

Transcript for Centennial Conversations Podcast #2

1

00:00:05,780 --> 00:00:08,480

Dana Young (DY): Welcome back to Centennial Conversations, a series

2

00:00:08,480 --> 00:00:11,360

of podcasts about the first 100 years of Gavilan

3

00:00:11,360 --> 00:00:14,720

College. I'm Dana Young, one of your librarians

4

00:00:15,110 --> 00:00:17,660

here at Gavilan, and we're here once again with

5

00:00:17,660 --> 00:00:21,350

Leah Halper, who has recently written and updated

6

00:00:21,350 --> 00:00:24,470

a history of Gavilan College. Leah Halper (LH): Thanks for having

7

00:00:24,470 --> 00:00:28,280

me. DY: Thanks for coming and talking about your work.

8

00:00:29,120 --> 00:00:32,000

Last time we talked about San Benito Junior College

9

00:00:32,780 --> 00:00:35,750

coming into being as the First World War was

10

00:00:35,750 --> 00:00:40,310
ending, and students staying nearby to attend,

11
00:00:40,580 --> 00:00:43,640
having the opportunity to stay nearby, to attend

12
00:00:43,640 --> 00:00:47,180
college instead of going to San Jose. How

13
00:00:47,180 --> 00:00:50,120
successful was the early San Benito Junior College?

14
00:00:50,450 --> 00:00:53,540
LH: It was a huge success and that's in the context of

15
00:00:53,540 --> 00:00:57,590
this resounding success in general for junior

16
00:00:57,590 --> 00:01:01,310
colleges in California. By 1936, there were 42

17
00:01:01,310 --> 00:01:03,440
public junior colleges in California. California

18
00:01:03,440 --> 00:01:06,740
took the lead and it's never really given it back

19
00:01:06,740 --> 00:01:10,430
to anybody, we have the most, but enrollments

20
00:01:10,610 --> 00:01:13,490
routinely doubled in the 20s. The 20s were a

21

00:01:13,490 --> 00:01:17,630
prosperous period here and other places, and by

22
00:01:17,630 --> 00:01:22,730
1930, there were 198 students in the college. It

23
00:01:22,730 --> 00:01:28,180
was it was big. DY: Wow. Who came to the college?

24
00:01:28,840 --> 00:01:31,300
LH: That's an interesting question, there has a lot of

25
00:01:31,300 --> 00:01:34,660
different answers. I think one answer that I need

26
00:01:34,660 --> 00:01:38,980
to give first is that amazingly, and this this just

27
00:01:38,980 --> 00:01:41,440
blew me away when I was reading about it. The

28
00:01:41,440 --> 00:01:44,410
college had an excellent reputation during the

29
00:01:44,410 --> 00:01:49,060
1920s. So excellent that a federal official at the

30
00:01:49,060 --> 00:01:52,540
Washington, D.C. Bureau of Education recommended

31
00:01:52,540 --> 00:01:54,580
it as one of the top junior colleges in the

32

00:01:54,580 --> 00:01:57,760
country, and so people from all over California

33
00:01:58,060 --> 00:02:00,580
came to San Benito Junior College. There were

34
00:02:01,150 --> 00:02:04,120
people, 10 students from San Fernando Valley, a

35
00:02:04,120 --> 00:02:06,580
principal at the high school there, wrote and said,

36
00:02:06,580 --> 00:02:08,170
I have 10 students. Would you send them

37
00:02:08,170 --> 00:02:10,780
applications? And presumably they came. I mean,

38
00:02:10,780 --> 00:02:13,360
people were coming from all over. So the college

39
00:02:13,360 --> 00:02:16,570
drew from other places because it had an excellent

40
00:02:16,570 --> 00:02:18,670
academic reputation, which I think is really

41
00:02:18,670 --> 00:02:21,940
important for people to know because that never

42
00:02:22,210 --> 00:02:24,820
was lost completely. There were better and worse

43

00:02:25,000 --> 00:02:27,340
times academically for this college. But that

44
00:02:27,580 --> 00:02:31,090
initial push to really do an excellent job with

45
00:02:31,090 --> 00:02:33,970
teaching and learning never, never went away. So

46
00:02:33,970 --> 00:02:37,570
so we had students from lots of places. You know,

47
00:02:37,570 --> 00:02:40,060
the list is, you know, San Francisco, Watsonville,

48
00:02:40,060 --> 00:02:42,160
Oakland, Berkeley, Monterey, they came from all

49
00:02:42,160 --> 00:02:46,060
over, but we don't really have enrollment figures,

50
00:02:46,060 --> 00:02:49,030
so we don't know exactly who came. We have some

51
00:02:49,030 --> 00:02:53,470
yearbooks and we have a list from 1957 of the

52
00:02:53,470 --> 00:02:55,840
graduates from each class. So we have the

53
00:02:55,840 --> 00:02:59,590
graduating classes, and we can look at last names

54

00:02:59,590 --> 00:03:01,600
and, you know, make some guesses, more or less,

55
00:03:01,600 --> 00:03:04,630
although that doesn't tell us everything. Mostly

56
00:03:04,630 --> 00:03:07,330
they seem to be northern European, German, Irish.

57
00:03:07,540 --> 00:03:11,170
There were Croatians, Anglo Americans. There were

58
00:03:11,350 --> 00:03:16,210
a smattering of Italians, Portuguese, a few

59
00:03:16,240 --> 00:03:19,990
Hispanic students by surname. We also know that

60
00:03:19,990 --> 00:03:24,070
more women graduated than men. We don't know about

61
00:03:24,070 --> 00:03:26,470
enrollments, but we know more women graduated,

62
00:03:26,470 --> 00:03:29,710
which fits a pattern in higher education in the

63
00:03:29,710 --> 00:03:31,810
20th century, especially the earliest twentieth

64
00:03:31,810 --> 00:03:35,230
century. The minute any college admitted women,

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00:03:35,470 --> 00:03:39,370
women rose to the top academically and UC Berkeley

66
00:03:39,370 --> 00:03:41,800
actually saw this as a problem more than 100 years

67
00:03:41,800 --> 00:03:44,650
ago, and, you know, women immediately took the top

68
00:03:44,650 --> 00:03:47,410
10 spots academically and,- DY: That was women. LH: Yeah,

69
00:03:47,410 --> 00:03:50,800
you know, that was that- can't have that. So so we

70
00:03:50,800 --> 00:03:53,050
know there were there were large numbers of women

71
00:03:53,050 --> 00:03:56,500
and we could talk more about why there were

72
00:03:56,530 --> 00:03:59,560
immigrants. We know because they had night classes,

73
00:03:59,560 --> 00:04:02,440
and some of those classes were what were called

74
00:04:02,440 --> 00:04:05,740
Americanization classes, the kinds of classes that

75
00:04:05,740 --> 00:04:08,250
would help people learn how to, quote, be American.

76

00:04:08,260 --> 00:04:11,830

DY: Sure. The culture, the language. LH: How to cook

77

00:04:11,830 --> 00:04:15,370

American, how to wash your baby in an American way.

78

00:04:15,370 --> 00:04:17,560

All of those things. Yeah. DY: Oh, my goodness. LH: Yeah.

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00:04:17,560 --> 00:04:19,960

So those things, and then there were also well,

80

00:04:19,960 --> 00:04:22,180

it's Hollister. There were farm and ranching

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00:04:22,180 --> 00:04:24,310

classes that were of interest to people who were

82

00:04:24,310 --> 00:04:27,910

going into those professions. So, you know, there

83

00:04:27,910 --> 00:04:30,460

was a poultry class during the 1920s that drew

84

00:04:30,460 --> 00:04:34,720

fifty students. So- DY: yes, it- later when we're

85

00:04:34,720 --> 00:04:42,340

talking about the the airport location later in

86

00:04:42,340 --> 00:04:45,850

the history of Gavilan, that's where the a poultry

87

00:04:45,850 --> 00:04:48,100
building, a poultry hatchery was, where the

88
00:04:48,100 --> 00:04:51,220
cosmetology program began. LH: Poultry was big. So

89
00:04:51,220 --> 00:04:53,440
we're farm animals in general, and then I guess

90
00:04:53,440 --> 00:04:55,540
one more thing. If you're asking who came, who

91
00:04:55,540 --> 00:04:59,710
were the students, really important, especially for us, I

92
00:04:59,710 --> 00:05:02,560
think today to understand from the very beginning,

93
00:05:02,560 --> 00:05:07,090
these were not leisure class, idle rich people who

94
00:05:07,090 --> 00:05:09,790
were coming to college, laying around afterwards

95
00:05:09,790 --> 00:05:13,390
on couches. Everybody worked. DY: Yeah. LH: A lot of them

96
00:05:13,390 --> 00:05:16,990
were farm kids and ranch kids who had incredibly

97
00:05:17,440 --> 00:05:20,410
hard lives. I mean, I think we should listen to

98

00:05:20,410 --> 00:05:23,770
Norma Trebino talking about growing up on the farm

99
00:05:23,770 --> 00:05:27,250
in South Hollister. Her parents were Italian

100
00:05:27,250 --> 00:05:29,590
immigrants and they worked their tails off. They

101
00:05:29,590 --> 00:05:33,400
got one hour a night to do school work, and so

102
00:05:33,400 --> 00:05:35,530
even though she was really bright, she was too

103
00:05:35,530 --> 00:05:38,200
exhausted, really. So let's listen to that. (Leah Halper Interview with Norma Trebino) LH:So

104
00:05:38,200 --> 00:05:43,800
your mother was basically a farm wife? Norma Trebino (NT): Yes. Yes.

105
00:05:44,080 --> 00:05:47,830
LH: What did that involve? NT: Well, when she was here,

106
00:05:48,790 --> 00:05:54,670
she raised her children on the farm and all of us

107
00:05:54,670 --> 00:05:58,810
worked on the farm before school. We had our

108
00:05:58,810 --> 00:06:03,100
chores and after school we had work to do, and

109

00:06:03,100 --> 00:06:07,600
after dinner, we all chipped in and took care of

110
00:06:07,600 --> 00:06:11,860
the farm until dark, and I think we were given

111
00:06:11,860 --> 00:06:15,520
about an hour, hour and a half for studies, which

112
00:06:15,520 --> 00:06:19,990
really wasn't good enough. LH: Did your mother can and preserve?

113
00:06:20,110 --> 00:06:25,330
NT: My mother, my mother would get up around 4:00 to

114
00:06:25,750 --> 00:06:31,300
feed my father and then he'd come on the farm to

115
00:06:31,300 --> 00:06:34,480
work and then he'd go off at eight o'clock to work

116
00:06:34,480 --> 00:06:38,140
for other farmers, and my mother stayed home and

117
00:06:38,140 --> 00:06:43,310
did the cooking. For seven people and sometimes

118
00:06:43,310 --> 00:06:50,310
the workers, and when we had apricots to harvest,

119
00:06:50,910 --> 00:06:56,010
we had the same family come for 30 years to help

120

00:06:56,010 --> 00:07:00,740
us harvest apricots. My father was good to them.

121
00:07:00,750 --> 00:07:06,860
We always provided things for them, and LH: Were they

122
00:07:06,860 --> 00:07:12,080
an Italian family? NT: They were Spanish, we- they came

123
00:07:12,100 --> 00:07:16,150
at least 30 years or more. LH: Wow. NT: And my mother,

124
00:07:16,210 --> 00:07:20,120
Canned, all of the fruit and vegetables that we

125
00:07:20,120 --> 00:07:26,990
grew, it seems to me that she would can at least

126
00:07:26,990 --> 00:07:30,760
six or seven other jars of fruit and vegetables,

127
00:07:31,550 --> 00:07:35,540
and in the old family home, which is next door to

128
00:07:35,540 --> 00:07:41,000
me now. We had a big basement and my father made

129
00:07:41,000 --> 00:07:47,450
his own ham and bacon and sausage and he canned

130
00:07:48,920 --> 00:07:55,770
all kinds of things in Crock's. We have eggs and

131

00:07:55,770 --> 00:08:00,870

fish and all kinds of food in crocs in the basement.

132

00:08:01,920 --> 00:08:05,610

LH: Did he make his own vinegar? NT: No, he made his own

133

00:08:05,610 --> 00:08:09,090

wine, though. LH: Yeah, I bet he did. NT: It tasted like

134

00:08:09,090 --> 00:08:11,460

vinegar. That's why we never touched it. (Laughter)

135

00:08:14,160 --> 00:08:18,480

LH: But he liked it. NT: Oh, yes. LH: So what? So you had pigs

136

00:08:18,480 --> 00:08:22,140

on the farm? What other animals? NT: We had, we had, we

137

00:08:22,140 --> 00:08:28,470

harvested or you know, we we from the pig, we made

138

00:08:28,470 --> 00:08:36,010

bacon, blood sausage, all kinds of things. We had

139

00:08:36,010 --> 00:08:41,950

a cow that we had all kinds of milk and cream and

140

00:08:42,250 --> 00:08:49,420

the extra cream we would make fresh but- fresh

141

00:08:49,420 --> 00:08:53,830

butter, and my mother would have me bring it to

142

00:08:53,830 --> 00:08:57,100
the neighbor and the fresh butter, and they'd give

143
00:08:57,100 --> 00:09:02,170
us they'd give us eggs or some cakes or something

144
00:09:02,170 --> 00:09:08,560
to take home. My mother made all of our food and

145
00:09:08,830 --> 00:09:12,010
besides she worked on the farm. LH: It's a lot of work.

146
00:09:12,280 --> 00:09:16,300
NT: Plowing and, you know. LH: Yeah, well, everybody had to. So

147
00:09:16,300 --> 00:09:19,210
she made pasta from scratch, bread from scratch.

148
00:09:20,280 --> 00:09:26,710
NT: Yeah, She sent us to Sunday Mass. We walk a mile to the

149
00:09:26,920 --> 00:09:31,240
church and back, and by the time we got home, she

150
00:09:31,240 --> 00:09:36,250
had a wonderful Italian made meal for us and she

151
00:09:36,250 --> 00:09:39,490
had fresh fresh pasta, and she always had a

152
00:09:39,490 --> 00:09:45,460
roast and potatoes and vegetables, and she was

153

00:09:45,460 --> 00:09:48,820
unreal. LH: She- that's amazing. Well, yeah, and then

154
00:09:48,820 --> 00:09:50,470
you're spoiled for the rest of your life. You

155
00:09:50,470 --> 00:09:53,180
either have to cook good food yourself or you- NT: Yes.

156
00:09:53,240 --> 00:09:57,460
LH: Yeah. So which church did you walk to? NT: The Sacred

157
00:09:57,460 --> 00:10:01,720
Heart Catholic School down on college St.. LH: OK

158
00:10:01,870 --> 00:10:04,630
NT: That's more than a mile I think. LH: I think it is

159
00:10:04,630 --> 00:10:07,630
more than a mile. (End of Interview with Norma Trebino.) DY: now that we're back from hearing

160
00:10:07,630 --> 00:10:12,490
Norma, what what might explain the larger numbers

161
00:10:12,760 --> 00:10:16,840
of female faculty and graduates in this time frame.

162
00:10:18,490 --> 00:10:22,890
Or is it is it really just this time frame? LH: Is it

163
00:10:22,900 --> 00:10:26,740
just this time frame? DY: That female graduates and faculty

164

00:10:26,980 --> 00:10:31,040
were more prevalent? LH: I- you know, it would be

165
00:10:31,040 --> 00:10:32,900
interesting to look at a study of community

166
00:10:32,900 --> 00:10:35,120
colleges in general, this is a particular

167
00:10:35,120 --> 00:10:37,790
community. It's fairly rural, it's fairly isolated,

168
00:10:37,790 --> 00:10:43,190
but my guess is that it has a lot to do- Well, it

169
00:10:43,190 --> 00:10:46,400
has a lot to do with men having lots of options,

170
00:10:47,000 --> 00:10:50,600
women not having very many options, and this being

171
00:10:50,600 --> 00:10:53,870
a good option for women, this is a very good

172
00:10:53,870 --> 00:10:56,180
option. So, you know, men could go straight to

173
00:10:56,180 --> 00:10:58,400
work, they could marry, and then they would have

174
00:10:58,400 --> 00:11:01,580
to support their families. They- if they were good

175

00:11:01,580 --> 00:11:04,490
scholars and if their families sacrificed or if

176
00:11:04,490 --> 00:11:07,190
their families could afford it, they had, you know,

177
00:11:07,520 --> 00:11:11,510
open entry into the college systems in California,

178
00:11:11,960 --> 00:11:15,590
and nobody argued that they should stay home and

179
00:11:15,590 --> 00:11:18,020
cook for their parents. You know that. So for

180
00:11:18,020 --> 00:11:20,600
women, there was a lot more to overcome. Leaving

181
00:11:20,600 --> 00:11:23,900
home was a really big deal. We're just leaving the

182
00:11:23,900 --> 00:11:27,380
era and not every family left it very fast when

183
00:11:27,380 --> 00:11:29,240
women had to be chaperoned, when they went

184
00:11:29,240 --> 00:11:32,180
anywhere. So so women couldn't move to San Jose

185
00:11:32,180 --> 00:11:34,730
and pursue an education unless they were from an

186

00:11:34,730 --> 00:11:37,550
unusual family, both, you know, economically

187
00:11:38,090 --> 00:11:40,580
viable, and also the family would allow women to

188
00:11:40,580 --> 00:11:43,370
do this. So a local community college is an

189
00:11:43,370 --> 00:11:47,600
absolutely amazing chance handed to women, and

190
00:11:47,600 --> 00:11:50,090
from what we can see from the graduation rates,

191
00:11:50,090 --> 00:11:53,870
women took it. As far as the faculty, I've thought

192
00:11:53,870 --> 00:11:56,240
a lot about that, and that's that's an interesting

193
00:11:56,240 --> 00:11:59,060
question, because my expectation would have been

194
00:11:59,360 --> 00:12:01,400
the faculty would have been majority male.

195
00:12:01,430 --> 00:12:05,420
DY: Absolutely. LH: I think maybe what we're seeing is the

196
00:12:05,420 --> 00:12:08,420
phenomena where the first, second, maybe even

197

00:12:08,420 --> 00:12:11,090
third generation of women who've been able to go

198
00:12:11,090 --> 00:12:13,760
on to higher education, and by the way, from what

199
00:12:13,760 --> 00:12:17,210
we can see from yearbooks that tell what people

200
00:12:17,210 --> 00:12:19,580
majored in and where they went to college, people

201
00:12:19,580 --> 00:12:22,190
who are on the faculty, they all went in the West,

202
00:12:22,190 --> 00:12:24,410
they were all Western women, which I thought was

203
00:12:24,410 --> 00:12:27,200
interesting. I think this is the first generation

204
00:12:27,200 --> 00:12:31,340
in which there are women with master's degrees and

205
00:12:31,580 --> 00:12:33,860
the community college movement is booming. As we

206
00:12:33,860 --> 00:12:35,900
said in the beginning, I think there are a lot of

207
00:12:35,900 --> 00:12:39,320
jobs, and I think given that many of the students

208

00:12:39,320 --> 00:12:42,530
were women, I, I think these progressive people

209
00:12:42,950 --> 00:12:46,100
hired women and probably women work cheaper. I

210
00:12:46,100 --> 00:12:48,530
mean, let's let's all get real here. DY: Ok, alright. That makes

211
00:12:48,530 --> 00:12:52,640
sense. LH: Yeah, and, you know, if you're teaching

212
00:12:52,640 --> 00:12:55,220
women, you also want some women teachers in the

213
00:12:55,220 --> 00:12:57,800
1920s. You don't want a man teaching the health

214
00:12:57,800 --> 00:13:01,850
and hygiene class, God forbid. So I think those

215
00:13:01,850 --> 00:13:04,430
are all reasons, and I'd like to think that the

216
00:13:04,430 --> 00:13:08,330
people doing the hiring saw that these women could

217
00:13:08,330 --> 00:13:12,530
and did do a good job and they hired them. DY: Washington took

218
00:13:12,530 --> 00:13:18,200
notice. LH: Yes. DY: I think that's great. So what kind of

219

00:13:18,200 --> 00:13:21,170
academic experience did the students have?

220
00:13:22,560 --> 00:13:25,350
LH: Academics seem to have been taken very seriously

221
00:13:25,560 --> 00:13:27,900
from what I looked at in the 20s and 30s, they

222
00:13:27,900 --> 00:13:29,880
were really front and center. I mean, students had

223
00:13:29,880 --> 00:13:32,280
other experiences which we'll talk about

224
00:13:32,280 --> 00:13:36,660
extracurricular, but the academic credentials of

225
00:13:36,660 --> 00:13:39,150
the faculty, for example, were featured

226
00:13:39,150 --> 00:13:41,580
prominently in the yearbook, which I can't imagine

227
00:13:41,580 --> 00:13:44,490
anybody doing today. DY: Right. LH: You know, they were

228
00:13:44,490 --> 00:13:47,370
really proud of their faculty and where they got

229
00:13:47,370 --> 00:13:49,170
their degree and what they got their degree in,

230

00:13:49,470 --> 00:13:53,730
and excellence was stressed over and over and over

231
00:13:53,730 --> 00:13:58,650
and over, and the yearbooks had, you know, their

232
00:13:58,650 --> 00:14:00,510
young people in there. So they're having fun and

233
00:14:00,510 --> 00:14:02,820
they're making jokes, but in the 30s, the jokes

234
00:14:02,820 --> 00:14:05,340
were kind of about how well you did in class, and

235
00:14:05,340 --> 00:14:08,040
DY: Yes, I noticed that I was going through some of

236
00:14:08,070 --> 00:14:11,580
the the yearbooks and some of the things that are

237
00:14:11,580 --> 00:14:16,650
on in the archives, in the library, and, yeah, the

238
00:14:16,880 --> 00:14:21,850
the humor was very of the time, and yes and yes,

239
00:14:21,850 --> 00:14:24,670
they did kind of jab each other a little bit. LH: Yes,

240
00:14:24,850 --> 00:14:27,250
you know, what you did in so and so's class and so

241

00:14:27,250 --> 00:14:29,080
forth, and then, you know, I think it's also

242
00:14:29,080 --> 00:14:32,230
important to know that by the late 1930s, they

243
00:14:32,230 --> 00:14:34,720
hired a new Dean, Frank Bauman, who stayed with

244
00:14:34,720 --> 00:14:37,390
the college through some very tumultuous years and

245
00:14:37,390 --> 00:14:40,450
was absolutely to be celebrated for his many

246
00:14:40,450 --> 00:14:43,300
contributions, but partly they hired him to teach

247
00:14:43,300 --> 00:14:46,600
some remediation classes and he explicitly said

248
00:14:46,630 --> 00:14:48,850
this is so you can do better in college, but this

249
00:14:48,850 --> 00:14:52,570
is so you can be a fully informed citizen in a

250
00:14:52,570 --> 00:14:55,870
democracy. They have these ideals that I think

251
00:14:55,870 --> 00:14:58,540
people had a sense of purpose. They were in

252

00:14:58,540 --> 00:15:01,180
college not just to better themselves and get

253
00:15:01,180 --> 00:15:05,380
ahead, but to also be prepared to function in this

254
00:15:05,380 --> 00:15:10,270
country as participatory citizens. DY: Yeah, so they

255
00:15:10,270 --> 00:15:13,990
almost some of the principles of community college,

256
00:15:13,990 --> 00:15:16,030
long before a community college was even thought

257
00:15:16,030 --> 00:15:20,560
of. LH: They had the principles down. They really saw

258
00:15:20,560 --> 00:15:23,200
themselves as the community, and and the yearbooks

259
00:15:23,200 --> 00:15:25,270
kind of attest to this to the students had

260
00:15:25,450 --> 00:15:28,390
nicknames for teachers and nicknames for each

261
00:15:28,390 --> 00:15:31,570
other, and, you know, it was small, but there was

262
00:15:31,570 --> 00:15:34,240
a sense of we're kind of all in this together, and

263

00:15:34,240 --> 00:15:36,790

I think the faculty fostered that. DY: That's

264

00:15:36,790 --> 00:15:42,130

wonderful. So I would assume, along with these

265

00:15:42,130 --> 00:15:47,020

strict academics and excellence, that the students

266

00:15:47,020 --> 00:15:50,110

had some fun. LH: They had a lot of fun, apparently

267

00:15:50,110 --> 00:15:52,690

from from the yearbooks. It looked like fun to me

268

00:15:52,690 --> 00:15:56,830

anyway. So they so they had a student body, and I

269

00:15:56,830 --> 00:15:59,320

think you paid 75 cents and you got a card and

270

00:15:59,320 --> 00:16:01,630

then you could come to any event that the student

271

00:16:01,630 --> 00:16:04,510

body put on. So in the 20s and 30s, oh, my God,

272

00:16:04,510 --> 00:16:06,460

they were dancing all the time. They planned lots

273

00:16:06,460 --> 00:16:08,920

of dances in one year alone. In 1930, there were

274

00:16:08,920 --> 00:16:13,180
five dances. They had a sneak day, which in my day

275
00:16:13,180 --> 00:16:16,840
was called a ditch day. DY: My goodness. LH: Right. You

276
00:16:16,840 --> 00:16:20,260
know, you all just decide, and in fact, the sneak

277
00:16:20,260 --> 00:16:22,420
day looked like a heck of a lot of fun. They had

278
00:16:22,420 --> 00:16:26,110
20 cars and they all went to Rio del Mar for a

279
00:16:26,110 --> 00:16:29,440
picnic. DY: Right. LH: So you can imagine this kind of cavalcade

280
00:16:29,440 --> 00:16:31,810
of whooping students, you know, arms and legs

281
00:16:31,810 --> 00:16:35,200
hanging out the window going to Rio del Mar. They

282
00:16:35,200 --> 00:16:39,490
had proms. They had interestingly, especially in

283
00:16:39,490 --> 00:16:44,020
the 30s, they had something called a hobo day. DY: Yes,

284
00:16:44,020 --> 00:16:48,340
I saw that. What was that all about? LH: It actually,

285

00:16:48,340 --> 00:16:51,670
it originated before this. So it's interesting

286
00:16:51,670 --> 00:16:54,100
that it lasted into the 30s and that gives it a

287
00:16:54,100 --> 00:16:58,000
whole new kind of layer of meaning, but I think it

288
00:16:58,000 --> 00:17:01,570
was a chance for students- It's hard for us to

289
00:17:01,570 --> 00:17:03,880
understand today because students do whatever they

290
00:17:03,880 --> 00:17:06,490
want. They dress however they want now, but, you

291
00:17:06,490 --> 00:17:09,040
know, in those days, you had to you had to dress.

292
00:17:09,090 --> 00:17:12,610
DY: Yes. LH: You got dressed up. You you looked good. You had a

293
00:17:12,610 --> 00:17:14,290
tie if you were a boy and you were going to

294
00:17:14,290 --> 00:17:17,560
college. So this was a day when you could look

295
00:17:17,560 --> 00:17:21,400
like a so-called hobo and everybody was really

296

00:17:21,400 --> 00:17:23,530
into it. You know, they would tear their clothes.

297
00:17:23,530 --> 00:17:25,900
There's a picture in one of the yearbooks of a

298
00:17:25,900 --> 00:17:29,470
bunch of them looking pretty scruffy, and I think

299
00:17:29,470 --> 00:17:33,970
they probably just had fun. Now, by the 1930s, I'm

300
00:17:33,970 --> 00:17:36,040
sure there were at least some students who had

301
00:17:36,040 --> 00:17:40,360
family members or friends who had left in order to

302
00:17:40,360 --> 00:17:42,850
seek work elsewhere and that, you know, they

303
00:17:42,850 --> 00:17:44,940
become hobos. They're riding the rails. DY: Right. LH: No

304
00:17:44,950 --> 00:17:49,150
money. So, you know, I can't help but think that

305
00:17:49,150 --> 00:17:51,160
there might have been a little twinge for some of

306
00:17:51,160 --> 00:17:53,980
them as they put on their ripped pants. You know,

307

00:17:53,980 --> 00:17:57,610
like some people very close to them may really

308
00:17:57,610 --> 00:18:00,250
have been living in this way, but but anyway, I

309
00:18:00,250 --> 00:18:04,570
guess it was fun for them. DY: Yes, I you know, it's

310
00:18:04,690 --> 00:18:08,830
strange to say, but even in the 1970s when I was

311
00:18:08,830 --> 00:18:14,290
in junior high, there was a hobo day. LH: You know I, I, I think

312
00:18:14,290 --> 00:18:16,060
there was in my junior high, too. I mean, it's

313
00:18:16,060 --> 00:18:19,240
very, I guess very persistent and the stereotypes

314
00:18:19,240 --> 00:18:23,110
about poverty really. DY: And once once you sort of

315
00:18:23,110 --> 00:18:25,720
understand some of the background, it does sort of

316
00:18:25,720 --> 00:18:28,780
make you wonder. LH: I wanted to mention one other fun

317
00:18:28,780 --> 00:18:30,460
thing they did- DY: Uh huh? LH: Which I thought was interesting.

318

00:18:30,460 --> 00:18:34,660

They they had a theater in Vaudeville and students

319

00:18:34,660 --> 00:18:36,750

put on Vaudeville acts. DY: Oh Yeah! LH: I mean, this is the 20s.

320

00:18:36,750 --> 00:18:39,370

So what you see out in the culture, they replicate

321

00:18:39,370 --> 00:18:43,750

here, and they had in particular a meh variety

322

00:18:43,750 --> 00:18:46,570

frolich, and it was just for women and the women

323

00:18:46,570 --> 00:18:49,450

imitated teachers, and apparently people were

324

00:18:49,450 --> 00:18:52,030

rolling on the floor laughing, and some male

325

00:18:52,030 --> 00:18:54,430

students tried to muscle their way in and they

326

00:18:54,430 --> 00:18:57,100

were bounced by the female students who were

327

00:18:57,100 --> 00:18:59,140

guarding the door. They knew that they needed to

328

00:18:59,140 --> 00:19:02,560

go to the door. DY: I Love it. LH: So I think it sounds fun. DY: It does

329

00:19:02,560 --> 00:19:06,790
sound fun, but it also sounds like they knew their

330
00:19:06,790 --> 00:19:09,670
audience. LH: Yes, they absolutely knew their audience.

331
00:19:09,790 --> 00:19:12,340
I just wanted to mention by the late 30s, they

332
00:19:12,340 --> 00:19:14,650
were very organized. They had men, students,

333
00:19:14,650 --> 00:19:17,710
associated women, students, Letterman's club,

334
00:19:18,010 --> 00:19:21,170
fraternities for journalisms students. They had a debate

335
00:19:21,170 --> 00:19:25,220
team, they had a fraternity for people with high

336
00:19:25,220 --> 00:19:28,430
grades. There was a sorority, there was music and

337
00:19:28,430 --> 00:19:30,980
dance that they could join and sports teams, and

338
00:19:30,980 --> 00:19:33,610
then they had more than one campus publication.

339
00:19:33,620 --> 00:19:38,990
They had a newspaper called the Jayseer- J A Y S E E R,

340

00:19:38,990 --> 00:19:43,280
which is a kind of trick or play on JC for junior

341
00:19:43,280 --> 00:19:47,000
college. DY: Yes. LH: And then they had the yearbooks. DY: Which at

342
00:19:47,000 --> 00:19:49,610
that time was called The Rambler. LH: It wasn't called

343
00:19:49,610 --> 00:19:53,750
The Rambler till 1936, and I could talk about 1936

344
00:19:53,750 --> 00:19:56,180
year, but you want to talk about-? DY: Well, maybe

345
00:19:56,900 --> 00:20:00,260
I'd like to know about sports first. LH: OK. DY: But I'd

346
00:20:00,260 --> 00:20:02,870
really like to know about the the the Rambler as

347
00:20:02,870 --> 00:20:06,080
well. LH: That thing of beauty, the 1936 yearbook. OK,

348
00:20:07,100 --> 00:20:11,780
everybody had to do two years of PE. DY: Requirement. LH: Men and women. Yeah. Men

349
00:20:11,780 --> 00:20:15,800
and women. DY: Nice. LH: Yes. So and in fact this was true

350
00:20:15,800 --> 00:20:18,260
into the 70s and the 80s and then that's when, you

351

00:20:18,260 --> 00:20:20,690
know, PE kind of took a nosedive, which is too bad

352
00:20:20,750 --> 00:20:25,820
DY: Along with the arts. LH: Right. So for men there were

353
00:20:25,820 --> 00:20:29,480
options, but this is a small college and so

354
00:20:29,810 --> 00:20:32,420
frequently in the yearbooks, they would be

355
00:20:32,420 --> 00:20:34,940
complaining that, you know, not enough people came

356
00:20:34,940 --> 00:20:36,530
out and they didn't come out because they didn't

357
00:20:36,530 --> 00:20:38,480
have facilities and they didn't have facilities

358
00:20:38,480 --> 00:20:40,790
because they're sharing with a high school, and

359
00:20:40,790 --> 00:20:42,860
the high school always took precedence, and so

360
00:20:42,860 --> 00:20:45,230
they're so there are complaints like this. This is

361
00:20:45,230 --> 00:20:46,970
why we didn't do well. You know, we couldn't

362

00:20:47,180 --> 00:20:49,160
practice because the high school students were

363
00:20:49,160 --> 00:20:51,590
there. So, you know, there was a year, for example,

364
00:20:51,590 --> 00:20:52,910
when they're all at the beginning of the year,

365
00:20:52,910 --> 00:20:55,250
we're going to have a football team, 10 guys came

366
00:20:55,250 --> 00:20:58,640
out. Ten guys does not a football team make. DY: So

367
00:20:58,640 --> 00:21:02,180
they were feeling the constriction of being sort

368
00:21:02,180 --> 00:21:04,550
of an add on. LH: They hung up their helmets. They

369
00:21:04,550 --> 00:21:06,680
couldn't, you know, do it. There were there were

370
00:21:06,680 --> 00:21:09,260
five man basketball teams, and, you know, I guess

371
00:21:09,260 --> 00:21:11,240
if you want to exhaust your players, you can have

372
00:21:11,240 --> 00:21:14,240
a five man basketball team, but they won't last

373

00:21:14,240 --> 00:21:17,630
long. DY: Yeah. LH: So, so men's sports tried, and one of

374
00:21:17,660 --> 00:21:19,250
the things that was interesting is that they would

375
00:21:19,250 --> 00:21:22,160
play anybody, they would play- there were local

376
00:21:22,160 --> 00:21:25,040
farm teams, they would play local businesses, they

377
00:21:25,040 --> 00:21:27,020
would play other colleges, they would play high

378
00:21:27,020 --> 00:21:29,480
schools. They would play anybody who walked up and

379
00:21:29,480 --> 00:21:33,170
said, OK, let's do a game. So so they had a lot of

380
00:21:33,170 --> 00:21:35,240
kind of scrimmage games and there weren't

381
00:21:35,900 --> 00:21:40,910
well-organized leagues until the 1960s. DY: OK, I was

382
00:21:40,910 --> 00:21:45,350
wondering because we play in a league and under

383
00:21:45,350 --> 00:21:49,370
certain rules and in modern day and I wondered

384

00:21:49,370 --> 00:21:52,280
when so- 60s it when that really it was it was the

385
00:21:52,280 --> 00:21:56,360
Wild West before that. LH: It was anarchy, and I think

386
00:21:56,360 --> 00:21:59,300
that's I, I think it it disappointed some people

387
00:21:59,300 --> 00:22:03,080
because the high school had a fairly large, fairly

388
00:22:03,080 --> 00:22:07,460
well supported athletic structure for men. DY: It was-

389
00:22:07,850 --> 00:22:11,450
I came from a community where it was made up of

390
00:22:11,450 --> 00:22:14,690
lots of little communities, and the thing that

391
00:22:14,690 --> 00:22:18,740
kind of tied them all together was the high school

392
00:22:18,740 --> 00:22:23,510
was the school system, and yeah, you were a chief

393
00:22:23,510 --> 00:22:27,590
supporter, and so I can imagine that it would be

394
00:22:27,590 --> 00:22:31,820
really important to this area and bringing people

395

00:22:31,820 --> 00:22:35,240
together for the local sports team. LH: I never shared

396
00:22:35,240 --> 00:22:38,120
those feelings. So when people expressed that to

397
00:22:38,120 --> 00:22:42,410
me in Hollister, I kind of thought, oh, you know,

398
00:22:42,410 --> 00:22:45,590
so it really did matter to people. This really was

399
00:22:45,590 --> 00:22:47,600
what they did on Saturday night. Whether or not

400
00:22:47,600 --> 00:22:49,410
they had a kid on the team or at the high school.

401
00:22:49,410 --> 00:22:51,590
DY: Yes. LH: This was local entertainment and it was

402
00:22:51,590 --> 00:22:54,650
important, and they hated Gilroy, let me tell you.

403
00:22:54,980 --> 00:22:58,540
DY: Really. LH: Oh, man. In fact, I still you know, I

404
00:22:58,550 --> 00:23:01,130
talked to someone who shall remain nameless, who's

405
00:23:02,180 --> 00:23:06,470
well passed ninety who expressed to me that this

406

00:23:06,470 --> 00:23:09,030
person never forgave the college for moving to

407
00:23:09,030 --> 00:23:12,080
Gilroy, and that- and, and that a lot of people

408
00:23:12,080 --> 00:23:15,560
agree with this person. DY: Oh my! LH: So I. I think I think it's

409
00:23:15,560 --> 00:23:20,000
there. DY: There's still some rivalry. Wow. So were

410
00:23:20,000 --> 00:23:23,150
women involved in the sports as well? LH: So women

411
00:23:23,150 --> 00:23:26,900
were taking P.E. and there are lots of pictures of

412
00:23:26,900 --> 00:23:30,020
women doing archery and so forth, and they did

413
00:23:30,020 --> 00:23:33,410
seem to have lots of opportunities to be sporty.

414
00:23:33,650 --> 00:23:38,030
They had swimming and basketball and track and

415
00:23:38,030 --> 00:23:40,940
also tennis. There was a riding club that at one

416
00:23:40,940 --> 00:23:43,220
point half of the female student body was part of

417

00:23:43,220 --> 00:23:45,410
this riding club. I don't know how they managed

418
00:23:45,410 --> 00:23:46,790
that, where they got the horses, but it's

419
00:23:46,790 --> 00:23:50,240
Hollister. So people had horses. There weren't

420
00:23:50,240 --> 00:23:53,810
that many competitive opportunities for women, but

421
00:23:53,810 --> 00:23:57,350
there was an annual women's track meet by the 30s.

422
00:23:57,620 --> 00:24:01,340
So so, you know, women women could be athletic to

423
00:24:01,340 --> 00:24:04,850
an extent. DY: Yeah. LH: Not to the same extent that boys

424
00:24:04,850 --> 00:24:07,790
could be, and it wasn't as socially supported, but

425
00:24:07,820 --> 00:24:10,010
but for a period there, they were encouraged to be

426
00:24:10,010 --> 00:24:12,170
physically active for their own health. DY: I was

427
00:24:12,170 --> 00:24:15,790
going to say more for a health and long life and

428

00:24:15,800 --> 00:24:19,190
that kind of thing, as opposed to competitive.

429
00:24:19,190 --> 00:24:21,550
LH: Health. Long life and attractiveness, it's

430
00:24:21,550 --> 00:24:24,820
supposed to help your posture. DY: Yes. I have read things

431
00:24:24,820 --> 00:24:27,400
like that. LH: You're glowing from the inside, so you

432
00:24:27,400 --> 00:24:29,680
look so good, those kinds of things. DY: Yeah, that

433
00:24:29,690 --> 00:24:36,670
was good sales tools. What? So the 30s, the time

434
00:24:36,670 --> 00:24:41,350
of the Great Depression, how did that affect the

435
00:24:41,800 --> 00:24:48,010
area and the school in particular? LH: Oh! DY: I know.

436
00:24:48,010 --> 00:24:50,590
big questions. Sorry. LH: It- no, it's good to ask

437
00:24:50,590 --> 00:24:55,420
about the area because rural communities really

438
00:24:55,420 --> 00:24:57,670
suffered for the most part during the Great

439

00:24:57,670 --> 00:25:01,900

Depression and farming. Unless you had a good

440

00:25:01,900 --> 00:25:06,880

thing going and you processed your own product or

441

00:25:06,880 --> 00:25:09,970

whatever, you were really at a disadvantage. So so

442

00:25:09,970 --> 00:25:12,340

the area suffered, but, you know, the interesting

443

00:25:12,340 --> 00:25:15,550

thing is that I didn't really see evidence of it.

444

00:25:15,950 --> 00:25:18,190

We're working with young people. Young people are

445

00:25:18,190 --> 00:25:21,760

optimistic. DY: Yes. LH: They're looking to the future.

446

00:25:22,010 --> 00:25:24,220

This is what they grew up with. They didn't know

447

00:25:24,220 --> 00:25:26,350

any different. You know, this is how their parents

448

00:25:26,350 --> 00:25:29,080

had to scrimp and save, but there was enough that

449

00:25:29,080 --> 00:25:31,780

that's kind of Norma Trebino's experience, they

450

00:25:31,780 --> 00:25:35,410
ate well, they were on a farm. So the fact that

451
00:25:35,410 --> 00:25:37,810
they had no money really surprised her, you know,

452
00:25:37,810 --> 00:25:40,990
so she thought that they were perfectly well off,

453
00:25:40,990 --> 00:25:42,940
and then her mother told her, no, we're poor, and

454
00:25:43,180 --> 00:25:47,110
she she didn't realize that. DY: Yeah. LH: So- DY: A testament

455
00:25:47,110 --> 00:25:49,510
to her mother. LH: Yeah. Well, these parents, she had

456
00:25:49,510 --> 00:25:54,640
amazing parents. So it it did affect the area. As

457
00:25:54,640 --> 00:25:57,010
far as affecting the college, it seems to have

458
00:25:57,010 --> 00:26:00,160
taken a while, but it's inevitable and inexorable.

459
00:26:00,550 --> 00:26:03,640
This kind of it was a depression economically, but

460
00:26:03,640 --> 00:26:06,040
it also kind of started to eat away at the

461

00:26:06,040 --> 00:26:08,620
country's confidence and a people's faith in the

462

00:26:08,620 --> 00:26:13,360
future. So in the in the 1930s to 31 year book,

463

00:26:13,360 --> 00:26:15,340
there's there's really no evidence, even though

464

00:26:15,340 --> 00:26:17,530
that's, you know, a year or two after the crash.

465

00:26:17,530 --> 00:26:20,140
DY: Yeah. LH: They're high spirited. They have plans- are

466

00:26:20,140 --> 00:26:22,060
growing here. They're they're they're they're

467

00:26:22,060 --> 00:26:26,170
teasing each other. The 1936 year book, I think is

468

00:26:26,170 --> 00:26:29,020
really interesting. DY: Yes. Please tell us a little

469

00:26:29,020 --> 00:26:31,480
more about that. LH: It's a Depression era product,

470

00:26:31,480 --> 00:26:33,850
and so I hope I'm forgiven for having certain

471

00:26:33,850 --> 00:26:35,980
expectations when I opened it. You know, they're

472

00:26:35,980 --> 00:26:39,250
going to be grappling with, you know, issues, and

473
00:26:39,250 --> 00:26:42,490
so I had to put those aside because it is an

474
00:26:42,490 --> 00:26:47,260
absolutely beautiful, tasteful, high quality

475
00:26:47,260 --> 00:26:51,280
document, and the word that I would say most

476
00:26:51,280 --> 00:26:55,090
emerges from a reading of it is pride. These

477
00:26:55,090 --> 00:26:58,780
people had deep and genuine pride in themselves,

478
00:26:59,380 --> 00:27:03,550
in their college, in their community. They were

479
00:27:03,550 --> 00:27:07,270
very thoughtful young people, and I tell my

480
00:27:07,270 --> 00:27:10,660
students we use primary documents in class so that

481
00:27:10,870 --> 00:27:13,300
people from the past can speak to you. You know,

482
00:27:13,300 --> 00:27:15,850
it's their mind into your mind, and you if you can

483

00:27:15,850 --> 00:27:19,330
receive that, and I have never had that experience

484
00:27:19,330 --> 00:27:24,220
so vividly as when looking at this yearbook. So it's

485
00:27:24,220 --> 00:27:27,190
got a beautiful tooled leather cover. It's in a

486
00:27:27,190 --> 00:27:30,370
beautiful dark blue with black. The paper is

487
00:27:30,370 --> 00:27:33,550
extremely high quality. It's beautifully printed.

488
00:27:33,790 --> 00:27:37,990
It's got over leaves of kind of a beautiful kind

489
00:27:37,990 --> 00:27:43,600
of spackled paper. and they're original drawings.

490
00:27:43,600 --> 00:27:46,300
There's some original poetry. Every word of it is

491
00:27:46,300 --> 00:27:48,520
carefully and well written. I mean, it's just it's

492
00:27:48,520 --> 00:27:52,060
a very high quality. DY: Absolutely. Well, and one of

493
00:27:52,060 --> 00:27:53,980
the things that I thought was interesting was even

494

00:27:53,980 --> 00:27:56,380
though it was the depression, there are local

495
00:27:56,710 --> 00:28:01,180
businesses that supported the the yearbook. LH: Lots

496
00:28:01,180 --> 00:28:05,200
of them, and and they gave most of them had a lot

497
00:28:05,200 --> 00:28:08,170
of them had very small ads, the smallest ad, which

498
00:28:08,170 --> 00:28:11,260
was a quarter of a page, which was only an inch

499
00:28:11,260 --> 00:28:14,710
and a half by maybe two inches, but an awful lot

500
00:28:14,710 --> 00:28:17,710
of them made it a priority to at least do that.

501
00:28:17,740 --> 00:28:20,680
DY: Yes. LH: It's, it's an interesting document for so many

502
00:28:20,680 --> 00:28:23,170
reasons. I mean, here we can kind of see who was,

503
00:28:23,170 --> 00:28:26,980
who was there, the Japanese American student. They

504
00:28:26,980 --> 00:28:32,590
pasted real pictures into the pages. DY: Yes. LH: So they're

505

00:28:32,860 --> 00:28:34,930
they're doing this themselves, and you can even

506
00:28:34,930 --> 00:28:39,230
see kind of the glue stain sometimes, and they

507
00:28:39,280 --> 00:28:41,800
just did a beautiful job and they gave a history

508
00:28:41,800 --> 00:28:43,870
of the school that really showed how proud they

509
00:28:43,870 --> 00:28:46,930
were of the school. It- they- these are not people

510
00:28:46,930 --> 00:28:49,630
who are beaten down by the Great Depression. These

511
00:28:49,630 --> 00:28:54,250
are people who are perky and looking ahead and

512
00:28:54,250 --> 00:28:58,660
thoughtful and full of life. DY: So 36 would have been

513
00:28:58,660 --> 00:29:01,570
about eighteen years into the hundred years of the

514
00:29:01,570 --> 00:29:06,880
history, and so the name- so this is the first time

515
00:29:06,880 --> 00:29:09,460
the name Rambler shows up. LH: It is, and they explain

516

00:29:09,460 --> 00:29:12,160

it, yes, we found the origin of the Rambler, which

517

00:29:12,160 --> 00:29:15,010

puzzled everybody, including me. I was the adviser

518

00:29:15,010 --> 00:29:16,960

for the student newspaper for 10 years when it was

519

00:29:16,960 --> 00:29:19,690

called the Rambler. So here's what they say on

520

00:29:19,690 --> 00:29:22,690

page two, the name of the book, The Rambler and

521

00:29:22,690 --> 00:29:26,170

its theme, Rodeo, have been chosen to give you a

522

00:29:26,170 --> 00:29:29,590

recollection of San Benito County, a region famous

523

00:29:29,590 --> 00:29:33,490

for its ranch life and fine horses. If just one

524

00:29:33,490 --> 00:29:36,490

reader derive some pleasure from this book, if

525

00:29:36,490 --> 00:29:39,430

just one reader is able to recall memories of

526

00:29:39,430 --> 00:29:42,730

happy times at Hollister, the staff will feel that

527

00:29:42,730 --> 00:29:48,120
its efforts have been rewarded. DY: Wow, and so, yeah,

528
00:29:48,330 --> 00:29:52,290
the the title Rambler stayed in some form or

529
00:29:52,290 --> 00:29:57,660
fashion with Gavilan through the 2000. LH: Into the

530
00:29:57,660 --> 00:30:00,930
early 2000s. DY: Yeah. LH: I'd love to bring it back. DY: I

531
00:30:00,930 --> 00:30:05,280
think it would be wonderful. Yes, and one of the

532
00:30:05,280 --> 00:30:11,070
things that I noticed because of the glue and kind

533
00:30:11,070 --> 00:30:17,400
of the carefully craft- crafted- that when I was

534
00:30:17,400 --> 00:30:21,420
scanning the yearbook, sometimes I had I had two

535
00:30:21,420 --> 00:30:25,410
copies, thankfully, because pictures had either

536
00:30:25,410 --> 00:30:31,650
fallen out; in some of my duplicate, the duplicate

537
00:30:31,650 --> 00:30:34,710
yearbooks that we had in the library. People had

538

00:30:34,710 --> 00:30:40,410
helped themselves to a picture or two, but

539
00:30:41,040 --> 00:30:44,340
and so, again, this is 18 years into the history

540
00:30:44,730 --> 00:30:49,140
and it is just the college. It is no longer a

541
00:30:49,140 --> 00:30:53,580
shared yearbook with the high school. LH: Yeah, I

542
00:30:53,580 --> 00:30:56,520
don't we don't have a lot of the yearbooks from

543
00:30:56,520 --> 00:30:59,220
the 20s and the San Benito Historical Society,

544
00:30:59,220 --> 00:31:02,310
which is ground zero for anything of that nature,

545
00:31:02,550 --> 00:31:06,240
had one or two from the early 30s in one year.

546
00:31:06,240 --> 00:31:09,330
They shared it. DY: Yes. LH: I don't know if that had been

547
00:31:09,330 --> 00:31:11,310
the past practice or if this is the first time

548
00:31:11,310 --> 00:31:14,070
they did a yearbook. No information about that.

549

00:31:14,220 --> 00:31:17,160

DY: Well, we have at least one of those, I think maybe

550

00:31:17,160 --> 00:31:21,060

both of those in the Gavilan archives in the

551

00:31:21,060 --> 00:31:23,430

library. LH: They were very clever. DY: Yeah. LH: They made one book,

552

00:31:23,430 --> 00:31:25,770

but the first half was the high school, and then

553

00:31:25,770 --> 00:31:28,560

you turned it over and opened it on the other end,

554

00:31:28,560 --> 00:31:31,200

and it was the college. DY: Yeah. LH: they were clearly

555

00:31:31,200 --> 00:31:33,510

distinct from each other, but they they they saved

556

00:31:33,510 --> 00:31:36,420

some money that way. DY: Yeah, definitely. LH: I've just

557

00:31:36,420 --> 00:31:38,730

found Hobo Day, the picture from Hobo Day where

558

00:31:38,730 --> 00:31:41,070

the guys are wearing kind of funny hats and the

559

00:31:41,070 --> 00:31:43,140

women all have their hair in braids and people

560

00:31:43,140 --> 00:31:45,330
have kind of big, oversized, torn things that

561
00:31:45,330 --> 00:31:48,270
they're wearing. It doesn't say that it's Hobo Day,

562
00:31:48,270 --> 00:31:50,520
but this is not how these people dressed. DY: Right.

563
00:31:50,520 --> 00:31:56,250
Right. LH: So- DY: Yeah, I also never said there are no

564
00:31:56,250 --> 00:31:58,830
captions for the pictures. LH: Yeah. I think they

565
00:31:58,830 --> 00:32:01,050
really expected that, you know, you were there and

566
00:32:01,050 --> 00:32:04,110
you you knew, you know who that was. Actually,

567
00:32:04,110 --> 00:32:06,540
some of them do. Some of them name the people in

568
00:32:06,540 --> 00:32:08,790
the pictures- DY: Yeah. LH: Which is more than we have in the

569
00:32:08,790 --> 00:32:11,590
1951 yearbook. I did kind of a comparison. DY: Yes.

570
00:32:11,630 --> 00:32:13,410
LH: Yeah. But this one, they know they are they are

571

00:32:13,410 --> 00:32:16,020
trying now. DY: Yeah. LH: And one of the things that's

572
00:32:16,020 --> 00:32:18,540
notable about this is for the graduates. They also

573
00:32:18,540 --> 00:32:22,050
tell you where each came from and what they've

574
00:32:22,050 --> 00:32:24,510
been involved with at the college, and, you know,

575
00:32:24,750 --> 00:32:27,720
quite a lot, and then where they're going from

576
00:32:27,720 --> 00:32:31,200
here. DY: Again, an investment in the students and investment

577
00:32:31,200 --> 00:32:34,230
in their future. LH: I actually say I have to say I

578
00:32:34,230 --> 00:32:36,900
really bonded with the class of 1936. There were

579
00:32:36,900 --> 00:32:40,080
20 graduates, 16 of them went on to higher

580
00:32:40,080 --> 00:32:43,590
education, which I think is a remarkable testimony- DY: Oh absolutely!

581
00:32:43,590 --> 00:32:46,860
LH: -to the love of learning and, you know, the desire

582

00:32:46,860 --> 00:32:50,010
to have a future that was instilled or that they

583
00:32:50,010 --> 00:32:52,290
already came having I don't know which. DY: Yeah,

584
00:32:52,290 --> 00:32:57,510
exactly. Well, that's kind of what I had for my

585
00:32:57,510 --> 00:33:00,030
questions today. Was there anything else you

586
00:33:00,030 --> 00:33:03,060
wanted to tell us about this? In between time is

587
00:33:03,060 --> 00:33:09,540
20s and 30s time period? LH: Yes. I haven't really

588
00:33:09,540 --> 00:33:11,460
answered your question about the Great Depression.

589
00:33:11,790 --> 00:33:15,030
I said it kind of started slowly. It took its toll

590
00:33:15,360 --> 00:33:20,340
and students diminished through the 30s. The- the

591
00:33:20,340 --> 00:33:24,450
population at the school diminished, and as it

592
00:33:24,450 --> 00:33:28,920
lost enrollment, then it also, I think from kind

593

00:33:28,920 --> 00:33:31,800
of what I've seen, just some small hints kind of

594
00:33:31,800 --> 00:33:34,650
lost that sense of itself, of being such a great

595
00:33:34,650 --> 00:33:39,120
place, and by the late 30s, there's definitely a

596
00:33:39,120 --> 00:33:42,630
sense of just trying to struggle through. You know,

597
00:33:42,810 --> 00:33:47,070
the war is is threatening and the depression

598
00:33:47,730 --> 00:33:50,460
deepened, and I think it probably became harder,

599
00:33:50,460 --> 00:33:53,070
and I think it probably became harder for people

600
00:33:53,070 --> 00:33:55,470
to focus on college. So so there's there's

601
00:33:55,470 --> 00:34:01,320
definitely a downturn and a dip. DY: Yeah. Now, so 30s.

602
00:34:02,130 --> 00:34:06,900
So that would have been, as the storm clouds were

603
00:34:06,900 --> 00:34:08,880
gathering is, I think, the way they were putting

604

00:34:08,880 --> 00:34:16,200
it in Europe and in America. We were struggling as

605
00:34:16,200 --> 00:34:19,740
to whether or not we were going to- some people

606
00:34:19,740 --> 00:34:21,360
were calling to enter the war. Some people were

607
00:34:21,360 --> 00:34:27,230
not, and the West Coast, of course. Being

608
00:34:29,290 --> 00:34:34,180
Sort of different maybe than politically from the

609
00:34:34,180 --> 00:34:35,110
rest of the country,

610
00:34:37,300 --> 00:34:41,020
would was that impacting the people here at all?

611
00:34:43,520 --> 00:34:46,770
LH: California kind of opted out of the New Deal.

612
00:34:46,790 --> 00:34:49,490
There was a governor in California who was hostile

613
00:34:49,490 --> 00:34:52,130
to Roosevelt and the New Deal, so California

614
00:34:52,130 --> 00:34:55,220
didn't get much New Deal help. The CCC, the

615

00:34:55,520 --> 00:34:57,920
Civilian Conservation Corps, the WPA did a little

616
00:34:57,920 --> 00:35:00,410
work here. DY: I was going to say the WPA. LH: But for the

617
00:35:00,410 --> 00:35:03,530
most part, California rejected a lot of New Deal

618
00:35:03,530 --> 00:35:07,280
help- DY: Wow. LH: Which was just a reflection of, you know, a

619
00:35:07,280 --> 00:35:09,830
Republican governor who wanted to make Roosevelt

620
00:35:09,830 --> 00:35:14,060
look bad, but, you know, for Hollister, Gilroy,

621
00:35:14,060 --> 00:35:16,880
Morgan Hill, these agricultural areas, the

622
00:35:16,880 --> 00:35:20,090
depression didn't end until the war saved them.

623
00:35:20,240 --> 00:35:24,110
DY: Yeah. LH: And that's not going to happen until 39, 40,

624
00:35:24,110 --> 00:35:29,060
41, and so things went pretty far downhill from

625
00:35:29,060 --> 00:35:31,370
what I can tell locally. It was a hard time.

626

00:35:33,680 --> 00:35:38,300

DY: Well, thank you so much for bringing us into the

627

00:35:38,300 --> 00:35:41,960

30s with the history. Next time we'll be talking

628

00:35:41,960 --> 00:35:46,970

about World War II, and the impact on the area and

629

00:35:46,970 --> 00:35:51,380

the students of Gavilan College. Please join us

630

00:35:51,380 --> 00:35:54,820

next time. Thank you very much. LH: Thank you.