

Hammon-

Good afternoon, this is Sweet Jane Hammon interviewing Gaylord 'Smitty' Smith for HCOM 350s. Um, Gaylord is in Prunedale California right now, and I am recording out of Aptos California. We are currently separated because of the Covid19 shelter in place orders, although I wish that we were in person. And just to get it on recording, you do consent to me doing this interview?

Smitty-

I do

Hammon-

Alright awesome, you have a very cute dog right behind you.

Smitty- Oh, you can see him?

Hammon- Yeah like a little retriever. Very nice.

Smitty- He's a mutt, okay ah

Hammon- It's okay. Mutts are the best types of dogs honestly. Okay so let's begin this interview. Um. First and foremost, can you tell me about your name, and any meaning that you know behind it?

Smitty-

No, um. Well, uh, my name is Gaylord and um, my parents gave me that name because un they ah. Well they were children of the depression and it sounded rich to them. It is not a family name so they wanted, they were hoping that my name would make me rich. And uh, I guess in comparison to the Great Depression it worked, I am relatively well off uh I own a house. But uh, all the rest of my siblings got family names.

Hammon- Can you please tell me a bit about where you grew up?

Smitty- **(2:30)**

Oh a lot of places. I was born in Louisiana, in a sulfur mining town, south of New Orleans. And so uh, both of my parents had worked for that sulfur company. My dad did. I don't remember it very well. The, um, but a little bit. Then we lived in New Orleans in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Um, my dad was an accountant. He ended up doing graduate work in Louisiana State University, and uh as a part time instructor there he was, *cough*, very different from now he was able to build a house, uh on his salary so he did build a house. And, uh I lived there, uh second and third grade. It was kind of an area with a lot of swamps. There were very few kids. We moved around a lot so, anyhow uh in 1950 when I was eleven we moved to New Mexico. My dad got a job as a professor at the University of

New Mexico.

And, uh, I grew up there. I am very grateful for the fact that my parents left the south. Otherwise I might be a lot like my cousins **(3:41)** as in being extremely racist and being conservative but um, so, um, I grew up in Albuquerque. First in a kind of an addition on the edge of town. Suburbs were sort of in town now more or less but at that time Albuquerque was small and um so it was a subdivision. I changed schools almost every year because the zones kept changing.

And, um and um, I was always studious, I was not a particularly athletic kid. Um, actually not athletic pretty much at all. I was big, and I was kind of a, well in those days I would have been called a brain. I was bookish and stuff like that. I had friends in the neighborhood my age, that I went to school with. I was like one of the last guys chosen on sports teams. Um, but I wouldn't say that I was unpopular or picked on because of that. I just wasn't like a very good baseball player. **(5:04)**

I went to highschool, I went to three different highschools. Well, if you can count uh, 9th grade as highschool, I went to four. *pause* I went to the end of my sophomore year, my dad got appointed state controller of New Mexico by our governor and we moved to Santa Fe. So my junior year I was in school in Santa Fe and that was a very different neighborhood than it was in Albuquerque. Santa Fe, was. We lived near the city center, I had a lot of hispanic friends there. Uh, and uh, I don't know it was a good experience. I identify with Santa Fe a lot in a way.

And um, then we moved to um, then I kinda realized that the Republicans were slandering the governor who was a democrat. And the governor is only elected for 2 years in a row at that time. And I began to realize that I thought the governor was going to lose the next election. Which would be in November, and that would be, if that happened that means in the middle of my senior year we would move back to Albuquerque so anyhow. I was working in a girl scout camp of all things. I was up in the mountains, I learned how to drive in order to take that job. My parents didn't want to teach me how to drive and, um, but they wanted me to work. And so I got this job, as a handyman at this girl scout camp. I was one of two guys that lived there, the other was the cook. Uh. But, uh, part of my job was to drive in the mountains, to drive down from the mountains to Santa Fe to pick up groceries for the camp, which they would order once or twice a week. And then I would drive a pick up truck down. **(7:30)** So I learned how to drive the weekend before I started my job. My dad took me out, and so, so. Anyhow.

Uh, so, that camp was an eye opener in a lot of ways because the director and the assistant director were uh, very openly lesbian. Uh and I, which you know, it was it was.

But anyhow, so on a weekend when I was not working that summer. Um, my parents took my brother, uhm, because my brother wasn't doing too well in school and he had some behavior problems, so they were going down to the New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell. Which is a military institute and so and I elected to go with them that weekend. And so we got shown around the military school. And I don't know, the uniforms and all that stuff. And of course they're making their sales pitch, I ended up

going to that military school and, rather than change schools my senior year. Indeed, the governor did lose, my dad did move back to Albuquerque, uh but, anyhow. That's what happened. I graduated from a military school, came back to Albuquerque.

Uh, I was in the freshmen dorms in the University of New Mexico, my. Where I went to school. **(9:02)** Uhm, the..my, after a year I got a job as a, well I started out pretty religious at that time too. So I thought I was gonna be a preacher. Uhm, and, so I belonged to, in highschool and in college, I belonged to um, ah church groups and stuff like that. Anyhow, I graduated in three years, uhm, including two summers. So in two summers and three years I graduated with a degree in Spanish. I think I was attracted to the spanish language because, there were, I was attracted to Latino guys in New Mexico, a lot of my friends were Latinos, and uhm, still am attracted to Latinos. Not to the complete exclusions, I mean to any other ethnicity but anyhow. So I think that led to my interest. I was hanging out with a lot of guys. I couldn't understand what they were saying to each other **(10:25)** because they often spoke spanish to each other. And so I began to pick it up a little bit, and then I majored in it. Turns out I kinda have a knack for languages and, uhm, the. So I got a job as a uhm.

I graduated. After graduation I went to graduate school at the University of New Mexico I got a fellowship, which paid a lot of money and I could live on it. And the, and but I got kind of sick of school. I did one year it was a doctoral program in Latin American studies, uhm I decided to drop out of that. I got a job for.. This would be around 1961, uh, I got a job for this company called Teaching Machines Incorporated and it was programmed learning. And it was a very interesting job. So they hired me without any references, I just went in there and told them that I had been a Spanish major and they sat me down to be writing a textbook, a programmed textbook for Spanish and so I did that. **(11:55)** It's a pretty neat job, I could do things like, uhm, it was considered work to go down to the rat lab or the pigeon lab and train pigeons. That was, the whole thing was 'teaching people is the same as training pigeons', as far as rats, as far as some uhm, behaviorism.

So it was run by psychologists, and so uhm. So they built a building, they had a swimming pool on the roof, you know. There was a lot of, they had uhm, we were going around, they had a subsidiary that made unicycles. There were about 80 employees, we'd ride unicycles up and down the hall. Uh, we called the president of th-, everybody went by their first name. The president of the company was, "hey Lloyd baby, how's it going?", ya know and stuff like that. Very egalitarian in some ways. And so uhm, well they didn't last that long, we all got laid off. About a, about a year.

In that year I had tried going to law school part time. That was not, didn't work out very well. I dropped out of law school, I had one semester with a couple of courses and working full time didn't allow me to.. The main thing you need about law school was getting into the bull sessions with other people from your classes. An, uhm, I just missed that, but anyhow. So, once I got laid off, I was.. It was.. Right at the end of the school year and the next school year was about to start **(13:50)** and.. Well. No.. That's summer actually. I got a summer job teaching Portuguese at the University of Oklahoma to PeaceCorps volunteers that were going into the first project to Brazil. So they were being

trained there. And that was a good experience

pauses Anyhow, I wanted to apply to graduate school, so I did. And, I'm applying by telegram. Basically to a different graduate school to see if I can get teaching assistantship or, it was really too late to apply for fellowship. So I was wanted at the University of Texas, though if you were New Mexican, Texas was kind of a bad place but actually Austin was great. I ended up going there and really liking Austin. Uhm, and this is from '62 to '64 I was there. It's like, Civil Rights movement I was involved in with. **(15:10)** I wasn't a real leader but I was involved. I had quite a number of black friends there as well as Latino friends. There were blacks in the University. Uhm, the city however was segregated so I was able to get in on desegregating restaurants, movie theatres and stuff like that. *pauses* It was.. Although... well we'll talk about my sexuality later.

But anyhow, so I got a masters in Spanish there, with a minor in Portuguese. And the summer between, because I was there for two years. And the summer between I was a park ranger at Carlsbad Caverns National Park. Uhm, that was a good experience too.

So as I was able to finish my master's, a recruiter came from the University of Puerto Rico. And the University of Puerto Rico, uhm, liked to hire people out from the University of Texas because a lot of other Universities, if they hired somebody with a master's in Spanish, that didn't mean they necessarily spoke Spanish very well. So I got a job teaching Western Civ. at the University of Puerto Rico **(16:40)** in Rio Piedras. And so basically I was the teaching class, some history, some philosophy, we read the Iliad. Uhm, we read some greek plays, we read.. Anyhow, it was.. And we had a history book, okay and so I was a teacher and so I wasn't completely independent. It was.. I was the only one in the classroom. The exams were compartmental exams so you would have to prepare people for those exams. Uh, and my spanish got quite good there, different from New Mexico spanish. Quite a bit, at first I had a hard time, uh, but once I caught on. Anyhow.

So Puerto Rico was wonderful it was also.. Well. My promiscuity level started out at Texas being moderate, but at Puerto Rico it became extreme. Uhm, the uhm, but I can explain that later. But let's continue the narrative, so I went in 19-. So I was there for a year. Puerto Rico is kinda like paradise. Uh, but uhm, as I say I was kinda studious and I was a nerd. Puerto Rico.. You had to- you had to. Everywhere in Puerto Rico if you're going to assign the book. Before you assign the book you have to test **(18:06)** your students on the book or they're not going to read it. Uh, at least that was the theory there. I mean it's such a pleasant place to live, it's warm, humid, there's lots of rum and partying and dancing. And uh, who wants to work very hard? So, um, I am still kind of a puritan in a way, believing in the work ethic and everything. I then decided I wanted to go back to graduate school.

And so I applied.. I wanted to go back to the University of Texas, but there was some kind of commotion going on in the department that they never answered my letters. And, uh, and I applied to Stanford only because my favorite professor at Texas was a guest professor at Stanford. And everybody thought he was going to be stolen

away from Texas, but Stanford doesn't have that much money. And, this professor had everything you could want as a professor, but anyhow. So he continued on in Texas and I became a graduate student at Stanford, which kind of had a second rate department of Spanish.

But anyhow, I was in Palo Alto. I arrived in '65, that's the beginning of the whole hippy movement. Uh, uhm I smoked my first joint in 1965 in the fall. I was interested, as I had been interested in Texas in integration but now the anti-war movement going on **(20:04)**. And integration, back in the times of integration, the federal government was on the side of protesters and the people doing sit-ins and stuff like that. The state government not so much, but the federal government you looked at as good. This is the federal government of Kennedy and the beginning of Lydon Johnson. In fact back at Texas I was expected to see Kenned. Kennedy was going to leave Dallas the day he was shot. He was coming to Austin. I was supposed to go see him, as he was, his motorcade was supposed to go right by the university. But getting back to Stanford, so I got involved in the Peace Movement.

So while I was a graduate student I also became the chairman of the San Mateo Freedom Party in 1967. We were trying to get the party on the ballot. To do that we had to have a certain percentage of the votes in California so in '67, that was the big thing registering voters to the Peace and Freedom party. And of course I was in a lot of demonstrations as well. And of course the Peace and Freedom party uh, uh did get put on the ballot, and was there for the 1968 election. When President Johnson decided not to run and Hubert Humphrey. I wouldn't vote for him because he refused to repudiate the war in Viet-Nam so Richard Nixon became the president. Because people who could have voted for Humphrey- Humphrey was pretty liberal but he was too loyal to Johnson.

But anyhow, that being said. I uh, joined a living group, I joined a fraternity. Called beta Chii at Stanford. Beta Chi was a regular fraternity at Stanford until about 1960. It was a part of Sigma Nu. Sigma Nu was a very racist national organization. And the Stanford chapter, uhm, recruited an Asian, and so this outraged the national organization. This. This is before I got there obviously, the Stanford chapter decided that they would fight to try and change the national organization so they tried to recruit other colleges to join with them, to change the rule on that. Only a couple did. The Sigma Nu at Berkley joined Stanford in that fight but the the- national prevailed, so they withdrew.

The local chapter at Stanford just withdrew and became an independent fraternity, and they got rid of things like blackballing people and they opened it up to everybody. It was maybe one of the free-er places I've lived. There were a number of gay guys, we- we. There were a couple of ass holes because we-, you could just join, there were no restrictions. People voting or blackballing, 'oh not this person', uh, we had a number of women. First off living with guys in the Frat house but then we began to admit women as members as well. Uh so uhm, there was a lot of drugs there, there was a lot of politics. Well I got to know Beta Chi because before I got to live there, Beta Chi would have these socials where they would invite the liberal or radical faculty to the fraternity and uh uhm, that had continued a little bit after I moved in. But anyhow, there was a lot of drugs, there was a lot of drug dealing in that house as well. And uh, I'm a

graduate student and I am doing reasonably well in my classes. *long pause of utters*

(24:59) It's the first place I really lived where I wasn't to some extent in the closet. I was not in the closet at Beta Chi, everybody knew who I was. Blah blah blah, that was very liberating. Of course before then some people knew, I just kept an official front. And I guess at Stanford I did too because it never became an issue with my teachers or in my classes or uh, my living situation. Well, I'm tryna.. Anyhow.

That was a very influential period of my life. So I rented a house out of east Palo Alto, I don't know if you know where that is. Uh, but at that time it was mostly black. And I was looking for, oh no, that was a little later. Excuse, no yeah, I'm out of order. Anyhow, oh no I'm not out of order, it has to be. Ah, okay, god, sorta my last year. And I moved out of Beta Chi and into this house, and uhm, Stanford I was on scholarships or rather fellowships, teaching assistantships or- stuff like that. I worked part time during the summer. Sometimes in the summer, or one or two years I worked part time as a Hasher. In the dorms. *stutters* Just ya know, playing the ropes of that University.

But that year I went, I wanted to find a place off campus. So I showed up at this house. It was a big house. It was a two story house with quite a few rooms. It was in very bad condition and the landlord met me there. At the same time another person showed up, she was uh, uhm a stri- stripper! And, um, neither of us could afford the rent, but we decided to rent it together. And so we rented out rooms to a number of different people. So that was also an experience, living in a black neighborhood. Knowing quite a few blacks. But also this sort of grungy, well she had a lot of her friends were hippies too, not academic hippies but they were a lot grungy-er than us. But still, a lot of dope was going on and so um.

One of the rooms we rented to was to this kid named Jack. Jack was from Rhode Island and he was a highschool student. And he went to Pacific Highschool which was up on Skyline boulevard, uhm above the Palo Alto area. And Pacific Highschool was a private.. Stoner school.. Ya know the kids would lay in the nude in the creek smoking dope and making ceramics and stuff like that. Jack's dad was an author, so I won't give you his full name, but he is fairly well known author living in Rhode Island. Anyhow, Jack was there and also living in that house was a woman who drove a school bus. She started in East Palo Alto and she'd drive and pick up students on the way to Pacific Highschool. So that summer, Monte, who's that stripper, and I discovered in the attic that Jack was storing several duffle bags of dynamite up there.

And so I wrote a letter to Jack telling him that he is not coming back to that house. And the Dean of Students at Stanford was a good friend of Jack's father. That Dean of Students was supposed to be looking after Jack, making sure that he was doing okay, and I knew that. So I went and gave a copy of the letter to the Dean of Students. So anyhow to make a long story short, because of that letter, the Dean of Students thought I would be good with kids. And uhm, he had a friend that was uhm, uh the director of the middle school portion of a private high school. **(30:08)** in Menlo Park called Menlo school. He recommended me for the job, and on the basis of that recommendation I was hired to teach French and Spanish. So I hadn't had very much French, so that summer before I started I *stutters* I audited at Stanford, a bunch of

french classes. A French Lit class, a French Phonetics class and an advanced French class. I wasn't trying to get the grade but I was trying to improve my French so I could teach the class.

So I taught French and Spanish at this private school, fairly elite. Much more elite now, compared to then. But a fairly elite boys school, where uhm, I was there for something 20 odd years. Most of the time, well the first ten years, the first ten years I only taught middle school. 7th and 8th grade, that was a great experience, the- I'm still close friends with a number of my ex-students. I go back every year and see some of them. And at that school I ran a scholarship program because it had no blacks whatsoever. Well, I guess they had one black football player, and so I talked to my boss and he said the president of the organization was a racist from the South, but he was retiring. So if I could find black students or other minority students who met the qualifications for admission that he could get them money for me. And so uhm, that started, it was informal. In other words, I would contact other schools, 'who are your top students?', I would give them uhm- invite them over to our school. Uhm, we had an admissions exam, uhm. They had to be close, to-. Anyhow, I'm pretty proud of that. That I started a whole chain of, uhm stuff.

That director of the school later retired, uh, and they they got a new guy in there who sorta dismantled the whole thing. In other words, I was not the admissions department. I was giving these test and finding these kids, most of whom were very successful in school. And of course we gave extra help at a private school. We gave lots of extra help. So this new head master, 'well, we'll study it', so they formed a commission to study it, and I became very unhappy because they were, rather than study it. Rather a number of minority kids dropped. Substantially, to almost nothing.

So I decided that I- uhm. Also because of the, it wasn't nearly as bad as it is now, there was no way- I lived on campus there, I started out with a small apartment. In a mansion, imagine, a room really. And then I worked up to some faculty housing. And uh, ya know, by the time I left I was living in a two bedroom, uhm normal but small house. Two bedroom house, with a kitchen and a living room and a little yard. On a little compound of other houses like it for faculty, and because of my seniority had gone up to where I could do that. But still, I'm renting on campus, it was great being on campus actually. Uhm, but you're not very private on campus.

Then, so-, I knew that I was never going to be able to afford a house in the Menlo Park, Palo Alto area, to buy a house. So I got into a graduate program part time at San Jose State to get my teaching credential, which I did. Once I had my teaching credential I began to apply to different public schools. To teach at a private school you usually didn't need a teaching credential, I certainly didn't have one.

I ended up in the Central Valley for a year, that job didn't work out very well, but the.. then I looked for another job, I ended up in Salinas. As a bilingual title I. Which is government, federal money for schools that are impacted with poverty. A title I bilingual remedial reading teacher. I set up a program where we targeted- mostly second graders and some third graders who were behind in reading. We brought in a lot of mentors. Some older people, some older students who were in the same school. Some people

from the-

What school do you go to?

Hammon- Uh, Cal State Monterey, it opened in 1995.

Smitty-

Yeah so I came to Salinas in 1996. We had a couple of service learning people from CSUMB. But not much because we were kind of far from there. Uh, because we were in North Salinas, but I did have a couple. And I was actually on an advisory board for CSUMB for a year or two on service learning. But, uh, that was, I don't know. I don't remember doing very much on that.

Uhm, and then uhm, I worked at that school until. *sighs* Around the year 2000, I retired. **(37:10)** at the age of 60. And the, or I was about to be 60. And the reason I retired is because I had gotten an inheritance from my dad which allowed me to buy my house. Which I did in '96. Oh did I say I came here in '95? I came to this area in '92. I bought my house in '96. And uhm, so I still had some left over- I inherited some stocks. Well the stock market in the late '90's was going through the roof. I thought I was rich so I decided to uh, retire and do some traveling. Which I did. I did a lot of the traveling, which I did- well, when I taught at Menlo, I spent two summers in Europe, traveling alone with a backpack and a Europass. Which was pretty neat, I didn't talk about that. Those, those- That was also...

But as an older adult I didn't want to go to Europe very much. I traveled to Latin America. I had been to Mexico several times also in the past. But I did a lot of traveling, I'd never been to Brazil. So I went to Brazil several times. For- uhm, I'd go on these 60 day excursions. There and travel around Brazil, anyhow. That went on for about three years and then the economy started crashing.

I went back to work at the same school district. Now as a bilingual coordinator for the district so it was more of a managerial job but I still had classes. And then I was there for 2-3 more years and then I retired again. Did some more traveling, then uhm in 2008, somewhere around there. The economy started to turn south again, I got another job starting in 2010 at another school in Salinas, as a migrant resource teacher. Working with the children of migrant workers, and I really liked that job. I did not want to quit it, but uhm the program ended for political reasons having nothing to do with me.

In the school district, there's a lot of politics involved in education. But anyhow, the job just ended and I was laid off. That was in 2012, so I have been retired ever since. So uhm I live in Prunedale. I have a house, I have a dog. I don't know, so that's sort of the outline of my life. So being 80 years old I sorta went on way too long. But it was pretty eventful.

Hammon-

That was amazing, uhm. I wrote down a ton of notes. So now I get to pick where to start with all of this. But I think that this was exactly what my Professor was looking for in terms of an opening question, 41 minutes of dialogue. That was amazing.

stutters to collect thoughts

So as an undergraduate who sees herself attempting law school in the near future, I am more curious to your experiences as a student and attempting law school after you were laid off.

Smitty-

I would say the law school was not center to my life at that time. It's uhm *coughs* I attended classes, uh I tried to keep up with the work. As I said I didn't go to the bull sessions and I was working full time for Teaching Machines Incorporated. So they allowed me to have a flexible schedule. But Teaching Machines Incorporated was much more important to me than law school.

So law school ya know. It became- I have some what. More of an understanding of the law than maybe lot of people do. That was a long time ago and it was not very important in my life. Had it been, I might be a lawyer, but I'm not.

Hammon - (41:51)

That's funny.

For monologue purposes we fast forward here:

Smitty- (01:28:00)

...and some of the kids, the late comers would be forced into a language. They're only 7th graders, what do they know? They would continue with their same group into 8th grade, and they would do all their classes in the day, they would be with that same group. They'd go classroom to classroom in their same group. But being such a small school, everybody knew everybody. And it was, uh. It was very informal, I was always called Smitty, never called uhm Mr. Smith.

The students were mostly from wealthy families. And uhm, sometimes from extremely wealthy families. Have you heard of the Pritzkers, do you know who they are?

Oh the Pritzker's owned the Hyatt chain of hotels. So I uh, I taught a couple of Pritzkers. And one I didn't teach but who went to that school for a year was the governor of Illinois (J.B. Pritzker) but the- anyhow.

And of course there were students- especially since I started doin-, there were students there on scholarship. And as I told you, I ran the program for kids on scholarship. We gave- and it was not just for black kids. Black and latino- and poor kids. Uh so, one of my-

One thing I remember was this kid. Was from a very interesting family. They lived in East Menlo Park, which is totally black. *cough* But it had been white. And of course as the blacks began to move in; the whites sold and left. But this family did not, they stayed. (01:30:08) Okay? So they lived there, when they bought their home it was a white neighborhood, and then it became a black neighborhood. They were still there.

And they were not wealthy. And they were extremely bright; uhm family did a lot of reading. And so I ended up recruiting their son and getting him a full scholarship to our school.

And so, I used to smoke in class. I was a chain smoker. Now I didn't smoke when I was actually teaching... uh, very often. Hm, maybe a little bit. Mostly, it would be when I would be giving tests, I would stand by the door and smoke a cigarette. And, anyhow, this kid. Hehehe, I uh- He. We're in class and I'm smoking in front of the class. And he stands up, "YOU CAN'T DO THAT!" and so uhm, I didn't do that. That was the last time I, uhm, ever smoked a cigarette in class. You know, and he's right. I shouldn't do that.

And so he- pretty brave kid.

Smitty- **(01:48: 20)**

One of my proudest moments..wow I don't know.

I graduated from the University of New Mexico with distinction. And we got really drunk that night and I kept going around, "I graduated with *distinction*". Emphasizing 'stink'.

Uhm, the um. It's hard to say. A lot of times when I see a student successful- I find out about a student's success. That makes me proud. Yeah I don't know. *Stutters* Yeah I think uh, we talk about what your purpose in life is. What your- you know, I don't believe I'm going to heaven and I don't believe I'm going to hell. I believe it just ends. So what is the meaning of life? The meaning of life is having uh- thanking other people-.

Oh wow a bird almost flew into my window.

The- uh- so you know, and that's part of being a teacher. That being, I know I have an effect, I know people I have an effect for. Uh, a couple of years ago, one of my former students, who ended up being recruited by the 49ers and he is now probably what, in his fifties. But he's an ex-49er and uh, he was from a very rich family. He was uh, his father was a professional football player. And so his father made sure his son became a great football player. Sent him to Menlo because the father could basically- Well the football coach at Menlo is a dope. But the father paid the salaries of these assistant coaches. And so the years he was there and the four years he was in high school he was also my student in spanish for several years. He was also my student as a freshman, he was my student in history.

And uh, he says that I'm the first teacher that showed him he was smart. He said that until he got me as a teacher- I was known as a hard ass teacher. And so, uh, he got an A- from me. And he had to work for it, whereas before he always got A's. He never had to do anything and the teachers would just pass him along. And so anyhow.

(01:51:29) .