

Oral History Interview with Dave Jones
Conducted by Kathleen Lingley, July 3, 2002
Transcription by Sarah Jones, March 22, 2004

KL: It is Wednesday, July 3, 2002. This is Kathleen Lingley from Saint Mary's University Archives and I'll be interviewing Dave Jones about his experiences at Saint Mary's College and High School today. What is your full name?

DJ: David Ignatius Jones.

KL: Could you spell that please? Well, Ignatius...

DJ: The middle name? I-G-N-A-T-I-U-S.

KL: Great.

DJ: He was the founder of...St. Ignatius was the founder of the Jesuit order that was at Saint Mary's when I arrived there on...on Windsor Street. The old college on Windsor Street.

KL: Mm hmm. When and where were you born?

DJ: I was born January 3, 1928 in Rockingham. Just outside the city about four or five miles, towards Bedford.

KL: Mm hmm. I used to play basketball there.

DJ: Did you?

KL: Yeah.

DJ: Well you could only... You could count the families on your fingers and toes out there then.

KL: [Laughter] It's changed quite a bit, eh? Did your parents work outside the home?

DJ: My father died in 1932 of a massive heart attack. He was forty-two and my mother was the same age and so I was just a week short of four. He died like, December 19th, a week before Christmas, and I turned five on January 3rd. And there were nine of us in the family, and one had...one older one had died six months before my father, a little girl. And my...my mother was left with nine children, ages one to fourteen.

KL: That's quite a bit, eh?

DJ: Yeah right. How she survived it, I don't know.

KL: When did you attend Saint Mary's?

DJ: As I told you earlier, I should have boned up on the deets, but I believe I was there in the late '40s. I think around maybe forty... Now, I've got to stop and think about that. No, I was...I was at Saint Mary's before that. I went to the high school...

KL: Okay.

DJ: ...for two years. Grade ten and eleven. And now that I think of it, when I was in grade eleven, the war ended. During recess they announced that the war was over. And I remember that distinctly. So the war ended in '45, so I must have been there in '43 or '44, and...and finished grade eleven in '45. Then I went to Saint Patrick's High School because you had to pay to go to high school there and I couldn't afford to go any further. I was paying my own way. So I decided to go down there for a year because it was free, a public school at Saint Pat's.

KL: Right.

DJ: And I went there for a year, and my brother was down there. He took high school, grade ten, eleven, and twel...grade ten and eleven. Then he quit there and we both went up and applied for Saint Mary's. But we went in first year arts because you couldn't...you couldn't...I was going to say you couldn't...Your grade twelve didn't count. You had to take your first year arts over again or whatever you had then.

KL: Okay.

DJ: You didn't get credit for any of your subjects, so I went to Saint Mary's with my brother. He went there two years and then he...he went down to Dalhousie and applied for the law school and eventually graduated from law school. And I stayed there at Saint Mary's and I...except one year...illness, and I would have graduated in...I have to stop and think of this. Perhaps you shut it off a second while I...

KL: Oh okay, sure.

[Tape recording is paused]

DJ: '52.

KL: In '52?

DJ: I should have brought my yearbook. I could look it up.

KL: But approximations are fine.

DJ: But '52 I believe is the year.

KL: Okay. How did you support yourself when you were in high school?

DJ: Well I worked. I had jobs since I was twelve years old. Started working.

KL: What were you doing?

DJ: Well my first job I had was... They were building the new Bedford highway, and it was a winding old road, and Standard Pavement was building it and they were going to be the first concrete highway in Canada. They were making a concrete one out there. And it's much where the present road is now. So, this gentleman was at my house, Mr. Redman. He told my mother they were looking for water boys. Down in the days you could go down and apply and so I went down right away and saw the boss, Foreman Angus Doyle. He was from (()). Got to know him. A great friend for life. And he hired me as a water boy, and you got the same as labour got in those days, which was forty cents an hour. I was twelve so that would have been 1940, I guess. The war had started. And I was a water boy for ten days and then they advanced me to run the vibrator, a small machine with a long arm on it and a metal end on it that would pack the cement from behind the spreader. So I had ...other than that I had to fill out a report just like the guy for the biggest machinery there. How much oil you burn, gas and stuff. But anyway, I got twenty-five cents an hour. I made a lot more than the labourer paying. And we worked long hours because in those days...high we worked, they had to get it done in the summertime, so they'd start seven o'clock in the morning and finish at dark. So I worked there for a few months and a chum of mine who was with me, he was a water boy, he took a water boy's job, Harold Chamberlain, and we were there... We were almost down to Fairview to finish the road on another day, and the Mounted Police came along and took each one of us in the car separately and I was, "What's this all about?" They questioned us about, you know, where do you live? Who do you live with? Where are your parents? And all this stuff. And I asked them, "What's the problem?" They said... "What's going on?" He said, "Well we've had complaints along the road from all...from old biddies along the highway, complaining that Standard Pavement was using child labour." I said they were lucky to get us because you know, wartime came and it was hard to get labour, because everybody was in the forces. When the war started everyone was joining up. Small story. I'm long winded.

KL: Good story though. Were you...

DJ: So I worked there and then for years after I had various jobs...too many to mention. I worked as... meat department at Dominion Store on Agricola Street near North. Only second Dominion Store around here. There was one on Spring Garden Road, and that was the second one. The meat counter... and I did that

Christmas and holidays. I worked at the post-office, sorting mail during Christmas time. Night shift. The main post-office downtown. I worked...worked the Halifax Infirmary, down in the kitchen, and I put a few years in there. And I worked at the shipyards in Halifax one summer. And I worked for the Department of Highways for the survey crew. I...you know, I worked all...you know, and I worked with the CN Express was one of my main jobs. I got seventy-five...I got seventy-five cents an hour. I worked in the section gang in the railway, doing section work in the Rockingham yard, and clearing snow at wintertime, switches and all that. And I worked...one of the best jobs I remember was I worked at CN Express, I worked night shift, 11:30 to 8:30 in the morning, sometimes longer on week-ends and holidays, and summer while I was in law school I worked there all the time. It was good... You get seventy-five cents and hour, which I mean, was good money then. And that kept me going. Plus some loans. I got loans. You couldn't get student loans yet, but you could get loans if you were applying to be a teacher, studying to be a schoolteacher. The province had those for loans. And I was desperate, so I went down to the department and talked to a finance guy down there and talked...I said look, "You're not lending the money. Nobody's borrowing it. How about giving me a loan?" I talked him into it and he gave me a loan for a few thousand dollars. And I had to pay that back... Every six months you had to pay so much after you started working. I was still paying on that I think when I got out of law school, ten years after I was married, but anyway, I got there.

KL: Were you and your brother the first in your family to attend college, or...?

DJ: Yes. But, oh no, I shouldn't say that. I had an older sister. She went to... She was a brilliant girl. She went to school at Mount Saint Vincent. She took her B.A. and her B.Ed. and she had her license in music from Toronto university, through the Maritime Conservatory, I think it was. And she was a great piano player. They're all very musical in my family. And there are four girls...wait now...five girls and four boys, and everybody played something. But, what was I supposed to...what was your question again? Getting stupid.

KL: Oh, if you were the first in your family to attend college.

DJ: No. I had a sister...I had my oldest... The oldest girl, she went to high school and she took a secretarial course for two years at the Mount. Went to work, she had to work, help out with the family. And then the next girl, she went to the Mount, took her Bachelor and everything, and she...she got married, had three children. And then the next one was...She went to grade twelve with a math. And who else was there? There was Erylis who went to school, I think a year of college, but she dropped it. She was the baby. And then Mal and I... Humphrey and Lucky, they went to work. They wanted to get work. Get jobs...both. And then Maliffa and I were the next two...one sister...we were the only ones who graduated from university or college.

KL: Who were your professors while at Saint Mary's?

DJ: Well, in the high school we had the Jesuits for...mostly Jesuits there then, not all of them. And...Jesuit priests, and there was...this is up at the college on Windsor Street. Saint Mary's College, they called it then. And in high school we had...one of the main teachers was a Father. He became a priest in time. He was a seminarian with the Jesuits, Father Farrell. He eventually taught grade 10B which I went in first... They put me in that first to try me out, because I was coming from country school into the city, and you had to write the entrance exam for the city to get into high school here, and I passed the ...passed that. And it was Father Farrell and they had Jack Lynch. He was a layman. He taught at the high school there, math. And I forget who else taught there. There was him and I can't remember the others. Those two stand out in my mind. Then they moved me to 10B in the middle of the year...10A...up to 10A. And then there was...I think, Father Kehoe. He was a Jesuit priest from New Brunswick. He died. He's dead and Farrell's dead. He died in India. Father Farrell was a missionary over in India and he died there. And there was...Jack Lynch taught math there too, in the high school. And I think Father Farrell may have taught chemistry and physics in grade eleven there. I'm not sure, I can't remember right off. And then that was 10A, and then I went in grade 11 and Father Kehoe was the main teacher in grade eleven. There were others, but I just can't recall. A little tiny fellow, he died, he was from New Brunswick. Then when I went to Saint Mary's College there was...we had...I have to stop and think for a minute now...we had...over the years we had Father McCarthy, who was known as Hank McCarthy.

KL: Why was he known as that?

DJ: I don't know. They called him Hank. He was a big sort of a rough fellow. He was...He loved football and boxing and things like that, which he ran at the university...at the college. And there was...Father O'Donnell was there. He was mainly...taught Latin. And there was Father O'Rourke. He was...he was... Father O'Donnell was from Montreal. He's dead. Father O'Rourke was from Sidney. He was a Jesuit priest. He taught English, I think Social Studies...something like that. And then we had Father Filion, who actually went to McGill University and became a...studied law and then decided to join the Jesuit priests and he...No, I mixed up. That was...no, that's not him. Father Filion, we had him there. He was just a French...a brilliant French fellow with a lot of degrees, from Quebec. And he wrote a French book actually, a French high school book. I think we used that, but the other priest I was thinking about was...that was the fellow who studied law, that was Father...it was an Irish name. Then we had Father Belair who was there, and Mr. Ryan. That's... His friends knew him as Pinky Ryan. He was the... He taught chemistry there and physics, I think. And there was Mr... Oh, what a fellow...Went to Antigonish, I know, but I can't think of his name. He was the math teacher there... It will come to me...Mr...I can't think of it...It may come to me before we finish here. I can see him, a tall, blonde fellow.

KL: I'll just make a note to come back to him.

DJ: Yeah, there was a couple of those fellows there. There's two of the laymen there, three of the... Father Belair, did I mention him? Jesuit priest, taught there. Father Labelle, taught philosophy. (()) different philosophy classes at Saint Mary's in my time. And there was Father... the Father who was the astronomer... Father Burke-Gaffney. B-U-R-K-E, hyphen, Gaffney, G-A-F-F-N-E-Y. I think this microscope on top of the building in there is named after him. He was a brilliant man, a little Irishman from Ireland. He was a Jesuit priest, a little tiny fellow, he was just unbelievable and a genius, that fellow. He... but he taught... See, there was Engineering... there was pre-Engineering there, so there was Science or pre-Engineering, whatever you wanted to take, and there was Arts, and there was Commerce. Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Arts, and Science... Bachelor of Science or... and pre-Engineering, which was part of the Science, and then they'd go to Tech, to college to study Engineering. But, Father Belair, I mentioned him, he taught there too. I can't remember if he taught me as well. And that piece on top, that studied law, I can see him, but I can't pull him in. If I had some of my books here... I have some of them with yearbooks, and he had an Irish name. He was from Montreal, bilingual. And there was... Well, Father Smith, I think, was the Rector or the head guy there when I first came there. And then there was another priest, I can't think of his name, right after that. I can see him... Father Mullally. Father Mullally, I think, came after Smith. And then... I think those were the only two when I was there. And it was a very... Oh, anyway, I'll stop now on that, and you can ask me the next question.

KL: Well, I was just going to ask you what the difference was between grade 10A and grade 10B?

DJ: 10A was smarter. A smarter group, you know. They were the... you know, they tried you out in 10B and you know, they looked at your previous marks, your record in school, and start you out in 10B or 10A. Whatever they thought you'd survive in.

KL: Okay. I understand. Was there a dress code at Saint Mary's?

DJ: Well, yeah, yeah. There were. You couldn't come with sweatshirts on or anything like that. As I remember, everybody had to wear a shirt and tie and jacket, you know.

KL: Okay.

DJ: Oh, any kind, but you had to be well dressed, you know. It was just accepted that you came dressed in a shirt and tie, and maybe a sweater that would button up in the front or something, or a jacket, you know. I mean a suit-coat or a jacket, you know.

KL: Okay. Do you remember any other college or high school rules that stick out in your mind?

DJ: Not really. I can't think of any particular ones.

KL: Now...

DJ: Saint Mary's was a small building on Windsor Street. It's not there anymore. St. Vincent's Guesthouse is there. And in the front was a tennis court there, screened in, and behind that was an old place called the...the ah Rorum, which was a hockey rink. It was...it was...they had natural ice, it wasn't artificial ice, and they'd flood it, and it would freeze inside in the winter.

KL: Mm hmm.

DJ: And everybody skated in there. They had hockey, skating sessions in there for everybody, and they had the hockey team. They always had good hockey teams at Saint Mary's. In those days they had top hockey teams, and of course the fellows would work out there and work out in the old Halifax Arena and the Halifax Forum beside.

KL: Now you were at Saint Mary's when the war was going on and ended. How did these events change your school experiences do you think?

DJ: I don't think it had too much influence on it. Other than you kept attuned to the events and there's things that happened around the war. We used to have blackouts because there was these artillery basis all surrounding the city, and they had, during the war they had what is known as the ARP, which was the Auxiliary...ARP...Auxiliary Reserve Patrol. And my brother belonged to that. You'd put an armband on, and they had a mask they gave you and a helmet and everything like that. He was younger than me by fifteen months. And when the sirens would go, there would be a blackout, eh, that immediately these guys get their masks on and everything, and they'd have to go down to the highway and stop the traffic and get their lights out. And when the siren would go, everything would be shutdown, no lights, no candles, no nothing. And of course that always was...interfered with studies on occasions. But what I did myself, I took... my bedroom was in the back of the house or near the woods, so I took and made a thing with pieces of wood, like lathes...lathes? And I made a thing to fit the window. I covered it with tarpaper on both sides, and I could just slap that up to the window and I'd go outdoors and look and you couldn't see any light out there and I even had a light on. I did that because sometimes they were out for an hour, sometimes longer. Depending. If they saw anything in the sky that seemed to be...might be...you know, and the searchlights would all be shining up over the base and everywhere and looking at to see or identify this plane or whatever. And then it was sometimes just practice. And on occasions they had... put up smoke

screens. They'd cover the Bedford Basin. Put the canisters all around the basin and light them. Well, if the wind was say in the west, they'd put them on the...on the Rockingham side of the basin, on the highway, and they would... You couldn't see the basin. Sometimes you couldn't even see in the village with the smokescreens. They were testing them, putting them up, and... There was a lot of war preparation, you know, there was a lot of... We were conscious of the war and when the war ended, that's another story.

KL: You said they announced it over...at recess?

DJ: I don't think they announced it. We were outside. I remember outside...the boys smoking. They were allowed to smoke in those days. It was cool to smoke... a terrible thing. And we were outside smoking around the back of the building and somebody came over and said, "The war is over! It's just been announced. The war is over!" And so we went back in school and they said, "School's dismissed." So we headed over to what we called, Gussie's Grill. It was right on the...where the willow tree is?

KL: Mm hmm.

DJ: You know that park (()) that sits there? There was an apartment complex there and it had a store in the bottom. That's...Mr. Russell owned it. His son, joined the Jesuits, became a Jesuit priest. I think he died. His name was Bill Brown. He joined the Jesuits, and his parents were very nice people. And Mr. Brown, the father, they used to call him Gussie Brown, so they called it Gussie's Grill. That was the name of this restaurant. It was a hangout for all the high school kids from Queen Elizabeth and Saint Mary's and Saint Patrick's, down on Brunswick Street. So, we'd go there for lunch everyday. And when I was at Saint Mary's in high school, the boarders...the boarders then, so a lot of the day-hops that came from Eastern Passage and distant places, you know, Bedford or somewhere? They could stay and buy dinner there. They served dinners down in the basement. They had a great, big...what would you call it? A dining area.

KL: At the college or...?

DJ: At the college in the basement. And we'd go down there for lunch. And I had a few bucks then, so I'd get my lunch down there. It was cheap. It would be a reasonably good price, you know.

KL: Mm hmm.

DJ: And, I got my lunch there all the time I was there, so I think I remember it for the two years. It may not have been fully, but I was there for at least a year, and it was a very strict code when you were down there for lunch. Like they'd have prayers, before and after lunch, the priest would, and you had to speak very softly you know. You couldn't have loud ruckus noise during lunch. And they'd have

somebody read scriptures there to you, you know, while you were having lunch. It was sort of a meditation period or something. And I did that for a couple years, there in the basement, I think. Maybe a year, at least, maybe longer. And anyway, when they declared the war was over in grade eleven. We were all told to home, so I headed over to the old willow tree Gussie's. We all went there. And I remember there was the old tramcars in those days, the old electric streetcars.

KL: Mm hmm.

DJ: And out in the middle of the street, in front of Gussie's Grill there, there was a...where the Holiday Inn is now, between there. There was a... The road would go on either side of a...of a stand with chains on it, like. And the people could stand up there and wait for the bus. And the traffic (()) or the sidewalk. Streetcars would come in there, you see. Coming and going there...two tracks. And, I remember we went over there. And I remember one fellow in particular, I won't mention his name. The...the streetcars were just filled with servicemen, because they all quit for the day and they were heading out for trouble. And they got on the...these fellows got on the...they were packed on the streetcar. And I remember these young fellows that I knew, they ran out and they were in class with me, actually they ran out and they pulled a...the rope on the back, which was unhooked. The think that ride the rails up top! So the streetcar man was getting mad. He couldn't get it. So this...this...sailors pulled the window down in the back of the streetcar and they'd reach out and fix it back on. So finally, this same guy, he ran up and tried to pull it back down again and they sailors were trying to take a poke at him, you know? Swinging at him? To stop him you know, hitting down them? He took a swing. He missed and his left...there was a round light on the back of the...on the front and back of the streetcar with that size. You know, for night driving? There was just glass on the front of it and his fist went through that, and he cut his hand all up. And...there was...right across the street, there was a doctor in the house there. He went up there to the doctor. And things were getting a little out of hand. I remember this old, poor, old man came along the street with two bicycle wheels, and a little frame on it. There was a big long ladder, you know, extension ladder. And he had this painting stuff on it. He was cleaning windows or doing something I guess. So they went out, and they started grabbing the other end, and pulling it from him. You know, trying to get it from him and everything else? And anyway, I went home to get my...I went home and I borrowed a bicycle with another fellow, and we drove downtown, watched all things going on. It was terrible. You know, they broke in all the liquor stores and the...all the big places around. And there was...oh just riots down Barrington Street. They cleaned the windows of every...about every store on Barrington Street.

KL: Oh my gosh.

DJ: Turned one of these streetcars over on its side by...just as it made the turn from Barrington...up by Saint Mary's up to Spring Garden Road. Rolled that over. Turned over a police patrol wagon. And there was thousands of sailors down there. They were all drinking and sharing their stories. Well, they had to call in the army from the (()), to stop it that night.

KL: Oh my goodness.

DJ: It was terrible riots. The VE day riots, you've heard of that, haven't you?

KL: Mm hmm.

DJ: Yeah. They let the...they let the sail...The sailors were discontented and they let them out of the dock, and they had nothing for them. So these guys are all heading downtown to go to the bars and everything. Well there were no bars around and no taverns or anything. Headed downtown for fun and they couldn't get anywhere, they started busting the town up. And I remember three students were walking along Edward Street in Halifax during the day, and as they were walking along, these two students, I knew them well. From the eastern shore, I won't mention their names. There was five sailors coming towards them, they never thought anything. Just as soon as they got beside the sailors, the sailors grabbed them and punched the daylights out of them. Gave them two great big black eyes and cut lips and I think one of them had a broken nose, and they beat them up.

KL: Oh my goodness.

DJ: And the next day, they found on the campus at Dalhousie, they found a Lieutenant Commander who was killed. His body was on the...the...never found out to this day. He was found dead on the campus as I recall. Those riots were something else. I went home that night and I remember around the (()). It was nice, hot weather, and we looked, and all of a sudden we saw these army vehicles, trucks brought in loads of troops and (()) gun carriers. They were like a small tank, but they're open. They can carry troops in them, they had tracks on them. All the stuff that was just roaring in the highway there. It took...well, it took...took a long time to pass. You know, it took twenty minutes for that to get by us, I think. And it went into the city, I think, and they...they put them on top of the brewery, up on Almon Street. The old brewery? They were up on top there, mounted with sandbags and guns up there, and...to guard that, because they were breaking into every liquor store and everything that was going on.

KL: That's just crazy.

DJ: What?

KL: I said, that's just crazy.

DJ: Stealing and ripping things apart. Destroyed... You know, Eaton's was on Barrington Street then. They just hauled a mattress out on the street and everything else there is.

KL: They tore the whole city up.

DJ: Oh yeah. It was terrible. Mainly Gottingen Street and Barrington Street got the worst of it.

KL: Just to go back to Saint Mary's, do you remember the cost of education there for the high school or the college?

DJ: The figure a hundred and twenty-five dollars stands out in my mind. That's what it was.

KL: Was that for a year, or...?

DJ: That was for the year, yeah.

KL: Okay.

DJ: Yeah. And I remember when I was in college there, there was a man by the name of... from Dartmouth, he was a teacher in the Commerce. Mr. Beazley. What was his first name? They called him the Babe. That was his nickname. Great man. And I remember, you'd have to go out the front door of the building there and I remember times he would stand... his office was right by the front door, and you know, you had to pass him to get by. And he'd stand out there at lunch time or after school and I remember him pass me a few times. I was nervous to go by him because I was a little behind in payment of my dues, and he would say, he'd call me inside and says, you know, "When are you going to pay us something?" And I used to be embarrassed and (()). Anyway, so I have that.

KL: Where were the other students from? Were there a lot of boarders from away?

DJ: Quite a few. There was... well, Elmer McGillvary who became a Jesuit and then quit the Jesuits later on. He was ... They had the Saint Mary's Junior Hockey Team. And it played... it was a top hockey team here in Canada. The first line was: Elmer McGillvary played centre.

KL: Mm hmm.

DJ: Or wait now. Was he centre-ice? I think he was. Burt Strichfield was on right wing, and I think Elmer... or Hughey Campbell was on left wing. Burt was from Halifax. He's dead now. He married a (()) girl, and he was a fantastic athlete. Played quarterback for Saint Mary's in high... Saint Pat's in high school. He was

top golfer, top tennis player, you name it, hockey player, paddler, he was an all around fantastic athlete, and he eventually for a time with the Montreal Canadians. Good friend. He was at Saint Mary's, but he was from Halifax, yeah. But Elmer McGillvary was from (()) Mines in Cape Breton. He came... They lured him up here to play hockey and he came there...or he went there. And Hughey Campbell, they got him up to play hockey. He came.

KL: Was he from Cape Breton too?

DJ: Yeah, he was from Sidney I think. Yeah. And then they had... Well they had other fellows from different places. I think Beans MacLaughlin... I think he came to Saint Mary's. He was from over in New Brunswick. Saint John, I think. But there was a lot of people, boarders I can think of, like... oh, I'm trying to think of the fellows name now... Steel. This Steel fellow was a great hockey player here. He was... Burton Steel, played for the Truro Bearcats. His brother... his brother, Steel, what was his name? He went to Saint Mary's for Commerce. Married a Calger from Antigonish. And he went with... he was from PEI, and he went with Swifts Canada, over in PEI, and he retired over there. George Steel, and he boarded in Rockingham with some people. They were friends and were from the island. In Rockingham well there are a lot of islanders moved over to join the war from PEI, and he stayed with them. There's George Steel, and there was Troy, a boy from Truro. What was his name? He used to see... now wait a minute. He was from Truro. And then there was Aloysius Callback from Sidney. He came down here and he went to Saint Mary's. And there was Eddie McCormy... was from Glace Bay. There was Patton MacLean from Guysborough, he came here. They were from all over, different places. There was Jeff from Tatamagouche. I can't think of his name right off, it will come to me. And he eventually went to law school out west, but there were... The majority of people were from Halifax city. Quite a few from the North End, but see most of them were from the west end and Halifax south. Most of them.

KL: Okay. Could you give me an idea of what the college building was like on the inside? The classrooms or where... if there was there a library, that sort of thing.

DJ: Yes. On the... When you went in the main front door, you... on the left, there were offices there, and on the right, and there was a chapel. And the nice chapel, to the right, along the side of the building, and it held a few hundred people. And there was a... and then right at front was the auditorium with a stage there. And behind that on that first floor was the library, the nice library that they had there, I think they called it the Power Library, after a gentleman in Halifax here, Mr. Power... Senator Power. And then there was, in the basement they had washrooms down there, showers... showers... they had showers in the washroom. In other rooms down there, but they weren't for anything for students. And then the next floor up there was a lot of classrooms. There was one, two, three, four... I can see four, five, six, seven, eight. There was about eight classrooms on that floor, maybe more. And then on the next floor, there was a class... a couple

classrooms down on the front. One particular I can think of. And then there was the Jesuit priests living quarters on the top floor. And I forgot to say, as I said before, in the basement was the kitchen, and there was the dining room which was big, served good meals there. And then there was an old gentleman there who was the...what they call a superintendent today at the building, but he was the janitor in our day. His name was Mr. Schupe, S-C-H-U-P-E. And oh man, extremely popular. Everybody loved Mr. Schupe. He was there for years. And I think he retired just near the end when I was there, just before that. And I was just thinking, there was a priest there, Father Foley. He was from Antigonish or Cape Breton. He was a Jesuit priest. I said Father Labelle, he became the president later on. He left the Jesuits and married a woman from India or Persia or some place like that, and went over there to live. Some great people there. Wish I could think of that priest... the Irish fellow – Daley. Father Daley. D-A-L-E-Y. He was a brilliant man, he had a BA from McGill, I think, joined the bar, and then decided he wanted to be a priest. Marvellous man, brilliant man.

KL: What can you tell me about non-Catholic students at Saint Mary's?

DJ: Yeah, there were quite a few of them, yeah. There were quite a few, I can think of some. A good friend of mine, Hank Rounsfell. R-O-U-N-S-F-E-L-L. I always called him Hank. He lived in the south end of town, down on Quinpool Road near the Arm. He went there and took his Science degree, or pre-Engineering, I think it was Science. And then he went on to tech and became an engineer, I think an architectural engineer. Still working at one of those firms down at the Brewery. They have a big architectural firm in there, he's still with them. There was Rounsfell, Quinsan (?) And somebody else... And there were a lot of others... I said four of them before. Jim Soy, the guy from Truro. He was non-Catholic. Got quite a representation of people from other faiths. And there was Dr. Ibsen, the chiropractor in Dartmouth, he went to Saint Mary's High School, he's prominent in the West End Baptist Church. His brother, George Ibsen's brother Harry went to law school and he moved to Toronto. He died quite a few years ago, ten years ago. And there were a number of them. Not a large number, but quite a few. Jimmy Pineo went there. He was a goaltender for Saint Mary's, famous goaltender. Did his commerce degree and took over his father's business downtown which was Pineo's Meat Market, and he did extremely well over the years and retired and lives in Hubbards or Chester. Very wealthy man, I saw him not so long ago at a funeral. And John Wiley, they were from Rockingham. Don Tremaney, the announcer, was his uncle. What's his name.. I know him so well. He was at Saint Mary's, took his science and engineering and went to Montreal to live and work for many years. And Jimmy Pineo is from Rockingham, was the goaltender for Saint Mary's. And then John Wiley – we called him “perchy Wiley”, became an engineer and he was in Toronto, and he was one of the designers of the.. he was a civil engineer – of the major thoroughways and highways that go through Toronto. When they first built them in Toronto? He headed up that, he became very wealthy. He died, he was very prominent, was Chairman of the Board of the Children's Hospital in Toronto. He was very prominent in civic, community things? And we used to call him ‘Perchy’.

Perchy Wiley. Everybody had a nickname, and that was his nickname because he had red hair and freckles. And he lived in what we called a back road, hill 70, and Tremaney there, Johnny's uncle lived in Rockingham.. and where was I? They were non-Catholics, but they liked Saint Mary's reputation, and they all went there and did very well after they graduated, there, all three of them. But there were many others. Probably come to my mind if I thought long enough... But those are the ones that stand out right now.

KL: What was your nickname, if everyone had a nickname?

DJ: While I was in Rockingham, they used to laugh at the name Ignatius. They didn't know that name. How I got that was.. My father was Anglican and turned Catholic, my mother was a Catholic. The main parish church was in Bedford. Father Martin was the parish priest there for twenty seven years. And our church in Rockingham was a satellite church, or a mission church, they called it. They didn't have a very big church there. And he'd come down on Sundays and have Mass there, but the main service in Bedford and different things. Well anyway, my mother, when I first.. a few years ago I found the certificate that said I was baptized in Rockingham, but my mother always told me that Dad took me up to Bedford to St. Ignatius Church to get baptized, and when I was there, the priest, he was calling me after his brother, my father's brother. My uncle, David Jones – he was killed overseas in the First World War. He was only 19, he was hit by a German shell. He was in the Nova Scotia Hounds... this was my mother's brother, they were together on the same gun. Artillery gun. And Dave was killed, and uncle Jerry said that the worst thing about it was that he had to leave his brother in law, his companion and friend. They said, move on, get the horse and drag ahead. He had to leave him there. Anyway, so they named me after him, Uncle David. Because it was traditional in our families, Welsh descent, David was the patron saint of Wales. In Wales somebody in the family always has to have the name David. It goes back for generations. I had a son, David. He died. And I have a grandson named David named after him. And I had an Uncle David. Oh, where was I leading?

KL: Your middle name.

DJ: Oh yeah. So I'm at the church getting baptized, and my mother was at home in bed, because they stayed in bed for ten days when you had a baby in those days. And I was 5th, or 6 and Father Martin said, What's his second name, gottat have a second name. And my father was, no, it's David Jones, that's all I want. My uncle was David Charles. And he said, what's the second name? He said, I haven't got one. And he said, well you have to have a second name, after a saint. He said, what's the name of the church here, he said. He said, St. Ignatius Church. He said, I kinda like that, call him that. So I got called David Ignatius Jones. Mother always told me I was baptized in Bedford, when I found out the certificate, my mother's answer to that was, would have been, that he would have filled them out as Rockinham, but it was done down in Bedford, as I understand

it. We had to go out there to be confirmed as well, in Bedford. But anyway, that's how it happened.

Oh yeah, I was in school, coming into grade five. And there was a story about Ichabod (IKE-a bod) Crane. Ichabod Crane, is that what you call it? Ichabod (ICK-a bod) Crane...

KL: I'm not sure.

DJ: Ichabod Crane, fall asleep for forty years or something like that... some story. He woke up, and the world was all changed. But anyway, the teacher, that was the old school in Rockingham, and we had a wooden schoolhouse with two rooms. One room you had kindergarten, grade one, two, three and four, with one teacher. Hallway right down the middle, and on the other side was five, six, seven and eight and nine. And my brother finished the year before I did, enrollment was 62 students in that whole area. That covered from Fairview right through to Millview, up towards Bedford, there. Some of the graves that were up at the end of the road in Millview, they walked down the lodge, the end of Princess Lodge. That was Rockingham, then Millview, then Bedford.

~end of first side of tape~

~tape resumes~

DJ: When I was at school in Rockingham, and teacher in grade five said, get up and read. She'd deal with the first row for reading, then the second row, third, and come back and come back to math. Or he would, depending on the teacher. We had outdoor toilets, one for the girls, one for the boys in the woods. Our school was right in the woods. If you wanted a drink of water, there was beautiful clear water behind the school in the woods, just run back, take a drink. And look out the school windows you could see deer, and all kinds of animals out there, around the school in those times. Owls, you used to see owls out there. We found one one day, brought it to school. He didn't catch it, it was just sitting there, he ran it and brought it. So anyway, when we were at school, the teacher said I want you to stand up and read the lesson. So I got up and read, and I said, I was calling it, IKE-a bod, instead of ICK-a bod. I'd say IKE-a bod and the teacher would correct me, and say it's ICK-a bod Crane. It was I-C-H-A-B-O-D, I think. No matter how many times she'd correct me, I'd still say IKE-a bod. So after that, everybody was laughing and giggling in the class, and so after school everybody started calling me IKE-a bod Jones. Like Ignatius – they couldn't say Ignatius, so they'd say David Ichabod Jones. So then I got to be Ike. Ike Jones. I-K-E, Ike Jones. So if I'm walking somewhere, even in this stage of life, 74 1/2 ... If I hear someone holler out, Ike, Ike! I know they're from old time Rockingham. And then when I got into the high school in the city, they started calling me Deacon Jones. I got that in Halifax. And what other name did I have.. David... Oh yeah. And then when I got to Dalhousie Law School, my initials were D. I. Jones, and everybody, Cape Bretoners like MacDonald, he was from Glace Bay, they always

called him D.J. D.J. MacDonald. So they started calling me D.I. I used to get, D.I! All the time when I was at the Law School. Still get that. I'll be somewhere and I'll get, D.I., what are you doing? You know. So I had three nicknames. Ike, Deacon, and then the last one was D.I.

KL: What impact do you think the Catholic administration had on Saint Mary's, in your experiences there?

DJ: Well, I think it had a profound experience on a lot of people. The Jesuit priests and the church influence. A lot of people from Dalhousie, King's College, places like that, would make fun of Saint Mary's, and say that it was nothing but a prep seminarian, a prep seminarian school. You know, it was a good place if you were going into the priesthood, but I don't agree with that. It was a Liberal Arts course, they had excellent professors there, and some of the people that made their mark in the world, like I think of my brother, he went there, he finished grade eleven, and the two years down at Dalhousie Law School, and he graduated when he was was 21, youngest graduate there, and they were all veterans in the class then. And Ron Downie, he was at Saint Mary's University. He led the Law School for three years. And there was a chap from Kentville by the name of Burke, he went to Law School the year after them, he went to Law School, and he only went for two years, and then after the second year, he quit. Or maybe even the first year. Quit Law School, and joined the Jesuits, and was a missionary in India for the rest of his life.

And there were a lot of priests, local priests came up out of Saint Mary's. I can think of three right now, Father Oteau, (?) Father Robertson, and Father Heenan, in Dartmouth. They joined the local priesthood. They just celebrated their 50th anniversary of joining, the anniversary of three great men. But there were a lot of fellows, like Father Heenan's brother, Jerry Heenan, they were a bunch that went to St. Pat's and Saint Mary's. He became an engineer, and became the head of the Maritime, Tel&Tel here, BC Tel&Tel heard about the British, and he had a big job. Then he was in Ontario alone, a head of the Ontario Tel. He went back to BC and retired. He was down for his brother's 50th anniversary, and he's remarried, he married a widow when his wife died. Just a marvelous fellow, a brilliant guy. They had a lot of top guys that came out of there. I can name a lot of them. I can think of them, but I don't want to take up your time with that. But my brother went to Law School, he was a tenth of a point behind Downey. One point behind Downey when he graduated. So that's the end of that. Next question. Did I answer that one?

KL: Yes, that was great.

DJ: Was it?

KL: Yeah! Were you a member of any societies?...

DJ: Oh, I was just going to say about the influence, there... I was just going to add to that. They had a profound influence on a lot of people, I know myself, my own life. Catholic, strong Catholic, and I had a strong Catholic influence there. I had a Catholic upbringing too. But the influence there was great, and I found the teaching I got there stood me in better stead than I got in Law School. Law School was sort of like a trade, you know, not quite the same broad basic Bachelor of Arts degree. We had Latin, I took Latin all the years I was there. I took it in high school, junior high school, actually. I took French, and English... so languages was my forte, which I liked, and history and those things. But we took everything there, the philosophy and teaching and everything was certainly marvelous background for life. And it's kept me on the straight and narrow and I'm not a religious freak, but I'm a religious man, strong religious Christian Catholic, and hope to be up until the time of dying to get my reward someday. What domination are you?

KL: Catholic.

DJ: You're Catholic. It was a marvelous Catholic background education there.

KL: Yeah, I was just going to ask you if you were a member of any societies while at the college or high school... like debating or....

DJ: While I was in school, yes. When I was at Saint Mary's, I belonged to the Debating Society. They had debates there every Fr.. well I think sometimes first thing in the morning, in English class. But we had a Debating Society, which we went to Friday afternoons, after classes for anyone who wanted to go to it. I belonged to that. You had chances to debate and learn about debating, and things like that, publically. Some great fellows came out of that.

KL: I would imagine.

DJ: I wasn't one of them, but I was able to take something away.

KL: Were you a part of anything like the Holy Name Society, or Catholic Student's Crusade?

DJ: Yes, I was. Catholic Students Crusade, I remember that. Where we would have the odd meeting, it wasn't a big organization, but we'd raise some money for prizes there, and I remember the Holy Name Society. We had those in our individual parishes as well, when you get home to your own parish. Holy Name Society was big for years, and then they dropped it a few years after I got married. It disbanded around here, it was a big organization, did great work and was good.

KL: I've read about the annual retreats. Can you tell me anything about those?

DJ: Yes. I remember that now, I never thought of that. We used to have annual retreats every year, I think they ran for about a week. And you had to go out to.. first thing in the morning you'd have to get out to Mass, attend that, and after that

they'd have spiritual lectures and things going on during the day. I think it ran a week, pretty well.

KL: Where would this take place?

DJ: Right in the college. There's a little chapel there for Mass first thing in the morning and they had different things throughout the day. I don't know if we had classes that week or not. I think we did, but we also had the Mass, and the Benediction in the afternoon. There was quite a bit going on with that. Yeah I remember that being a thing...

KL: Would all the students attend?

DJ: (interrupts) I think that was in the Easter time.

KL: Would all the students from the high school and college attend, or a select group?

DJ: Well, the majority I'd say.. the Catholics went to it. The majority. Everybody seemed to participate, yeah.

KL: Now, how did Saint Mary's, being a small campus, affect the atmosphere of the school?

DJ: Oh, it was great. There was a lot of camaraderie and a lot of personal contact - you knew everybody there. Great spirit, it was very friendly. You know you knew where everybody stood, if you were the top student or not, and you had the inside and everybody. It was great. It was better than in a large mill, like in California where there's thousands of students in a class and you know, talking into a microphone, but it was an intimate thing, and great friendships were made for life down there. Yeah.

KL: Who promoted student involvement? Were the Brothers really active in promoting ...

DJ: Student involvement? Yes, they did. They had all these different organizations on campus, you know, and they.. I'd say Father O'Donnell, we used to call him Buck O'Donnell, but not to his face, of course.

KL: Why would you call him that?

DJ: Oh, that was his nickname. Buck O'Donnell. O-D-O-N-E-L-L. Or maybe two Ns, he was from Montreal. A great Latin scholar, that guy. And he was always the head of the debating society. And he promoted a lot of things about getting involved in student's council, debating society, and all of the other organizations on campus. Saint Mary's was well known for its athletics. For years. Then too, we had a Saint Mary's college hockey team that was always winning, beat Acadia, beat StFX, beat them all. And not StFX that much. And they had boxing there, at

- one time. I didn't box, but I knew guys that did. Father McCarthy headed that up. Had a great football team at Saint Mary's...
- KL: What teams did. Did you play for any teams, or...
- DJ: I just played in a FAC hockey, and football, like Commerce would play Arts, and we had a field on the side of the building there, on the corner, where St. Patricks school is? And we all played football there.
- KL: I've heard stories about the Jesuits joining in football games, and ...
- DJ: Oh yes. There were a lot of good passings a... they certainly got involved.
- KL: They were certainly interested, and dedicated.
- DJ: Interested and dedicated. And these guys were so, dedicated priests and dedicated teachers. They did something, and did it well.
- KL: Do you remember anything about the Ladies' Auxiliary? And the role they played in raising funds?
- DJ: Ladies' Auxiliary, yes. I remember that. I remember that they had teas, and all kinds of things there. I remember there were parents, and there was a tea there every year. Spring or fall, or maybe twice a year or something. They had fundraising ventures and things like that. Old ladies, that were there for years.
- KL: The boy's moms –
- DJ: (interrupts) I forgot to mention a Miss Foley.
- KL: Ok, who was she, now?
- DJ: Agnes Foley... or was it Agnes... The famous Angus MacDonald married a Foley from the South End of Halifax, I think her name was Agnes, but there was a Miss Foley. She was a librarian at Saint Mary's College. She was there for years and years. She was the chief librarian, I remember her.
- KL: What do you remember about her?
- DJ: Oh, she was an elderly spinster. I remember she was a.. part of the furniture there after a while. A unique, fine lady, you know? A quiet lady. She worked there for years and years. I think she retired from there.
- KL: How frequently would girls be on campus? And for what purpose?
- DJ: I can't remember one on campus very often. I remember they used to have dances. The Mount and Saint Mary's would.. A friend from the Mount took her BA and her B.Ed there, and she taught school for a few years. I met her.. they used to have dances. The Mount used to put them on more than we did. I don't

think we ever put any on. We'd go to them. Another thing they'd have on that street that I forgot to tell you was next door at Saint Mary's, they built a building there, and it housed the ...oh, what was that famous club called.. everybody went to, all the students... It was a Catholic.. for meeting, dancing, and so on, it was a famous club. St. Christopher club or something, I can't remember the name of it. I went there my whole life. All kinds of couples met there. It was right on Windsor Street, near Saint Mary's there, they had ... I can't remember the name of that organization! It was a Catholic organization across the country and it was a place for Catholic students, boys and girls, to meet and so on. When I went to the city, St. Patrick's high school, that was all boys. St. Pat's further up the street was all girls. Nuns taught there, lay people taught there. So in those days, they didn't promote boys and girls going to school together.

KL: Keep them separated! What effect did the education offered at Saint Mary's have on your life?

DJ: Oh, I think it had a profound influence on me, particularly in this day and age, and the education I got, it was very broad, and the background in French. I can read anything in French, I'd have gone over for six months some place, and I wouldn't have been able to speak it. I know a bit of French to get by. And Latin, I found extremely useful in Law, and languages. In the English language, lots of verbs are from Latin. Same with the French and so on. And the philosophy we got in there, and the moral teachings. English courses were wonderful there. Good English teachers. It was a great place. It was a great influence on me, more so than, it molded me in my younger years before I got to Dalhousie. Yes, but I could never be more grateful than I am, with to have attended Saint Mary's in that period. The Jesuits there, it was just a marvelous place.

KL: What do you see your connection to Saint Mary's now?

DJ: Saint Mary's now, I still have a connection to it, I'm living in the past now, but I still have a connection to it. I had two boys went to Dalhousie for their undergraduate, and they went to Law School there, and I had a daughter went here. She went to Law School, worked for the city of Halifax. And another daughter, she went to Dalhousie for Science, to study Medicine, she's a doctor. And another daughter, she took her B.Sc in Nursing at Dal, and then she took a Masters in Science in Nursing, I think, and then went to Saint Mary's and got her B.Ed, and then she took a Masters in Education. She worked for years, but has her own company now, training people with respect to the new drugs coming out on the market, trains Doctors with respect to using them, and the nurses and so on. But, I have a connection here. My boys didn't go to Saint Mary's, but... I think they got scholarships to Dal, I guess that's what happened. And I have a daughter now who went to Saint Mary's to take her BA, and a certificate in Honours Psychology the year after that, that was her major at Saint Mary's. And then she went to the Mount and took her B.Ed. for two years. And she applied to Dalhousie for the MBA program, which was a mistake, they gave her a scholarship for two years, \$5500 a year. And she's got another year to go. We have a 26 year old

daughter, my wife had her last baby when she was 40.... My wife was short of 46 when she had our last child. So I got a baby bonus and an old age pension, Canada pension for three years. Almost as good as Trudeau!

KL: Now I've asked all my questions, did you have anything you want to talk about?

DJ: No, just to say, to reiterate that to me, Saint Mary's produced a lot of quality people, mentioned a lot of names, name after name, and they all did well, but they were all... Anybody who went there. I'm not saying that there was Catholic or Protestant, to be good Christian people that their Christianity was prominent in their lives, and had a big part. And the molding had to do with the Jesuit priests, which I think is extremely important. I think they made thinkers of people, I don't accept everything I hear, or everything I see. I think I can think for myself and determine what's right and wrong. And today there's so many things that are happening in the world, especially with the line of ethics and morals to me that are just... scandalous. Glad that you're getting near the end of life. I'm 74 now, 75 next January. And I feel that that training I got at Saint Mary's stood me in good stead with respect to, to be able to discern and see through these wishy washy arguments that people are putting up today about morals and other things like that nature. That's it.

KL: You're done?

DJ: Can't think of anything else, right off.

KL: I'll just shut this off, then.