

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Elouise Bethly Paulfrey

COLLECTION: 4700.0618

IDENTIFICATION: McKinley High School graduate, class of 1956

INTERVIEWER: Carmen Posey

SERIES: McKinley High School Oral History Project – History of McKinley High School

INTERVIEW DATE: June 13, 1995

FOCUS DATES: 1950s

ABSTRACT:

Tape 902, Side A

Paulfrey was born in Woodville, Mississippi, in March, 1938; parents' names and educational level; mother was a housewife, father worked at Exxon; Paulfrey now teaches elementary school in East Baton Rouge Parish; attended Perkins Road Elementary, then McKinley Junior and Senior; attended McKinley from 1950 through 1956; describes typical day; academics were paramount at McKinley; sports were important, especially basketball and football; participated in student council and chorus, played clarinet in band; was average student; describes 1950s fashions and hairstyles; rivalry with Capitol High School; all of her teachers were role models; tricking J.D. Young to take her to event at Capitol High; attended Southern University after McKinley; lived in Chicago for fourteen years; McKinley produced the pillars of the community; many McKinley graduates participated in late '50s lunch counter sit-in at Kress; McKinley is different today because it's integrated and because they're on the third structure and location; names the three locations; McKinley population has increased; students used to be closer to teachers, like friends or family; is optimistic about changes at McKinley; would like to see more student pride and spirit at McKinley; wishes McKinley could retain its best athletes, and that neighborhood students had a choice to attend McKinley; high school was her best time; enjoyed studying with her friends; everybody at McKinley was like one big family; urges current McKinley graduates to have pride, self-respect and stand up for their beliefs; has high hopes for oral history project; her son Terrance Paulfrey wanted to leave Chicago to attend McKinley based on her stories; he graduated from McKinley in 1977, was homecoming king; recommends other people to interview.

TAPE: 1 (T902)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 13 minutes

PAGES TRANSCRIPT: 10 pages

OTHER MATERIALS: Interviewer's Notes and Words List; Interview Index;
Correspondence

RESTRICTIONS: None