

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Daryl Blacher Murray

COLLECTION: 4700.0687

IDENTIFICATION: McKinley High School graduate, Class of 1974

INTERVIEWER: Nadia Graves

PROJECT: McKinley High School Oral History Project - History of McKinley High

INTERVIEW DATE: July 25, 1995

FOCUS DATES: 1970s - 1990s

ABSTRACT:

Tape 1041, Side A

Introduction; Murray born in New Orleans in 1956 to Beverly and Harold Blacher, Senior; mother finished high school at McKinley, father at Capital High School; parents retired, father is now a minister; attended McKinley 1970-74; academics stressed at McKinley; importance of McKinley to her career in public service; elected offices she held included class president and student body president; voted most all-around athletic girl her senior year; Honor Society member; she was a quiet, shy student; role models at McKinley - Shirley Davis, Marty Wagner, Ava White, William Breda, and William Turner were; rivalry between McKinley and Capitol High School; popular hairstyles were afros and afro puffs; rule change let girls to wear pants to school; other fashions like miniskirts and rolled-up jeans; interest in politics started at McKinley; good memories of reviving the yearbook and graduating; being voted into class office and voted most popular made her humble; grateful for what she accomplished; skills learned from teacher Avis White in a Distributive Education class; went on to Southern University, majored in speech communications; caliber of McKinley grads has influenced Baton Rouge history and impacted political life of African Americans; changes at McKinley - no educational testing in the 70s, students are offered more academic choices now; advice for future graduates to build a strong foundation and maintain their self-confidence; she is impressed with the oral history project; she was always excited to come to McKinley and used to enjoy watching students there when she was a child; she's impressed with McKinley's basketball program; sports have always been integral to the school; many more sports options for girls today then in her time; conclusion.

TAPES: 1 (T1014)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 19 minutes

PAGES TRANSCRIPT: 12 pages

OTHER MATERIALS: Correspondence

RESTRICTIONS: None