

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW  
RICHARD A. BOYD  
FEBRUARY 28, 2017

Q. Good morning. My name is Kevin Haire. I'm at the Ohio State University Archives. It is February 28, 2017. And I am speaking by phone with Dick Boyd. Where are you, Mr. Boyd?

A. Now I'm back in Ohio, living in Rocky River.

Q. Okay. Let's get started. First of all, thank you for doing this. I'm looking forward to hearing your story. But tell me, let's begin by telling me your date of birth and where you were born?

A. Well, I'm an Ohioan. I was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in 1927, in Coshocton, Ohio.

Q. Oh okay. Now tell me a little bit about your family background. Did you grow up there? How big was your family? Given your age, you may have been the first person to go to college in your family.

A. I was and my dad was the editor of the Coshocton Tribune. So I grew up in a journalistic atmosphere. He and my mother had three children. I was the oldest. And I had one younger brother who became a hospital administrator, and then a younger sister who got involved with a couple of companies in technology.

Q. Wow.

A. My entire time was there. I graduated from Coshocton High School before I went into the Navy.

Q. Now, you went into the Navy before you got your undergraduate degree?

A. Yes. I went in right out of high school.

Q. Was this during the war?

A. It was just before the end of World War II.

Q. And you did your undergraduate where?

A. Right across town from you, at that famous university on the east side, Capital University.

Q. Capital University, okay. Yes, I know it well. I have family members who live in Bexley.

A. Oh really?

Q. Yeah, it's a great school. It's a great alternative to something big like this.

A. We can talk about it later, but I've been deeply involved with Capital as a long-time trustee and other things.

Q. Oh okay. But then you went on to get your Master's degree at Ohio State. Tell me about the transition. First of all, you got your undergraduate degree in what?

A. In Education

Q. And what did you want to be?

A. Well, even in college I aspired to become, to start teaching, and then become a school administrator.

Q. And so what did you do right after college? Did you teach?

A. Yeah, I did. This was right towards the end of so many school districts in Ohio, and they had a consolidation. And my first year I taught at Thornville, which is out on the eastern end of Buckeye Lake. But I was only there a year, and then went to Circleville to teach. And I delayed getting into school administration for a while because I had played college basketball for four years at Capital. So when I went to Circleville, I also was helping there as a basketball coach. But I was helping in football. But by then I got married to a gal who, when I was the senior basketball captain at Capital, she walked on campus as a

freshman cheerleader. We were married pretty close to where you're sitting right now. We were married at St. Stephens Episcopal Church there on the corner of High Street, just off the campus.

Q. Right. Oh yeah, it's still there.

A. Well, that's where we were married.

Q. Oh wow, okay. And that was after you graduated or after she graduated?

A. Well, I had been graduated a couple of years. And we were married before her senior year. So she was commuting from Circleville to Columbus, up to Capital.

Q. Now what subject were you teaching? And then you said you were also coaching at Circleville.

A. Well, I was a Political Science major at Capital. So when I was teaching there, and then later I taught History and Government.

Q. And what made you decide to go back for your Master's, and approximately when was that?

A. Well, it was almost immediately. I began pretty much in the summer after I left Thornville and went to Circleville. And I knew that I wanted, or I thought I eventually wanted to become a school administrator. And so I began that first summer. That summer I actually had an apartment there close to the Ohio State campus.

Q. Oh you did, why was that?

A. Then when we got married and we were living in Circleville, then I commuted the next couple of summers.

Q. Oh okay, I see. And you were getting your Master's in Education or in Physical Education? I assume in Education.

- A. No, it was just in Educational Administration.
- Q. Oh, okay.
- A. I would each morning get up in Circleville during the summer and drive early up to the Ohio State campus. My classes almost all were in Arps Hall. And I used to get up there and park my car and right almost across the street there, on High Street, was some little restaurant. I think maybe seated only a few. And I'd get a breakfast of, I think it cost me like 35 cents, 50 cents or something. And I've always remembered it because they had a little sign on the door that said, "Seating capacity 175, 22 at a time." But that was right on High Street, just across from Arps.
- Q. I would ask you about the difference between being on a small campus like Capital and a big campus like OSU. But in the summers it probably didn't feel like much of a difference.
- A. You know it really didn't. There was no, unlike a lot of people, I really had no campus experience at Ohio State. I had gone to football games there growing up, because my dad being a newspaper editor, he had access to tickets. So we could go over there as a kid growing up. So I knew that part of it. And while at Capital, I really attended lots of, because I wasn't a football player, I attended a lot of Ohio State games while I was at Capital. So I knew the campus really well. With my educational part of it, though, it was just get up in the morning, drive to Columbus, take my classes, get back in the car, and go back to Circleville, because in the meantime the city had asked me to be the City Recreation Director. And so I'd get back there about 1 o'clock, then work on through until about 9 o'clock at night.
- Q. Wow. How old were you then? That they asked you to be Recreation Director?

A. I was probably at that point 24 or 25, something like that. Being Recreation Director, there was nothing to do in the winter time. It was really mainly handling Little League baseball and that kind of stuff.

Q. Right, in the summer. Now how did you have time to do your school work?

A. Well, I've always been pretty rigorous that way, Kevlin. And so you know, you just work it out. When you get home at night, you get that part done. There were times, particularly that first year, when I was taking about three courses, living there in Columbus, and I don't even remember where I lived. But it was very close there to the campus. And so I'd spend a lot of time in the library at that point. And even in some of the other summers, I'd go to the library and get back to Circleville not before maybe 2:00-3:00.

Q. Wow. Now the reason we're having this interview actually, is because you donated some notes from a class you took in the summer of 1955 that was taught by Woody Hayes. So tell me how you ended up taking that class, when you're trying to get a degree in Educational Administration?

A. Okay. It really is an interesting story because I knew a lot about basketball. I had played in high school and college. And like most schools even then, and even today, even though I was the basketball coach, I also was an assistant football coach, one of four or five. And I didn't know much of anything about football. And yet I was helping with the junior varsity. And my advisor on the Ohio State campus was Dr. [Dan] Eikenberry, who was a renowned national professor in Educational Administration. And Kevlin, I even forget his first name now. But you'd find it quickly right there. That's who it was. A grand man. So when I went in to see him I said before I was completing I said, "Dr. Eikenberry, I've completed every one of the requirements for my degree in Educational Administration.

And I have one more course that's required, not by name, but I just needed one more course for the credits." And I told him my story about football and I said, "Would you even consider allowing me to do that, by taking Woody Hayes' football course in the summer?" And he jumped right on it. He said, "Sure, I would. I occasionally have lunch with Woody at the Faculty Club and he's a grand man." As you know, Kevlin, I think Woody was deeply interested in history and all that kind of stuff. So he said, "Yeah." So that's how it happened. I'm no football expert but I was doing it to help out in my job in Circleville. The thing that was so interesting about that summer was that, a lot of head football coaches across the country, big time, they did teach a course in football coaching in the summer time. And most of them, I think, in the four or five weeks of the course, I think most of them showed up like once a week or less. And they had some assistant coach actually do the coaching. Not Woody, because that's the way Woody was. He probably missed only a couple of classes the entire summer. And on one of those occasions, he had Bo Schembechler—one of his assistants—take his place. He had memorable quotes—football and non-football—and a few of them are in my notes. I've always been sort of a pack rat. So I just kept those notes around because I thought they were going to be interesting some day when I wrote my memoirs. So anyway, it was kind of a memorable summer. One thing I remember that I don't think I put in my notes, one day he got to talking about how great the Ohio State Band was. He said, "They're just the greatest." But there had been an incident, Kevlin, I don't know whether it was in a Bowl game or a game there at Ohio State, where there had been quite a downpour, but they still had he halftime show. And after he talked for a long time about how great they were, he

said, “But they don’t belong on the goddamn field after it’s rained.” And that was Woody.

Q. I never met the man but I can hear him saying that, just knowing everything I do about him. Now you told me in a previous conversation, that that wasn’t your only interaction with Coach Hayes.

A. Well, it wasn’t, but there was one other thing about those notes. The second time that my wife and I went back to Mississippi, we were in Oxford, where Old Miss (the University of Mississippi) is located. And we arrived almost at the same time as David Cutcliffe, who is now the coach at Duke, had arrived as the football coach. And he was just a grand man. He’s really turned the Duke program around. When the season was over, I thought, “I wonder if he would enjoy seeing these notes.” And I’m not one to bother somebody like that, but I stopped by the football office and talked to his secretary. And I said, “I just thought I’d leave these in case he’d like to see them.” Kevlin, I think I had been home maybe an hour and the phone rang and it was David Cutcliffe. And he said, “Dick, these things are remarkable notes. Would you care if I made a copy of them?” So I don’t know whether David still has a copy of Woody Hayes’ notes with him at Duke or not. But he was just fascinated. And perhaps Urban Meyer might be interested in them. The notes are filled with all kinds of drawings of split-T plays that comprised “3 yards and a cloud of dust.”

Q. They are very interesting.

A. Yeah. Another memorable contact I had—and I’ve written about it—occurred in Columbus a few years later. After finishing my Master’s degree work at Ohio State and teaching and coaching in Circleville, I was hired as the basketball coach at Warren

Harding High School in Warren, Ohio. It has always been an athletic powerhouse in football and for my first two years up there, one of my players was Paul Warfield, who is in the Football Hall of Fame. This is a long story but I'll tell it quickly. Each year, during the Thanksgiving break, I would take my basketball team and we'd go on a short two-day trip on the two days following Thanksgiving to scrimmage two other teams in different cities. This time, we went to Zanesville on the first day, then on to Columbus to scrimmage Columbus East on the second day. This was at the time of Ohio State's greatest teams—the Lucas-Havlicek and their teammates bunch—and I had known Fred Taylor, their coach. Fred was older than I, but he was from Zanesville and I from Coshocton, and both schools were in the Central Ohio League. I had played once against him. So before we made our trip, I called Fred, told him we were going to be in Columbus, and asked if I could bring my team to watch his team practice at Ohio State. And he said, "Sure, bring them on." And so we did on a Saturday morning. And I'm not sure how this happened but Woody heard that we were coming and he wanted to be there, because Paul Warfield was one of the top football recruits in the State of Ohio. And so Woody showed up at practice and I introduced Woody to Paul. They sat and talked a long while as we watched practice. And the follow-up was interesting. We were staying at a downtown hotel. When we arrived there, I was checking our party in at the desk and the woman who greeted me said, "Mr. Boyd, you just had a telephone call from Coach Hayes and he asked that you return his call." It just so happened that somehow I had told Woody how young Paul was and that he wouldn't be 17 until his birthday the next day. So I called Woody on the phone and he said, "Dick, I hope you wouldn't mind. I'd like to come down and have breakfast tomorrow with all of you if I could." So the next morning

he walks in with one of his assistant coaches carrying a birthday cake—which was about the last thing I wanted my players to eat before going on to scrimmage Columbus East. But anyway, it was kind of a remarkable weekend. And then, Kevlin, one last experience I had with Woody several years later. In 1990, I had become the Executive Director of the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation here in Cleveland. And one of the things we did was to conduct Saturday programs for teachers on several college campuses around the state. One of those campuses was Capital University. On the evening before every program, my wife and I always hosted a dinner for a few area school superintendents and their spouses and on that occasion I asked Woody to be a speaker. And, as always, he was very entertaining. So those were my experiences with Woody Hayes.

Q. Just as a follow-up note, Paul Warfield did come to Ohio State, correct?

A. He did, became All American, then played for the Cleveland Browns and Miami Dolphins. He really sparkled more in the pros than in the college ranks because he was an outstanding wide receiver and Woody Hayes was not a believer in the forward pass.

Q. That's what I thought. I should know that but I just wanted to make sure.

A. Kevlin, I don't know what your age is, but I'm constantly reading or hearing in the media about somebody who is touted was the greatest baseball or football player of all time. And their memory only goes back about 20 years or so. They don't remember those who played 30 and 40 years ago. Paul Warfield was a great, great athlete. He not only is he in the pro football Hall of Fame, but in track in high school he won state championships in the hurdles and the long jump. He was a talented baseball player and in basketball—the sport I coached him in—it was probably the sport in which he had the least talent.

Q. Definitely. Now you said you were teaching at Warren Harding then. This is after your Master degree. But you also say that you were superintendent at some point. So tell me how your career progressed after that?

A. Okay. Well, I wanted to go on and pursue a Doctorate.

Q. Okay.

A. And Dr. Eichenberry, my advisor at Ohio State, had told me, "I hope you'll do that here." But it's a long commute from Warren, Ohio to Columbus. So the University of Akron had just begun its doctoral program in education leadership a couple of years before and I began taking courses there toward that degree. Akron required a residency, which was not an easy thing for me to do because we had four children, three of them in school and one ready to start. So my wife went back to Kent State and got a second degree in Education and she kept us off welfare while I did my residency. When I received my doctorate I soon became Superintendent in Warren. And so I was there four years. Where are you from, Kevlin?

Q. I'm from Columbus. I'm from here.

A. Oh you are. Okay. Where did you go to school down there?

Q. I went to Worthington High School. That's where I grew up. I didn't go to OSU but I grew up here, went away, and I've been back for many years.

A. My wife's a graduate of Worthington High school!

Q. Oh she is?

A. She went freshman and sophomore at Columbus North, then junior and senior year at Worthington.

Q. She's a North High person as well; that's quite a group.

A. When they moved to Worthington and she was a cheerleader there. And then, when I was the senior basketball captain at Capital University, she walked onto the campus as a freshman and became a cheerleader there at Capital. But going back to my career, after four years as superintendent in Warren I was as the superintendent in Lakewood. Lakewood is a suburb of Cleveland. And I'm living now about eight minutes away from there right here in Rocky River. Lakewood is the first suburb on the lake as you drive out of Cleveland. I was Superintendent of School in Lakewood for nine years. It was always known as a great school system. And so those were my superintendencies in Ohio.

Q. Well then, tell me how in the world did you get to Mississippi?

A. Well, just kind of accidentally. I was loving it in Lakewood, but I had been there nine years and I really had the last year or so, began to look around, because there was sort of a sameness about keeping on there. And the person who was handling the search for a new state superintendent in Mississippi heard about me and asked me to apply.

Q. That's a big jump though, isn't it? I don't know a lot about educational administration but that seems like a huge jump.

A. Well, it is. And it's really the reason I did it because I've never been afraid of challenges. And if you can believe this, I took a cut in salary to do it.

Q. You didn't!

A. Yup, I went from being a local superintendent to taking a cut as a state superintendent. But keep in mind, Mississippi was the poorest state of the 50. And still is. And so teachers' salaries and everything else don't rank up near the top of our nation. But I just thought it would be a great experience, and it certain was, because you're one of a club of only 50 people, the 50 state superintendents. I stayed there 5 ½ years. When I was in

Lakewood, Kevlin, I had been on the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Advisory Committee, so the trustees knew me well and when they began looking for an Executive Director they approached me. At the time, we were the third largest foundation here in Cleveland—behind only the Cleveland Foundation and the Gund Foundation. And the Jennings Foundation is somewhat unusual in that its sole purpose is helping the field of education.

Q. What year was that? Give me a timeframe, just so we know.

A. That was 1990. And during my time there, we made four or five grants to the College of Education at The Ohio State University, particularly to support a program called Reading Recovery, for which Ohio State was renowned. The program was headed by Gay Su Pinnell, who became a good friend of mine.

Q. Yeah, I've heard of that.

A. So anyway, I stayed at the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation until came this remarkable day in April 1985, when a federal judge—Robert Krupansky—who had inherited the desegregation case from Judge [Frank] Battisti after he died. And Judge Krupansky had the case only a couple of months, during which he had become appalled at what he was seeing, when he told the Cleveland Board of Education on that April day, “You will no longer ever make a decision in this school district,” and he handed the school district to the state superintendent of education in Columbus. And the state superintendent was Ted Sanders, who was a close friend of mine. He called me and said, “Dick, is there any way that you would take this job?” I had great empathy for those kids in Cleveland because I had made several grants to their school system and I was on a blue-ribbon committee to help the Cleveland district. So I told Ted Sanders I'd think

about what he had asked and make a quick decision. One day later, I agreed to do it. So I stepped away from a job where I spent most of my days figuring out who to give money to, to taking over Cleveland, which was in desperate financial shape. But Kevlin, it's the greatest thing I ever did.

Q. What were some of your accomplishments?

A. They were \$150 million in debt with a \$500 million budget. And we got them out of that mess.

Q. Wow.

A. And coincidentally, Kevlin, just yesterday I mailed to the Western Reserve Historical Society a 100-page history I've just completed writing about my nearly three years in that Cleveland position. During my time there, I had a lot of help from the business community and foundations. And a number of times, some of those people said to me, "Dick, when this thing is over you need to write a book." And I said, "Yeah," and just sort of laughed that off. When I had agreed to lead the Cleveland schools, I said I would do it for 18 to 21 months. And I then stayed nearly three years. When I left, I took with me a whole box of documents, letters, court proceedings, newspaper clippings and those kinds of things. So a few years ago, back in Mississippi, I really did begin to sit down and write that history. For several reasons, I had to lay my writing aside but I've now completed the task and the Western Reserve Historical Society has a copy along with a handful of other people and organizations.

Q. So you inherited it sounds like a sinking ship, of \$150 million in debt. How did you get it straightened out, or at least to a point where you felt you could walk away in three years?

A. The school board just kept neglecting to put a levy on the ballot because I guess it would be—if you were to use a sports analogy—“Well, we’re never going to play that team because we never would beat them.” So they would never put a levy on the ballot because they knew the citizens wouldn’t approve it, even with the desperate financial straits they were in. But I learned to respect the power of a federal judge. Robert Krupansky was a no-nonsense judge and in one of the first meetings I had with him in his office he said, “Dick, you are going to put a levy on the ballot.” And because he had stripped the board of any authority I was, in effect, a dictator so I soon announced there was going to be a levy request on the ballot. We won that levy primarily because of the work of a man by the name of Arnold Pinkney. Arnold was a friend who in a long career had become renowned for his work on election campaigns, and when I asked him to run our levy campaign he agreed. He also had been a former member of the Cleveland Board of Education. He died a short time ago and, coincidentally, just an hour ago I read an article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer that there is a move afoot here to name a school after him. Our levy was for 14.5 mills, which is a huge number rarely seen. Usually, school districts go for three or four mills or so. And ours was for 14-plus. Arnold established a headquarters in a building on Euclid Avenue, downtown. Every morning I’d walk down to that place and say, “Arnold, where do I go today?” And he’d say, “Well, you’re going to go with Mary Rose Oakar,” who was a state representative. Well, I would go with Mary Rose and she’d take me to senior citizen homes and say, “Now listen you gals (most of them were gals). Dick’s a good guy and you need to pass this thing.” And then, for six or seven straight Sundays, Mickee and I skipped our own church and went to black churches on the east side. The Plain Dealer, even though they backed the levy,

didn't think we would win it. So that really got the Cleveland school district out of a terrible hole. Prior to that, I had to go to Columbus on two occasions to speak to legislative committees to borrow another "x" million. And their fondest hope was that Cleveland would somehow break off and float out to Lake Erie, and they wouldn't have to deal with them anymore.

Q. Right. That must be part of Cleveland's turnaround. It's not the perfect city but it's come a long way.

A. Kevlin, you're correct. We've been back two years now after living in Mississippi the last 18 years. The day after I left that Cleveland job, we got in our car and drove back to Mississippi, because the State Board of Education there had heard I was going to leave and they asked me to come back as state superintendent on an interim basis while they did a search. And then the University of Mississippi asked me to join the faculty there. But my wife began to develop Alzheimer's disease so we came back because we have two daughters and great medical facilities nearby. I'm just amazed at the progress Cleveland is making. It's a great place right now.

Q. Yeah, it is. Because from Columbus, we saw all of the news from Cleveland, when I was growing up in the 70's and 80's, it was never good. It was just never good.

A. No, they're making remarkable progress.

Q. Now when you went back to Mississippi, you were just going to go back on an interim basis, but you stayed.

A. Yeah. Old Miss, as it's called, had intimated to me earlier that someday they'd like to have me join the faculty there. And so, after we got back down there on the six-month appointment, the Dean of the School of Education came to see me and said, "We really

would like you to come up here.” But I only spent a couple of years doing that, teaching courses in School Administration. And then I moved on. A graduate of Ole Miss, Jim Barksdale, had been immensely successful in his business career. First with AT&T, then as COO of Federal Express, then CEO of Netscape. And when Netscape sold itself to AOL, Jim became quite wealthy.

Q. Wow.

A. And then, he and his wife immediately gave \$100 million to Old Miss to teach Mississippi kids to read better and I was asked to get that program started. That gift was the lead story on the Today show and on the front pages of the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and other media because colleges don’t just get \$100 million every day. So I told Jim I’d do it, but at my age I didn’t want to stay there forever. So we looked for somebody else. I ran lead the project for a couple of years or so and then agreed to help the person who replaced me. I actually stayed on there for another four or five years. Oxford, Mississippi is a marvelous place to live. It’s a college town. It keeps appearing almost every year in one or two magazines as being one of the best places in the country to live.

Q. So you would have stayed had your wife not gotten sick, do you think?

A. We would have. But Kevlin, a year ago this month, I placed her in an Alzheimer’s Care Center. She is only 15 minutes away and I take her out on a date every week. So things are going okay.

Q. Now did you ever think, when you went into Educational Administration, were you thinking of becoming a principal or a local superintendent? Did you imagine your career going as far as it did?

A. No way. You know, the usual route. Nobody just walks out of Ohio State and then becomes a superintendent. Way back when, in the '40s and '50s, some did because you probably wouldn't be aware of this, but before school district consolidation took place in Ohio, Kevlin, in the late '50s, Ohio had about 3,000 school districts. And now they have 600. Back then, every little community was its own district and its high school might have 50 or 60 students. So in many cases, you could leave Ohio State with your degree and go straight out and lead one of those tiny districts. That all changed in the late '50s when four or five of those districts would be combined into one. But to get back to your question, I just assumed I'd be a principal for a while, then become a superintendent.

Q. And you did. It was just pretty much the highest level.

A. Yeah.

Q. Do you have any regrets of your career?

A. Really none. I've been lucky and I've had a great life. I've known and worked with a number of prominent people at the local, state and federal levels and I've been involved in some noteworthy recognized accomplishments. I've been fortunate not to have encountered any bad turns in my professional life. The last thing in the world I needed was to take on Cleveland. But it turned out being about the best thing I ever did.

Q. Tell me when you retired, because you also worked after you retired. But when was that, that you retired? And what else have you been doing?

A. Yeah, that's hard to pin down. I had gotten back to Mississippi and hadn't anymore gotten back there when I attended a dinner meeting that the State Department of Education had already scheduled with a speaker coming in from Washington, who I knew. And so I went. And he said, "Before I start I want to tell you folks that all of Dick

Boyd's colleagues around the country will tell you he has flunked retirement." And that was true. I really, Kevlin, kept doing things. I had done a lot of things for the federal government. I chaired the National Assessment Governing Board. And then after I had done that, I was asked to be one of five former state superintendents who were asked each year to visit 10 of the current state superintendents. And one of my 10 states was always Ohio. So I would always fly up to Columbus and visit with the State Superintendent there in Columbus. So I just kept doing things. In a way I still do. I've been making some lectures here at The Normandy, which is a very nice senior retirement facility. I'm now about four months away from age 90 now. I think your last question was whether I had any connection to OSU. But before I answer that, I mentioned earlier in this interview that both my wife and I are graduates of Capital University, and about three years ago I finished 16 years as a trustee at Capital. So I was flying up constantly from Mississippi. And I chaired their Academic Affairs committee for several years. Now to answer your question about whether or not I have a current connection with Ohio State. Only one, Kevlin. Many years ago, I was inducted into the Ohio State College of Education Hall of Fame and now that I'm back in Ohio I'll be attending their annual induction ceremonies. I plan to go to the upcoming event in April.

Q. Well, that's a pretty big connection, to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

A. I was pleased with that.

Q. Congratulations. That is really fantastic. Do you have any other thoughts or recollections you'd like to share?

A. Kevlin, I don't think so. You're a wonderful interviewer. When I went to Mississippi, I couldn't go to any town to do anything, that the local TV and radio or newspaper didn't

show up. So I've run into bad interviewers and good interviewers. But you're very skilled. How long have you been doing this?

Q. Well, I've been here at the Archives for 10 years. But I'm a former journalist. So my background is to interview people. And thank you for that compliment; that's very nice.

A. Where did you do that?

Q. Oh, lots of different places. I started out in Florida, went to Baltimore, came back to Columbus. But a lot of people in journalism get burned out. And so I switched careers in the early 2000s. But I like doing this. I get to learn peoples' stories.

A. Yeah. And you've triggered a thought. Growing up, with my dad as a newspaper editor, and even in 8<sup>th</sup> grade or so, he sometimes would have me write a junior high school basketball game story. And then one summer between my junior and senior year at Capital, I worked there as a reporter. I love to write and still do. But if there's one thing I learned, the only profession that paid less than education was journalism. I don't need to tell you that. It's not always been highly paid. But my years at Capital, for two years I was editor of the school newspaper there. And I made a handful of dollars, and boy it was a handful. For The Dispatch and The Citizen and The Journal, I would on Friday nights go somewhere around Columbus and cover a high school football game. Even did it in basketball because most of our games at Capital were on Saturday. So I'd leave there and take the bus downtown to whichever of those three newspapers and write my story and get back to Capital about midnight, all of it by bus.

Q. And it really was probably just a handful of dollars, if that.

A. Five dollars maybe, which I don't know what that's worth now. So anyway, I had serious intentions, and I'm still a newspaper junkie.

Q. Yeah, so am I. I think you're a good story teller. So that would have been a good career for you too.

A. Where are your Archives housed?

Q. We're on Kenny Road between Lane and Ackerman. We're on the west campus.

A. Okay. I know about right where that is.

Q. So we're out here.

A. Well, good. Kevlin, you've done a beautiful job of handling all this. I commend you. I never knew quite what to do with these Woody Hayes notes. It turns out, there's a fellow, when I came back, who is well known here in Rocky River. He's the city attorney. Andy Bemer. And I've found that he is gung ho Ohio State sports fan and the president of the Cleveland Ohio State Alumni Club. And did that name come through when you were getting these papers?

Q. Oh yeah.

A. He asked me to go to lunch because he somehow remembered from years ago, that he and I had run into each other and he learned that I had these notes. We went to lunch, which lasted over two hours. He said, "Dick, what would you think of me taking those to Columbus? I know lots of people down there now in sports." So that's how you ended up with them.

Q. Right. He's how I contacted you, because the current Alumni Association Director, Jim Smith, he just was hired within the last year, I think Andy had been in contact with him. And so he gave Andy, when he was down here, gave them to Jim. And Jim knows about us because my boss has a column in the Alumni Magazine, etc. etc. And so he went them over to us. And we are truly excited about them, because they're very interesting. We

have Woody Hayes' collection but we only have like one of his playbooks. So this is a great way to see kind of how he thought. It's a great artifact. We're so glad to have it.

A. And that's interesting that you have that, because with my stuff you've got his playbook. And now you've got a recipient. That's interesting. I hadn't thought of that. And so they're just available to people then?

Q. Right. We now have these online. Now a lot of our collections, we call them finding aids, but they're kind of inventories of what's in our collections, we're posting more and more of them online. We're trying to get everything online. Not the actual collection but the lists. And so people can find them and say, "Hey, I'd like to either come visit, or can you look at something for me," to see if they're doing research, or if they're looking for a family member, or if they are just interested in a topic. We're open to the public, even though we're just related to OSU. So we get a lot of interest in Woody Hayes and in football in general, as you can imagine.

A. Sure. And so if somebody wanted to listen to this interview, they would need to come to campus?

Q. No, let me turn this off and I'll tell you the particulars. How about that? But I just want to thank you on record for doing this. I appreciate it.