelly Gym.

Callahan Right.

Morwick Kelly. Right. And we practiced football and baseball on the land that was now the Campus Center.

Callahan Lower campus.

Morwick When you talk about resources, that was ...

Callahan Soccer. That's where we played soccer games.

Morwick Soccer as well.

Callahan On lower campus.

Fee Yeah.

Callahan Sure.

Int. Was there any crossover between soccer players and baseball or Track and Field?

Fee Soccer was fall time.

Callahan Yeah.

Int. But in terms of the players playing particular sports?

Callahan We had a nucleus of athletes that went Soccer, Basketball, Baseball, ...

Fee Swenson was the coach of the Soccer team ...

Morwick Soccer team. Right.

Fee ...before Football started. So he used – I was a member of the Soccer team my freshman year, I didn't know a thing about the game. But he knew I had played high school football and thought I could play Soccer. But he was grooming us for Football. He was constantly reminding, "You guys are going to be on our Football team." He used that as a ... as his initial recruiting group. At least for the upper class.

Int. How does the Men's Athletic Association play a part in any of this? The purpose of the organization was to promote both the intramural and the varsity sports. Did MAA have a big budget or what kind of activities did it do? I know Dave, you were an officer at one point, I believe.

Morwick Yes. Yes. I think my senior year. Right. We didn't have the budget. The budget was within the Athletic Department, where the men and women fought over it. And essentially the women were the winners. Publicity-wise and marketing-wise and promotion-wise, the MAA tried to do as best we could. We were a pawn of Coach Swenson, more or less.

Callahan Didn't he get Frank Jardin's [*editor's note: backfield coach for Football during the 1960 season*] salary through that? The first year.

Morwick First year.

Fee I'll tell you how it was, though. The women really were in charge of that budget, I recall. Because ...

Int. They were in charge of the MAA budget?

Fee No. Women were a big part of it. I know when they put the Football budget together the first year – it was a real funny story around this. They struck one of the items. It was football cups. "No, we don't buy cups for anybody." [Laughter] They didn't know what the cups were.

Int. What that meant.

Morwick Right.

Curry The MAA, though, did – because I played on the teams – they did have ... We had quite a few teams – we had a Basketball intramural league, which was a lot of fun, and then we also set up Flag Football. And the injuries in the Flag Football games were worse than a lot of the injuries on the regular men's Football. Broken legs, broken arms. Then we also invited in the Harlem Magicians, and the All-Star team from the intramural league, we played against the Harlem Magicians one time. Which was a lot of fun and brought in some money for the MMA.

Morwick But we really didn't control that budget, Phil. It was controlled by the Athletic Department. Unlike students today – they have control of their budget. So, very different ...

Int. Different time.

Morwick ... in that respect.

Int. From what you've told me in the past, the faculty was less than supportive of your schedule when you were playing Football in terms of practices and games. Were they more amenable to the Baseball schedule only because that program had such a long-standing tradition at the school? Or were you scurrying to make up classes and ...?

Callahan They ... the academia were in their own little world and the athletics were in their own little world. And anytime you did anything to disrupt anything in the academia they basically [expressed a], "You're going to be gone again?" type attitude. You'd say, "That's our schedule, Mr. So-and-So." I had a history class Monday-Wednesday-Friday. Well, we had baseball games Monday-Wednesday-Friday. And it was always I had to be down at the field at 2 o'clock. So I was hardly ever ... It was the type of thing that they were very upset that playing on an athletic team is an excused absence. You'd say, "Well, what can I do to make it up?" "You can't make up a lecture."

Curry I had trouble with my speech teacher on that, because I had to leave early when we went down to Connecticut to play in those tournaments. And our little New York trip.

Fee [unintelligible] -- wasn't it on Spring Break, or part of it was?

Callahan Yeah, it was.

Fee I think it was.

Curry We were supposed to play Farleigh Dickenson. That was the game that got rained out. That was in New Jersey. From there, we went over to New York and did the cultural things. [To Dave Morwick:] Did you go to Broadway with me and watch "Do-Re-Mi" with Phil Silvers? Or were you with these fellas?

Morwick I don't remember. [Laughter]

Int. That was a diplomatic response.

Callahan Taking the fifth, come on.

Morwick Although the trip I do remember, of course, trips to Plymouth State. Harry announced one year – I forget which year it was – at the very beginning of the season that, "If there's one thing we're going to do this year, it's beat Plymouth State." Of course, he had a buddy at Plymouth State, if you recall. He says, "I don't care what happens the rest of the season, but we've got to beat Plymouth State." So of course, we got there in fine shape. I can remember the bases being loaded for Plymouth State. Lee Rendell was in center field. The ball – a towering blast – was hit out to center field. Lee started, "I've got it." He starts running in.

Harry's on the bench, jumping up, "Lee, it's the other way. The other way. The other way." [Laughter] Remember that one?

Callahan I do. I remember the night before, too. [Laughter]

Curry I can remember that same trip, we stopped at Lake Winnepesaukee. I think that's where his friend was from. It was in April, so we all wanted to go in for a quick dip before the game. We put one toe in and we had to run the other way. It was like ice cubes.

Callahan Oh, yeah. There were some fun times to be had.

Int. Tell me about – besides Harry Lehmann not being the most inspirational or instructive coach – who were some of the other memorable faculty members when you were here?

Curry Lee Harrington.

Morwick Oh, yes.

Curry And he was a big backer of athletics.

Callahan Lee was great. He was great.

Curry And Phil Dooley [*editor's note: Assistant Director of Continuing Studies*].

Morwick Phil Dooley.

Curry Of course, Ed Swenson, but he was a coach.

Fee There were individuals. Noonan [*editor's note: Daniel J. Noonan*], I think, was a big supporter of sports. He was an economics professor. You could tell, because the faculty that tolerated or was very cooperative on time off, bending the schedule a bit. And others [were] just hard-nosed, no way. There were both sides.

Int. You've mentioned all male faculty members. Were there any amenable female faculty members at the time?

Callahan Mary Jo Moriarty was a follower of the sports. She was the Physical Education head.

Morwick She was the person of the department that ...

Callahan She was a good old girl. And a couple other women Phys Ed instructors. As far as the History and the Science and Math and all – they were strictly ...

Fee We had a lot of female faculty, like in History and English, but I don't recall them ever supporters of athletics.

Callahan I think Barbara Chellis [*editor's note: English Department*] was one that was taken in with the athletics, too. She was a young rebel teacher. Poor thing – I think she died of cancer, did she not?

Morwick Yes. She did, I think.

Callahan She was a good old girl. Few and far between, though.

Int. Besides your involvement with sports on campus, were there other student groups or activities that you were occupied with? To keep you away from your studies?

Fee A big part was some of us were fraternity members. There were two fraternities then. I don't know how many you have now, male fraternities. We had two. Kappa [*editor's note: Kappa Delta Phi*] and then Alpha [*editor's note: Alpha Upsilon*]. Alpha was our local. And we were all out for guys.

Curry The jocks were all in Alpha Upsilon.

Fee There are a couple of exceptions.

Curry With a few exceptions.

PC A lot of class leaders were -- president of the class ...

Fee That was kind of a big social part of our life there was around fraternity life, too. Fraternities would have parties, a lot of the weekends, organized. That sort of thing.

Callahan Matter of fact, I visited our old area of the Alpha Upsilon house. The Alumni Center [*editor's note: Davis Alumni Center*] is on the grounds that the Alpha house used to be on. I said, "Wow. I got into that house once." I would like to know what happened to the money, the insurance money that they paid out on it.

Int. Because there was a fire that destroyed that house.

All Right.

Callahan And unfortunately a student died in that fire.

Morwick A summer student.

Fee Before we had that house, they had the houses, we used to congregate down at the Polish Club, down the street here. In fact our landlord, Mr. Lanzikos, was a big

member there and he kind of sponsored us, I think. [Laughter] We had our own little home away from home there.

Callahan It was wrested from the veterans. There were quite a few veterans in the Alpha.

Fee Yeah.

Callahan When the paycheck came in, most of it went down to the Polish Club.

Morwick There were quite a few veterans on campus, anyway.

Callahan Oh, yeah.

Fee They had that extra paycheck every month. The G.I. Bill.

[All agree]

Callahan It was interesting.

Int. You were all gifted and well-respected athletes at your time here, and as you were pursuing your studies – I’ve got a very odd question and that is, being young men in the early ‘60s, what were your expectations post-college? Did you anticipate just going on to teaching careers? Did you anticipate a professional sports career in any way? If so, could Swenson or Harry Lehmann have been [of] any assistance in pursuing that goal? Basically, what were your dreams as young men at that time?

Callahan I was asked to play for the Red Sox my senior year. My hope was to go on in a baseball career. I had, like, five letters of inquiry – if you remember they posted down in the thing – from the Minnesota Vikings, Dallas Cowboys, Oakland Raiders – all letters of inquiry. And it was a stat sheets, is what they want. But everything would have had to have been done that summer. I opted to go with the Red Sox deal, so my aspirations were to go on. My summer coach down there [at the Cape League] led me to believe there’s a good possibility of a contract. And it never came through. So I said, “That’s the cards I’m dealt.” So I said I’m going to go ahead and do what I want to do, and that was go back to graduate school and get my master’s in Physical Education. So I did. I went out to the University of Colorado and pursued it out there. Never looked back. If you’re dealt a lemon, make lemonade.

Int. You certainly pursued a career then that took you, am I correct, around the world? Certainly overseas.

Callahan Over to Europe. I went with the Department of Defense, for six years. Funny, before that, [I] came back from Colorado and Dallas had open try-outs -- Dallas Cowboys -- so I [said], “I’ll see if I got anything left in the toe.” So I went and

had the try-out with them. And that didn't work out. And the Patriots had an open try-out. This was when Chuck Fairbanks was the coach. [*editor's note: Fairbanks was the coach from 1973-78*] Surprisingly, a guy that they knew nothing about did very well. So I was invited back the next week for a kick-off with two others. The fellow from U Mass, Terry Swanson, was asked to go up to the Patriots and I was asked to go play for the Lowell Giants. I saw one game with Betty [*editor's note: his wife*] and I was supposed to go down to [see] McAfee [*editor's note: Ken McAfee, coach of the Lowell Giants*] and sign papers. And the quality of play and level of play was such that, before halftime, I said, "Betty, let's go." So we got up. I said, "I've got my good health. I'm still walking around. I got a good job." So I said, "I'm out of here." So I called McAfee the next day and I told him, and he said, "Paul, I don't blame you." He said, "This is a tough sport." Very nasty, especially ...

Morwick That's for sure.

Callahan ... at the minor league level.

Morwick I think we all had our aspirations coming out of high school. And for various reasons, things didn't work out. I know I had some opportunities in football and baseball, in terms of scholarships. I foolishly accepted a scholarship at Syracuse, before coming to Bridgewater. I spent the summer, prior to coming here in 1960, at their training camp. And I was hoping to be on their Freshmen team. Of course they were national champions -- they won in '58 or '59. Anyway, there were six recruited freshmen quarterbacks. So I was competing with kids that were very high level. In those days, there was no red-shirting. When the linemen come in today, you know, hands off the quarterback. Not in those days. You were cannon fodder. And I was cannon fodder. We talk about the size of some of our linemen. At Syracuse, when they bent over, I could just barely see over ... [Laughter] I was pretty well racked up there after three to four weeks, spending out there. So I knew that wasn't the place for me. And they knew it wasn't the place for me. I had hurt my back at that point. My shoulder, and so forth. So I quickly called back to -- remember Svenson [*editor's note: Paul A. Svenson, class of 1958*], who lived at Al's house?

Fee Oh, yeah. "Big Swede."

Morwick "Big Swede." Right. So he was one of my assistant football coaches at Scituate and I called "Swede," and I said, "Jeez, is there any chance to get into Bridgewater at this point?" He says, "Oh, yes, yes." So he talked to Lee Harrington and the coach, Coach Swenson. And I got here in time to start that year. But at that point, I knew football [and] baseball were for fun, [not] for pursuing further careers in that line of work. That's my tale, anyway.

Curry Mine was to be a professional golfer.

Morwick Right.

Curry Down at the Cape.

Morwick And he could have been. He could have been. He was that good.

Curry I was down to a two handicap. I had five years before I got married, so I was playing golf all summer. Plus my principal let me out at two o'clock – he'd take my class over – so I could to play golf tournaments. Then a big handicap came along. She was a teacher up at Otis. And at that time I was teaching at Mashpee. And we got married. So that changed my whole golf – my handicap – because we had three children. [Laughter] That was another thing ... So I ended up as – which was quite interesting – after five years teaching I went to Northeastern Insurance Institute and I worked vet and life and casualty for thirty, thirty-five years. They left the state of Mass, so then I went to Trust Insurance in Taunton. They went belly-up -- at the same time what I was doing was I was moonlighting as an insurance broker. I could write homeowners and auto and life insurance, so I was doing that on the side. They went belly-up, so then I ended up, my last job was in commerce and I retired quite early. As soon as my wife died, I retired. I worked for Stop and Shop, handling all of their -- a lot of their claims -- and I still kept my insurance broker's license.

Morwick But to tie his golfing career with Baseball at Bridgewater State, we were at practice one day at the old field.

Curry This is good. I remember that.

Morwick Somewhere we came across a ...

Curry I had a golf club ...

Morwick It was either a pitching wedge or ...

Curry A wedge.

Morwick A wedge. You had a wedge and a few golf balls. So Harry was conducting practice, and Phil is over here, kind of chipping. I said, "Phil, how far can you hit that anyway, that pitching wedge?" He says, "I could put it up to the Library." Well, it was the Library. Now it's the Art Center [*editor's note: the building housing the Art Department*]. It had to be a hundred and fifty, a hundred and seventy-five yards away. I said, "Phil, no way." Phil goes down, hits it. Puts it through the Library window. [Laughter] Harry's going, "What happened? What happened there?" [Laughter] He could hit a golf ball. Still can.

Int. So if we find a golf ball in the Archives I'll know where it came from.

Morwick You'll know where it came from.

Fee I think all of us come in to school as Freshmen, we have aspirations and they changed along [the way]. In high school – I came from a very strong high school football team. Chelsea, at that time -- my sophomore year we were rated Boston League Champs. We went to Florida, played Edison High, played against [unintelligible], you know Edison High, that sort of thing. Then our junior and senior year – I got hurt really bad both years. I missed half the seasons. That kind of screwed up a lot of my potential scholarships. About half the guys on the team were getting good scholarships. Big Ten, SEC, good schools. Ironically, my junior high school principal called me in. Took me out to lunch. And he said, "You've got to go to college." My brother and I. He talked my brother into applying for and going to West Point, which he did. I said, "I'm not going to the Academy." So he says, "Well, why don't you go to Bridgewater?" And I said, "Bridgewater? What's that?" He said, "It's the premiere teachers college in the state, maybe the country." I said, "Teacher?" And he said, "Yes. You go there and you graduate and you come back and I'll hire you as a teacher." I said, "That's a promise?" [Laughs] He says, "I'll groom you" and all this. I said, "Well, I don't know about that." So I go back and talk to my high school coach. "What's this Bridgewater thing? Do you know anything about Bridgewater?" He says, "Oh, yeah. I know Ed Swenson." They were the same generation. My coach, McCarthy, was an All-American from Niagara University up in New York. As a center. And he knew Swenson at Boston College about the same time frame. He says, "Ed wants to start football. It's probably a good place for you to go." He thought then that Swenson was going to pull off Football right away, in like 1958, '59. Not till '60.

I went down to the school, applied. Met Swenson, and [I] said, "This sounds pretty good." Swenson said, "You can play Soccer and then we can play Football later." The rest was history. But I never got into teaching. Somewhere along the line some of the veterans and some of our classmates considered, "Maybe the military is an option." One day – I don't know, we had a break – we went, I think, to Brockton, [to] the Air Force recruiter, about six of us. Of course, the recruiter is talking anything. He said, "No commitment, you guys. We'll set you up for testing." So we all run down a week later to Otis Air Force Base on the Cape and we take all these tests. Physical tests, mental tests, and all this stuff. And we all get called. "Hey, you guys passed with flying colors." [Laughter] "You can all get commissions." Well that sounded interesting. So you have a few beers and talk. Well, that's a whole new, different way of life. The Air Force is not a bad place to be, but in the Army or Marines, and maybe the Navy ... My brother was graduating from West Point the same year and I saw what he was going through. I said, "I can get commissioned the same time he can," and I got four years of a liberal education. [Laughs] Women. He had none. [Laughter] And I can be a Second Lieutenant just like him. So I said, I think I'll just go do that. And all six of us went in. And three of us ended up staying a full career. And all three who stayed made full Colonel, which was pretty darned good. Tells a lot

about Bridgewater. Harold Pray, Tommy Ruffini, [*editor's note: both Class of 1962*] and myself. And we all got to meet and know each other well over twenty-five years in the Air Force, in various places. We stayed in touch.

Curry Did you ever see any active duty at all, while you were in the Air Force?

Fee Oh, yes. All active duty.

Curry In Vietnam?

Fee I was in Korea.

Curry Korea.

Fee Tom and Harold were both in Vietnam. Tom lives in Texas today, San Antonio. Harold married a woman from Minnesota. Way up there, Duluth somewhere. He ended up going up there. Tommy married a woman from Wisconsin, but they live in Texas. Tom's older brother Jim graduated – you guys didn't know him – when I was a Freshman, he was a Senior. He was captain of the Soccer team. And he was a great football player for Plymouth High, but never had the chance to play at Bridgewater.

But things just change. I think it's probably true today. Kids today -- eighteen, nineteen years old going to school – may think they going to want to do something and things change along the way.

Int. It's always an interesting journey and I do appreciate you sharing all of yours with us today. Is there anything else you'd like to add about playing Baseball here or your time at Bridgewater?

Callahan It was a great time in my life.

Fee Yeah.

Callahan Those four years probably [were] the four most carefree, enjoyable years I have spent. Bridgewater itself – the climate at Bridgewater – was just fantastic. The people that I met here and have become friends with – true friends for life. That's what Bridgewater did for me.

Morwick The team sports were a bond for us and it's kept us going. Reunited us as well. So that's been terrific. I think we're all proud to know that – the conditions in which we played, the resources that we had -- the lack of resources I should say – and we look at what's happening today and what opportunities they have in a Division III school. It's just terrific. The physical facilities and the support they get, the size of the teams, the coaching that they get ...

Callahan The number of coaches.

Morwick ... number of coaches. It's just ... It's proud to be a part of the early part of this.

Fee You just think. If we didn't start that in 1960, if and when it would have started at all in the state college system. Clearly, University of Mass was not pushing for it. The other state colleges weren't pursuing anything like this at all.

Callahan Ed Swenson lasted two years, after we graduated, or [to Dave] one year after you graduated?

Int. As the coach of football? Just a couple more years before Mazzaferro [*editor's note: Peter Mazzaferro*] took over?

Morwick Just a couple more years. Maybe two or three more years.

Callahan If his window of opportunity to bring Football in was closed down, I don't think Football would have come in for a long time.

Dave Absolutely.

Callahan A long time. I think he was the spearhead of the state schools to start Football. People realized that what a morale-builder for a school Football really is. That's what's the draw, I think, for us guys to come back ...

Fee I think, potentially, it's still emerging, still changing. The University president [*editor's note: Dana Mohler-Faria*] was down in Washington last week, and my wife and I went to the reception, down at the Washington Press Club. I had a conversation with him and his strategic planning vice-president. We got into some of these issues in the era back here, what was going on, and I had mentioned ... He had given a fantastic presentation on [the] Past, Present and the Future – the growth and all the figures, the new Science Building, new programs, the student population profiles, the academic programs – it was incredible. And I complimented him on that, but I also said whereas the university is growing like that, and the athletic program has come a long way, but it's falling behind the other parts. And he asked me what I meant. I said, "Specifically, Swenson Field needs -- we need to hustle up and get those Visiting Stands built and they've got to get a locker room on the Field. And I don't see that in the [strategic] plan." He says, "The locker room is in the plan, but not funded yet." I said, "Well, it deserves some money. By the way, my class is pretty generous." You know, thanks to [unintelligible]. But we kind of had a little edgy moment there. But I said, "[Unintelligible name], we ought to keep pressure on him for more of that."

Then I [started feeling] my oats. I said, "We can go a little bit further than that, too." He said, "What do you mean?" "You've got an aviation program, right?" I

said, "I'm an Air Force guy. You ought to have a fly-by at Homecoming Day." He said, "Well, we did that at graduation."

Morwick The university is making every attempt to engage alumni. The way the state funding is, we're almost being turned into a state-supported school with the alumni contributing a great deal of the budget. If that's going to be the case, then the upper administration needs to listen to alumni.

Int. Right.

Fee Yes.

Int. Exactly.

Morwick So it's good that you want to voice your opinion.

Fee Well, some things you can do cheap. For example, you have to have a pep band. You've got students in there – you've got ten, twelve thousand students – you've got some musicians. You don't have to have uniforms. It doesn't have to be a marching band. They can just go at the edge of the stands there and get a good group of them together, and play some fight songs during time outs. That would be a great morale booster. A fan club. They'll volunteer to do that. That doesn't cost anything. [Laughs] I said, "Do that, and the fly-by" and we're coming along.

Int. Well, I look forward to a fly-by in the coming years. [Laughter] And a band to bring them on. Again let me thank you all for participating in our Oral History Program. It's been a delight, as always, to chat with you. Good luck tomorrow at the Homecoming Game.

Callahan Well, thank you for having us. It's enjoyable.

Int. Absolutely.

All Thank you.

Int. Thank you so much.