

Southern Vices Oral History Project
Florida Southern College

- by Dabney Satch'raiz , Class of 1947
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D Well in the day there went but ne.
class f' 47.

Yeah, uh, I was there from ' 44 to ' 47. I graduated in the

M

M Yeah.

D He was a Harvard graduate and probably one of the intellectual stars on the staff or here. [clears throat] Excuse me. But Mr. Fugitt and uh, this gentleman, I think that as far as the ...

M So, you only had three semesters here in the summer, so you probably just taken your four major classes.

D And then uh, the summer I was in Gainesville I took uh, two semesters of Florida history and two semesters of uh, speech and uh [clears throat] Excuse me. Uh, argumentation in debate.

M Hmm.

D So and I had, I think I had neither course, at Gainesville that I got credit for here to you know Social Science .

M Right. Did you live on campus?

D Yes, yes. Uh, they had been building the WWII for apartments right across the street from campus and I uh; I lived there the spring semester '53 then all of '53-'54.

M Where did you eat?

D Right across the street in a you know uh cafeteria, and then when uh, the financial uh situation warranted, went off campus.

M Uh huh.

D But you know, KFC or Pizza Hut or anything in those days

M But you did go into the town of Lakeland?

D Oh yeah. Oh yeah.

M What did you do in Lakeland?

D We went to movies and just you know walk around. But you know didn't have transportation, in fact, not many of the uh, guys or the gals that I knew had their own car. So and I think they had bus service, you know uh, but when Mr. tGP39(u)1(r) EMC P KICID 25 BD-0.004 Tc7Mimi dmpus.10kn Td(TjEMC 0 Td(Tjg10(Tj

D Oh yah, yah went Coa, f our se decades before the interstate and sif r th

M Right.Ok, so Mr. Szabo gave you a job here on campus, you were part of work study and you were assigned to do what?

D Well, that uh the end f the semester my first job as cleaning ut all the drms r apartments, later y ant to call them. And then I as prompted touh, ming. And this I think is an interesting story Dr. Spiey idently and epartment didnt spend er \$50.00 without his approval, but Dr. Spiey w ut f toward Frank Sabo purchased a tractor , a ming tractor. Yu know ding type f tractor. And he [moment presents hearing wd] surprised Dr. Spiey he gt back. And the morning the Dr. as expected back n the train, Frank had me , he said, Y u god n there and m the front lawn ." Which as Dr. Spiey pride and joy know chuckles] and

[sigh] I don't think, I didn't see any checks, I think it was primarily uh room and board and I was uh, stuck in ROTC. I had completed two years of ROTC at the University of Florida, the basic course system, and then I came here in January I came over and sat with Colonel Dickinson, was the PMSMT. And he wanted me to go back and repeat the second semester of basic ROTC. But I didn't want to do that, so anyway at the end of the semester, uh I went over and sat with Colonel Dickinson again and I said, "You know I would like to get back in the program." And he had every reason to say I gave you a chance to come in and you didn't want to. Anyway he let me double up and take the two years of advance training in one year. And I was the last guy out at Bunt Hill, because the Department of Defense changed that regulation that summer. Saying that you could no longer double up, you had to go by yourself for four years.

[B1] Ok.

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D They had a ciny here

M Called Phi Delta

D Yeah. But it never materialized that they know I'm not even sure, I didn't keep up with them after I left here I'm not even sure that they applied. You know there is a process you go through.

M Oh yeah, we know about that.

D But I think the whole atmosphere here, you know the faculty was associated with, just there was an interest in each student I didn't see at the University of Florida. Of course, as I mentioned, I was doing everything but what I was sent there for. My father said one time, "Now get you in up there, now am I going to have to come up and get you out?" But no I think Frank Saboan and Colonel Dickens certainly were very influential in here I was going.

M Did you ever have any contact with President Spivey?

D [sighs] No not really. Just [chuckles] the episode with the stuck tractor in the front yard. We used to see him on campus you know, he was all over campus. And then was required chapel I think on Wednesday. Uh, for maybe like 11:00 to 12:00. Then somehow got appointed to chapel committee the last year I was here, '53-54. And uh, we were responsible for getting speakers, so you know I'm an Episcopalian, so I contacted the Episcopal rectory in downtown Lakeland and he came and spoke. I don't remember too many of the speakers, they had. But we had Dr. Bethune, was the funder of ...

D ... of Bethune -Ckman .

D Yes, she came over here, and I would say I remember she was the most well-known speaker that we had that year.

M Was that when Frank Lloyd Wright showed up that year?

D No I understand he came periodically and would walk around, but no incidentally he was a Clegg, I don't know where he went to college, but uh.

M Hmm. So, with the buildings being built here it generally impacted somebody uh, '54 let's see, Ordway would have been being built by '54, uh with Polk Science. Were they still building that in '54?

D Oh gosh, I draw a blank on that.

M Okay.

D Most of the, when I say you I don't know many of the girls over there in work study

M Sure.

Q but not if the guy that Frank had they were working in the construction. They didn't have all these esplanades like they do now. I think at that time, finishing these up probably was one of their top priorities.

A So, after construction was on the Esplanade in Polk Science it took them the longest to build because just the nature of it.

Q

Q In active duty . Uh, went through the military police office of basic and from there lead to Germany

A Right to Germany.

Q Yeah.

A And then you did your whole time there in Germany?

Q Yeah, 19 months and 3 weeks.

A [laughs]

from the Czech side , they were exchanging I dont want to say pri
personnel. And I had uh,

smers, but ~~we~~ were exchanging

Oh no I wish some of them ring and it was on Schuylkill River and uh, there's a road that parallels the river, I would take the bus and drop at the start and I would follow them all the way up to the finish line. Not to pick them up just to ...

5

D Well a fair amount.

M Was he, Doctor of, Szabo was Dean of the students, Counting Tolle was..

D Uh, Szabo was the Dean at that time.

M He wasn't?

D No no I think that as I don't know many years after I left. He was just, I don't know what his official title was, but he was just in charge of grounds and working students.

M It says here, you were elected to the Men's Council, what's that?

D Well, [chuckles]

M Looks like it's pretty important.

D Well, uh I'm not real sure. We met periodically but I'm not sure what our agenda was. Uh, ...

M Okay, because it says the voters made a wise choice, so it must have been something you must have been know about.

D Well yeah, young fella.

M [laughs]

D Just some odd ...

M yeah, these are the Phi Delt and their intramural volleyball.

D And I even got my ...

M Okay, here's your student committee for Chapel Program, there's your Episcopal choir, this is the choir bus. So, you wrote for the newspaper? So, how did you get the nickname "Satch"?

D Uh, [chuckles] I got that when I was at Orlando High School. Um, I managed the football team at OHS and I guess somebody thought that my derrière was a little ...

[End of tape, side one]

[Beginning of tape, side two]

D Thank goodness they dropped the second part and it just became Satch ...

M Uh, huh. Usually it is conjunction with somebody playing the trumpet, Satch O'Mouth, Satch..

D Well somebody said, I was the only white guy they ever heard of named Satch ...

M That's an interesting story, I see your Chauffeur's license here, and then this is your ID card, not a photo ID, but just a ID card. How would you attend any athletic events? How you were driving the bus half the time, but I mean like local events would you go to them?

④ Jack DeFreda ended up a Brigadier General, I think in the Army Reserve. But I ~~u~~ know I didn't keep in contact ~~wh~~ with him after that.

D Yeah, yah.

M Yeah, he was the campus photographer here for a long time.

D Oh.

M Sanborn, Harold Sanborn. Yeah, if you look through any of the newspapers, you'll see where it often says photo by Wille here, it often says photo by Sanborn.

D Not this when I took them to Pennsylvania.

M This was the Tc 0 Twt(t)-12(h)-7(e)1()TJ -0.003 Tc 0.003 Tw 5.228 0 Td [(k11(w)-N0 Td (,)Tj o1xc 0 Tw)-

County is still kind of redneck, but as far as campus was concerned, I think most of the kitchen help in the cafeteria was black, I don't think at that time the minority population in Lakeland was real high.

Q Now was Miss [redacted] very well received when she was here?

A Oh absolutely absolutely

Q Did they have any other African Americans who came to see her from the community at the same time?

A I couldn't answer.

Q

D I'd say for receptions and so forth. But no I'd think most of the dances you know would be in the cafeteria. And some of the sororities and all the fraternities might have a function at the house, but that's any kind of initiation only. But the Pikes here uh, had initiated me to be an honor member.

M Hmm...

D So I don't know a fair amount of their functions.

D Now we know that Florida Southern College is a Methodist School and there's no alcohol where were the places that you would ever do it or go to those places, but where were some of the places that students would like to go to get away from? Davis: Hmm (301) 468.207 0 Td (N) (C), Tj5 0 (C) fur-1 (i) 0.1

B Did you ever hear about anybody ever going to Scott Lake course back then, all it is now is housing developments and stuff like that. Before it use to kind of be the place where a lot of people could go and have parties and stuff.

B Well uh, no that desnt ring a bell.

B Okay. Well, what about experiences hitchhiking did you ever hitchhike much? Oh, say hitchhike from Orlando to Lakeland?

B No no I hitched hike one time, uh it must have been the second summer that I was at Gainesville. They use to have house parties, with the week the high schools let out. Everybody would head to Daytona. In those days they had high school fraternities and sororities and they different groups would rent a house and of course uh, the gals would have two or three parents chaperoning us and so forth. I think one time I hitched hike over from Orlando over to Daytona. But I could usually get a ride with somebody. And I didnt get a car of my own until I had finished out the basic at Fort [Coughs] excuse me, Gordo. And uh, in October 54, I bought a car in Augusta and then when I got orders to Germany officers and senior non-coms the government would transport your vehicle over there, so ...

B That's nice Kind of expensive

