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I went strictly to the high school department. I was at Swift from 1941 to 1945, and now keep in mind that I was a youngster really when I was at Swift and that I had lived there for five years from '36 to '41 because my father was President. So, I was there as a youngster attending Price Public here and then, from there to Swift.

Well, primarily I remember more of the sports activities a youngster, rather than the football games and that type of activity. However, as a student, obviously I was there as a full-time student as a boarding student on campus. Both times I was living on campus.

Oh, no. I was I was a model student. Seriously, I'm living there, and I'm also changed from living there to living there as a student. So, it was nearly eight straight years at Swift as a student and... That was my home.

What it was is that Swift was Swift Memorial Junior College. The high school department of the College, so he was President of the overall activity. My father came to Swift in, I believe, 1926 as Head of the Department of Education. He was there under Dr. Tucker, who was then President. So, my father stayed at Swift in the Department of Education from '26 to '36. He assumed the presidency in '36 and was there 4 or 5 years to '41. I really didn't feel the responsibility in that sense because the new president, Dr. Lee, had been under, with my father in the meantime, under Dr. Tucker. and at the same time, Roberta Lee, who was the daughter of Dr. Lee, and I were students at the same time. So, I didn't feel any undue responsibility for that fact, but obviously my father was, I mean, he was an influence while I was at Swift, obviously.

He was a Presbyterian minister and served a number of parishes in Kentucky and in Tennessee, but most recently in Dandridge, Tennessee, where he served – I think – Straw Plains, New Market, and Dandridge at the same time. I'm not aware of how he and Dr. Tucker became acquainted, but I do know that at that time, he went to Rogersville in '26.

The main thing, of course we were in a boarding complex, which meant that we had meals. We went to class, lunch, class. So, your day was already influenced with everything that was in a boarding school environment. At the same time, a number of youngsters from Rogersville itself, were day students. So, they were with us from say 8:00 to 5:00, and we were there 24/7 as a student, boarding student. Well, keep in mind, as a boarding school, you're there 24/7. So, you're eating with the same people for literally nine months out of the year. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner. So, you get to know them. And of course, we had the devotional services in the morning, and you had the devotional services sometime in the evening, Sunday services. So, you're seeing the people all the time, and at that time we had zero dancing. The point I'm trying to make is that the recreation was strictly on campus, and what we did... We saw everybody, every day, basically all the time.

Basically, Swift had a very, we like to say, a very good football team. I played to my senior year, and again only because, if you remember, that was '44/'45, the time of the war. So, all of the larger men

were out there... in the army or in the military. So, I think one of the chief recreational outlets would be softball, football for male students, and the young women did not have a basketball team at that time.

Well, at the time I was there, people were leaving for the war rather than returning. And maybe my senior year in high school, we had a number of persons return. but basically, the main impact the war had on us: limited food or limited menu. And it is rumored that we had horse meat, but I don't believe that was the case. That was the story, but that's where we noticed it. And of course, [there] were limited activities, as far as the war was concerned, we could or could not do.

No, I don't remember favorite meals as such, but again, keep in mind that even on Saturdays and Sundays, we were still in limited areas. But food is the one thing I remember that were restrictions during the war.

I graduated in '45. You know, at the time of desegregation, I had finished college and was working at the time. So, I can't I can't react to how it... but I know that at Swift, of course, was concerned because at that time, as you all know, Swift was sponsored, was funded, almost entirely by the Presbyterian Church. At the time of desegregation, the Presbyterian Church withdrew its support from Swift, and therefore Swift had to be funded through local sources, and as a result, did not last too long after desegregation.

Swift served as a feeder school for Johnson C. Smith and Charlotte. Those were Presbyterian schools. Now, the reason I mentioned it is – I also went to JC Smith – but the point is, a number of our faculty members came from JC Smith. So, I remember those because they were Smith people as a result. And if you say, “Which faculty members did?” I remember more the football coaches than I do the actual faculty members as such. You can see I was sports-oriented for the time.

Well, again, the name you're going to hear so many times is gonna be Kyle Patten. He would be able to kick the ball from one endzone the other endzone. But in all fairness, Swift played other junior colleges –Friendship, Clapton – and also played a number of... Morristown Junior College, and played a few of the senior, the four-year schools, such as Blue Field State and some others. And it had a reasonable record, at the same time, because of the war, Swift started playing schools like Austin High. they would play the – Langston High – some of the high schools, as well as the colleges.

Morristown. Morristown was the game, and that was the game both in basketball and football. Even though Swift did not have a formal basketball team, we still engaged them in basketball, softball, and football. The idea was to beat them. I mean, I think that was the always the idea, but that was the outstanding rivalry. And as I've said Morristown was a junior college, Swift was a junior college... that you had that continuing rivalry. Swift was sponsored, was funded, by the Presbyterian Church. So, you had the influence of the Church in just about everything we did in terms of school activities. I mentioned a matter of a worship service in the morning, worship service in the evening, Sunday evening services. So, that was the major influence of what happened at Swift throughout the day, throughout the week, throughout the year. The strong point of Swift was that, because it was a junior college, it meant that it had faculty that usually had the Master's degree or better. So, therefore, the people in the high school department were therefore taught by the persons who were of a different caliber than the usual high school. So, the impact was more on the high school students than it was on the junior college students because you would expect junior college people to be schooled by Master's or Doctorates. But high school students don't usually get that opportunity, and as a result, a number of Swiftites went on to the grad, to four-year colleges, and other schools, and then made outstanding records.