Carl Pursell, Oral History Interview, 1998

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EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
HISTORY

INTERVIEW
WITH
CARL PURSELL
CDP: Well I was born in Plymouth Larry in 1932. My family came out of Detroit. We moved out to Plymouth. My dad was a printer and became a publisher and I learned the printing business. The printer, you learn to set type and consequently, you become the best speller in the school system, which I was at that time, but not any more. And because I had that printing skill running a ____ and a rotary press and set and type and all that. Benjamin Franklin said a print shop is a poor man’s college. So I had all that craft and I came out of high school playing the sports and doing everybody else did, I had a craft, a vocational trade to take to go to work with. So I decided to go to college and went to Eastern and I said, well, I’d like to work part time.

LNS: What year did you leave high school?

CDP: 1951.


CDP: 1952. City Printing Company right there on

LNS: Washtenaw.

CDP: I walked in and said yeah, I’m a printer, I can set type. He said Elden Peasely, he said yeah you’re hired, $1.35 an hour. Back then that was 1951.

LNS: That was good pay.

CDP: All the rest of the students, not all, but most of the students were waiting tables in the dorms for $.50 an hour. So I was making three times their amount in 1/3 of the time. So I became President of TEK and I was active in the campus and sports programs.

LNS: Now what were you on the Varsity Teams?

CDP: I played freshman basketball under Couch and I broke an ankle going up on the board and finished my basketball career. So I was President of TEK so we won all the intramural sports and academic awards when I was
President. I was a big fast ball pitcher and we had wonderful teams. That's back in the Oestrich days. And Arm of Honor.

LNS: Oestrich was a student then?

CDP: Yeah. He was our Arm of Honor and I was President of TEK and we had the largest campus fraternity on TEK, we had about 70 members. I don't know if that fraternity, but it's all in the scrapbooks. So I went to Eastern. Majored in History, Economics and working part time in a print shop and then when I graduated, the fall year of graduation, '55, coming up for graduation, I was President of TEK that year and met Peg, you know, blind date. She was a graduate of Eastern who had left the campus a year ahead of me and was teaching at Wyandotte. And Alex Mazurowski, my roommate, who was going with another gal who was living with Peg in her home.

LNS: What was Peg's maiden name?

CDP: Peggy Brown.

LNS: Brown, OK.

CDP: Peggy Brown, Evelyn Brown and Jeanette Brown all graduated and they were all teachers from Eastern Michigan. And Peg's dad was a General Superintendent for Ed Levy Corporation that built the slag plant in Israel and the one on ______ Island. So they were in the construction business, her father was. He's dead now. Well Peg was a Panhellenic a choir and a music major and a minor with French and Mathematics. She majored in Mathematics. I think she was second highest in the class. So I got a blind date, I took her we went to the Homecoming Football game that night and then my party. My party, the party we had hosted a TEK party and I don't drink or smoke, never have, never did, except one night. The night I met my wife in a TEK party. I said, well this is my last.

LNS: What was that a celebration?

CDP: Well I didn't know I had no idea, it was just a blind date. And so I had a couple of beers and six or eight of us in the party and I took her home that night and five months later we were married, 1956. From there I was a Lieutenant so we got shipped to Ft. Benning for advanced officers.

LNS: Now you were a ROTC graduate.

CDP: First class. Charter, yeah, Claude Wilbanks, myself and eighteen others.

LNS: And who was the commander?
CDP: Can't remember.

LNS: Can't remember. That's a long time ago.

CDP: And so during that Commission, we were assigned Ft. Benning. And so I was an advanced officer. It was a fast track upgrade of all of the Lieutenants in the country. And Ft. Benning is the Infantry Center for the United States Army. And the reason I wanted that, I wanted to be at least in my career Larry, a Field Officer, not a Staff Officer like Eisenhower and MacArthur. I wanted to be the Patton kind of, cause I think you're in the real world. The Staff people sit behind a desk and the Field Officer's out in front. So I took that training. Jim Brown was my roommate there from Syracuse. He was an All-American lacrosse at the time. I was coaching the sports programs down there so I had Jim Brown, Elgin Baylor, Tony Cubak and all those people working for me playing basketball and Jim Brown was my center. He had wonderful thighs and he's a great guy. Wasn't very good student but anyway he goes on to be, as you know, setting football records and movies. So that was at Ft. Benning. I was assigned back then to, Peg came down with me. We went to Ft. Leonardwood, Missouri. I was assigned a big training center, engineering center. But the training center, all of the recruits would come in for their basic training and the buses would come in and get off and I'd look at them all and inspect them at 7:00, 8:00 in the morning and say, when I look at like Elgin Baylor's and some All-Americans come in for six months so they could get out and go back and play ball. So I had all these great All-American's from all over the United States playing for my teams and our camp team became so famous because we had super stars. Chewback was with the Yankees, Abe Woodson, Carl Kane, Casey Jones, Boston Celtics played on my softball team. Fast pitch. I was a pitcher, Casey played first base. So I had a little exciting flavor there during the two years I was there of doing something that I wanted to do beyond my regular duty work during the day as a Lieutenant. Well of course, Major General Lane a Postman was so excited he couldn't see straight. Well we were winning all over in our travel and in our stuff could give them a lot of credibility of course. And we had a lot of fun. I met a lot of wonderful people. And then

LNS: Are you still in touch with any of the people?

CDP: A few, a couple of them. Cubak, he went to the Yankees after that and made history. And a wonderful guy. He played on my bowling team. So I had a lot of teams going. That's the way it looked. I'm not focused on that narrow minded on that stuff. So we had some great teams and anyway, out of Ft. Benning, I had to make a decision whether I wanted to have a military career. At Ft. Benning, I was right outside the jump towers and
whether I wanted to go airborne ranger and stay in the service I was close to that cause I liked travel and if you wanted to make a career in the military you'd be out in 20 years and boom, boom, boom. So I said no. Peg said gee I really think I'd like to travel the world. Maybe it'd be a good career for you. So we discussed it and narrowed it down. I said no, I want to go home to my home town and do things for the area and community and the area of public service which I spent a lot of time in. So we came back from Ft. Benning, Ft. Leonardwood experiences and moved into Farmington, Michigan, Meadowbrook Hills. Peg was teaching, I was teaching in Taylor, Michigan and I started second grade, third grade, fifth grade, seventh grade and twelfth grade. I wanted all the experience at all three levels. Then I did that for six years. I moved from Taylor in the middle of, too political over there, totally all liberal Democrats and they were interfering with the curriculum at the school. And the Principal got fired, she was sleeping with one of the board members. It was a mess over there during those days. So I got out of there and I saw Livonia Superintendent who was teaching independent studies, independent, you have a class of twenty-two, you got independent programs for all twenty-two and I says, gees that's a terrific idea I can handle that. So Ben Yates, I went over to see Ben I said this is what I would like to do and he says come on I'll hire you and I went on the board of Livonia staff and one year later I was teaching the gifted and talented because you work with the individual student. Dr. Delagora from Dearborn who was one of the bright guys nationally known in that field, worked out a program for gifted and talented with me and I taught the class. I believe and the elitist in the gift and talent think that their kid is the brightest kid since sliced bread and I said well probably is, and that's great but so is every other kid in that classroom has a gift and has a talent. And the job the teacher has is to find that talent. I had a little boy in fifth grade Larry that was doing nothing in class, Archie; he didn't like to come to school. I said Archie, what's the matter? He says oh I don't know I don't like this stuff math and reading and all the stuff you're doing. I said oh? So one day, he brought in a model airplane he was playing with it. I said, Arch, are you building model airplanes? He said, yeah. He said I do them at home. I'll tell you what, you build a model airplane for the class, come up to the front of the room and show how you did it. Then you ask the classmates to bring in model airplanes and I'm going to put you in charge of this project and you're going to teach them how to build model airplanes cause you got to read, math and the whole bit. So in come in the back door. He did that and I said furthermore, once we get them all built we're going to have an airshow on Saturday morning and invite all the parents in. Oh my god, that kid went nuts, I mean he just turned 360 degrees, and became, he finished and he ended up in college. So I got a few little vignettes like that that I don't have time today.

LNS: So how did you, why did you get out of teaching? It sounds like you were
CDP: I got out of teaching because I saw the politics, I was a building representative. I was AFT Building Representative in Taylor, moved to Livonia, was a Building Rep in Livonia and I watched the unions protect themselves called “Protectionism”. And I disagreed. I said we've got some great teachers, give them some good salaries but get rid of the teachers that aren't productive. Basic stuff in the private sector world. So I obviously could see my future as a teacher while I was confined in that classroom and I said I got to get out of here. So I left teaching and started a business in Plymouth.

LNS: So we're back on tape here.

CDP: I left the teaching profession, which I loved. The kids gave me a wonderful going away party, the individual kids, I still love it and I'm doing it now, I'll save the best stories for last. After I came out of there we were still in Farmington and Peg was teaching in Livonia. I left Livonia and my dad died suddenly at 56 with cancer. So anyway

LNS: So you stopped teaching?

CDP: That was an early benchmark in my career.

LNS: What did your father die of?

CDP: Cancer at 56. They had no detection stuff back then. Never went in for early detection and my mother she lived to 84 but she was diabetic, so I'm diabetic but I'm not on insulin. I'm borderline but my numbers are way down and I walk 2-3 miles a day.

LNS: Got to watch what you eat.

CDP: I got to watch what I eat. I have tomato juice in the morning with poached eggs, so I'm feeling great. I've never felt better in the last two years since I took charge of that thing. I came out of the schools and I said well my dad had died and he had a business here, office supplies and printing publishing business from which I had grown up in. I said well mom, I'll come back and help you for a while. But I'm not sure that's what I want. So I did for two and I liked it. I liked the mainstream cause when you sell office supplies you know everybody in town and everybody else. So my politics was working in that business it fit perfect. So I became President of Chamber of Commerce and served three straight years. Nobody's ever done that and I spent a lot of time there. People thought, gee, this guy's terrific, he should run for office someday. So the word started going and I said oh no, I was Congressional Chairman for the party and I was also President of the Chamber at the same time. I was wearing two hats and
sort of power position not from a Machiavellian standpoint but just the businessmen needed some representation in Lansing and etc. And that's how I got into the act of public as a Precinct Delegate for nine years and then Congressional Chairman here for the region and Romney, I was in, I'll go back and fill a gap here. My dad's business we decided, my mom says let's close it down, I don't want it anymore. I said, I don't either. So we closed it and we sold it. And I still had to have a living. So I started a new business, Western Office Supply and I got that up and I had all the great accounts around here, ________ Corporation, Western Electric when I was doing great- young go-go guy. And I had all the accounts for a couple of years, I don't know how long I had that business and Ed Shenning General Manager of Burls Corp was on my board, I was President of the chamber he said Carl I buy all of my supplies from you and you're such a good community guy. But he said I got a salesman that came in here the other day that under cut you by one-third. He says, I got a budget and I said you know that's a private sector thing you got to take the low bid. And I said where'd he come from? He said well he came from Detroit. I said where? A warehouse or outlet? He said well it's down on Fort Street he says I'll get the guy's name and give you the information. I go back and find out it's the same company, very smart operation, very free enterprise and I support them all the way philosophically. But it was the warehouse of office supplies that sold supplies to all the dealers in the region. So I drive my truck down there, take my orders, come back, re-package them, re-price them, and ship them out to the dealers. Shenning says I can't do business with you anymore. I knew right away what that company was doing. We were buying wholesale from them at the front door driving up and they had salesman coming out and taking all my big accounts from the back door in the retail section so I said, that career's over. Well that's part of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. Well the guy's would never make a good living. They make a marginal living but that's all. So I sold that out and was in real estate for a couple of years with a wonderful guy, Bill Failey he did some appraisal work and put an industrial plant down at the airport the American Hospital that was my baby to put into the Metro Area. And in the last couple of years, I was a delegate and so forth and Romney called me said I want you to run for the Senate. I was very active in the Party, George Romney and I said, God, I don't want to leave my family. He said well we think you can win. I had run a State Senate campaign and blew Ed McNamara right out of the water. He was a candidate back in Farmington area, Oakland County of Livonia and Plymouth. And Ed was our opponent and Farrell Roberts was our candidate, he was a lawyer but he didn't know how to run, so I orchestrated the whole thing and Ed came up on election night and he said, Carl, you beat me fair and square. And I did. And that's his track record. And he's going on, as you know as a county exec. The bill I wrote when I was _______ the county. So they asked me the next term, Farrell decides to quit the Senate two years after we did the work to get
him into the Michigan Senate and Romney said, do you want to run? I said, let me think about it. So I traveled around, talked to Mayors and Superintendents and everybody and I got excited about it as a young man. And the Mayor of Berkley moved into our Fourteenth Congressional Senate District and announced for the State Senate, George Coon. Big family in Oakland County, brother is Dick Coon the Circuit Judge and everything and I said oh, we're going to have a primary? So I had announced. We got into a real fight, constructive one. I had traveled 17,000 miles in campaigning. The race was all decided on abortion. You voted pro-choice the whole time, sent letters to his constituency and the Catholic Priest got him up there in the Senate Appropriations room and talked him into voting Right To Life. When he switched positions, he lost both constituencies. Boom they all came to me and so I had the pro-choice middle ground, rape, incest and medical life of the mother. Well that was back in 1969, '70. That today, is still one of the Litmus tests in political process people say well how come we always debate abortion? Because it's a moral, political, medical it's a dynamite issue.

LNS: So this is the State Senate? You won this election?

CDP: Yes. No, I lost my first race. Here's what he did; George Coon-Pursell head-to-head and George said this guy's going to beat me. He could see that coming so he got a Lobbyist, McClellan who was working for Blue Cross in the Chamber's up there in the Legislature to file as a third candidate. And he came down here, he didn't want to be a Senator he'd never be the Senator, he had no base. But what he did was, smart stuff, he got an elephant, rented an elephant and brought it into Plymouth in downtown catalog part during the fall festival stuff. McClellan for Senate, Free Rides for Kids. And of course, they just got on that thing and he took 900 votes out of that three vote pot and upped it then I got beat with it. That's the old political Chicago game, so to speak. Well I learned a lesson.

LNS: What was the lesson you learned?

CDP: I had all of the Republican Precinct delegates working for me, Lenore Romney was doing some speaking in Oakland County George was backing me, I had the blessing of the whole party and local Republican leaders but you don't win elections with just Republicans. You got to have Independents and you got to have Democrats and that lesson stayed with me most of my life. And that's why I've won 23 elections in a row. I don't think anybody's ever done that in Michigan. Well Dingell's had term for that time but different offices, no. So I lost that race, come home you know lost the first thing, lost the ballgame I could do a lot of coaching. And after that
CDP: I came back did some real estate. Then let’s see the next step the Judge, the Circuit Court ruled that County Board’s of Commissioners will be directly elected. So County’s if you’re Mayor or Township Supervisor you automatically go on the old board of commissioners so Wayne County had 135 political units and you had a board Larry of 135 members. They were Mayors they go down to Wayne County Building and have lunch with all the network and all their buddies, you go in at 1:30 for the formal county board meeting at the UAW engineered the whole agenda, they’d ratify it and come back to their local respective communities. And the judge said no you’ve got to be directly elected it’s a major policy rule. And I said well now that I’m home, I’ll take a look at that county seat. So I filed for the county seat one of the city councilman, I can’t remember his name now, it shows you I’m getting a little up there, I’m 66 today, not today, but this year. A little while Alzheimer’s. And he filed to run against me well he had the big base, Livonia was the fifth largest city in the state and I come from little Plymouth. Well our Republican Chairman said Hank Slatick, he said I’ll run, I’ll file so there were two from Livonia and me from Plymouth. Well it’s just a matter of numbers. I really didn’t see that although I read about it historically. But he said I can win a lot of votes he said I won’t win this, I don’t want it, I’m an Executive at Western Electric here in Plymouth Carl. But you’ve done so much great work that we want you to be a State Senator and Ed Milliken who was a Democrat switched and ran as a Republican and they just went bonkers in the Party. So he filed and the rest of it’s history. We split the vote there and I won the county seat. McNamara’s on City Council at the time before he became Mayor. And they watched all this and here’s a kid from Plymouth taking over a political base out of Livonia and they wondered how, what happened to him.

LNS: So you became a Wayne County Commissioner?

CDP: Commissioner for two years, 1968, and ’69. Then George Coon was up for election. He was in the State Senate and they were two-year terms so every two years they had to run at that time, it’s now a four year. And I said, I don’t like this political bastion I’m in here down in Wayne County although I learned a lot of politics. I endorsed Dick Austin over Roman Gribbs for Mayor on WJR and I was doing some good stuff on the county board. We had a study to establish a county executive not done in Michigan. Jim DeSanta was my he was a conservative Democrat, we did a study together and run in a think tank and they said yeah, county exec would give unions a check and balance. We were running a show in Wayne County on a lot of corruption, abuse and still is on McNamara’s crowd...that’s another story. And so I said I got to get out of here. I’m going back to take on George Coon, head-to-head. So I met with that State Chairman Bill McCloughlin and I said Bill I’m going to run. I said I’ve
driven 17,000 miles, met everybody in town and George Coon's running a crusade on crime against the Mayor Cavanaugh is a suburban he was playing the race cars and the abortion thing switched on which I didn't know at the time so I got in that race. I defeated him in 31 cities and townships and blew him right out of the Senate. That was my big beginning victory.

LNS: Felt pretty good?

CDP: Yeah. And now I go in the same day with Bill Milliken January of 1971 for a four-year term.

LNS: In the State Senators.

CDP: So I go on the Education Committee I serve and I think I'm the only legislator in Michigan to serve on an Appropriation Committee. The appropriation committee had eight people on it I walked in the room seven of them were from the out-states Charlie Zaller from Benton Harbor, Joe Mack from the Upper Peninsula, Bob Davis from the Soo, Gary Hart from Flint.

LNS: You were wrestling with some pretty good pork.

CDP: Right and I saw right away if I could get on this committee I'd be the only one from southeastern Michigan. And we were in the majority. So I went to the leadership and I said look here's the case and they said you're right Carl we've got to have somebody... so I got employment. Made a helluva case for it. So I got on the Power Committee, Ways and Means, Taxation the two most powerful committees in government at every level. It's all you do and how you spend it, the money. Line item prioritize. So I got on that committee and it also includes Capital Outlay which is a spin-off committee of the full Appropriations Committee that meets at night so the press didn't show up. So they cut all the deals in there for all the buildings around all the universities. Community colleges, Higher Ed. So I got on the Higher Ed Subcommittee, I was Chairman of the Community College budget traveled all 29 community colleges in the state and I was on the School Aid Committee K-12. So I'm the only one that sat on all three Higher Ed, I wouldn't necessarily put that on that level, K-12 Subcommittee and Chairman of Community Colleges. So I had that kind of experience and I began to write a lot of amendments and I wrote the Gifted and Talented, wrote the Year-Round School Bill. Schools could do year round 45, 15's up in Huron some of the Superintendents wanted them. So I wrote it to say you may do this not you shall do it, mandate it throw in two words in law in the legislative process that may and shall. May is enabling if you want to do something as a school board you could because the law says...
LNS: You may do it.

CDP: You may do it. And I believe in that very not mandates, the governor complains about Federal mandates but he mandates to us, mandates to the city's and mayors, he does the same game they do in Washington. Anyway, I had a great career. Freshman term, the Michigan Press Association selected me as the Outstanding State Senator in Michigan.

LNS: This is the early 70's.

CDP: Right, during that freshman term. And I went to Rutger's University for a summer, Peg and I went out there and brought in the top cream of the crop legislators from all over the fifty states and we talked about the future of our roles and etc., etc. in terms of leadership. So I came back from that and my Districts changed and I picked up Redford Township and lost Oakland County picked up Redford Township and part of Canton. So I ran the second time and won in '74. And I had two years there. But I want to watch too many assignments that's what I want you to look at. After the two years, after I won the second term very easily, had no opposition to speak of. The two years I came out of the Senate and Marv Esch called me he says he was a Congressman in Ann Arbor - Ypsi, he called me he says you ought to look at my Congressional Seat, I'm going to run against Dan Reigel for the U.S. Senate. So the seat's vacated. Now I'm in the middle of my four-year term so if I lost, I still go back to the Senate well I was in the right time at the right place.

LNS: You ran in Marv Esch's Chair seat, District rather?

CDP: So I thought I don't want to go to Washington, I'm home, I got my family here and I have to run every two years. It's a swing seat and we thought about it long and hard and I said Gill Bursley wanted to run and Ray Smith who was the Environmental Legislator from Ann Arbor and I'm from Plymouth again, small part of the big Second Congressional District. So I think I can win this seat so Smith dropped out, Bursley dropped out and I'm (break in tape). Councilman from Ann Arbor said that the (break in tape). City Councilman from Ann Arbor a conservative ran against me and I'd beat him in a primary by 1,400 votes so I'm the nominee. Ed Pierce was a State Senator ran for Governor, former Mayor was a doctor who performed all of the abortions in Ann Arbor apparently had been around the track two years prior to that against a guy named Marvin Stempian who was a Democrat from Livonia who is a Board Leader on the House side. And he wanted to run for Congress and it was he and Stemp...Pierce who went after the seat two years prior to that to run against Marv Esch. And Stempian beat Ed Pierce. It was a pretty good race and it was on the abortion issue again. Since that time let's see, Ed
Pierce lost the Primary so he went back to Ann Arbor. Stempian won the Primary but he lost to Esch so he went back to the State or back to Livonia, he's now a Judge and a neighbor of mine. In that race, I was 16 points behind, this is one of the historic races in the country that year. It was 16 points down, I'm a State Senator with a good powerful base, County base, State senate base, six years in the Senate, so the Ann Arbor people said who's this guy? You know? Carl Pursell from Plymouth you know. Didn't think, had no idea that I could win that seat they thought Ed Pierce had been around the track so he would be the next U.S. Congressman. Well I didn't have any money so I had a mimeograph machine, hired a Press Secretary and raised some money we set a headquarters on Washtenaw with Tom Minick who was a County Sheriff. Tom was a very popular Republican and office holder in Washtenaw County where I needed to build my base fast. I couldn't go out and shake a thousand hands, community leaders I didn't have the time. So that identification with him sort of traveled around and helped me. We ran a headquarters out of there. It was a Press Secretary and Tom had a Secretary there. Three-man operation and I rented a mobile unit and Pursell for Congress and I had my Press Secretary in during the day and at night he worked running off target and I started doing target mailing. John Lindsay ran as a Republican for New York Mayor and he came down to our caucus some place in the Party and I asked him I said how did you get elected Mayor as a Republican? He said it's easy. I go to a corner, an intersection in New York City and the bus was picking up people to go to work every morning. And he said the long line was there and there's a problem. The bus was late. So he go back to his office, his staff would kick out a little flyer, cheap flyer and he'd bring it back the next day and said if I'm elected Mayor, this bus will run on time. And that is target mailing. So you talk to seniors, university people that you talk about their subject, nothing else. That's all they care about. They don't see the big picture, including a lot of my good friends at Eastern. But the Federal budget is the big package or the State Budget in this case. So I caught him at the two days before the election, I knew I had won that race and I had worked four o'clock at the plant place at General Motors and I shook hands at UAW Quarters and I'm Republican. That's what Ronald Reagan did. That's what George Romney taught me, how to jump fences on a Sunday at a UAW picnic and shake hands with everybody and you pick up 30 percent of the vote or whatever cause chemistry does pretty good things. I was at that plant gate and I was passing out literature and somebody taps me on the shoulder he says are you Pursell running for Congress? Yeah, I thought I was going to get kicked out. I had a volunteer labor specialist with me was on my staff so we could crack the union. He says well, I'm Republican he says I'm up in Whitmore Lake. He says I run this place not Doug Freider so he says put your signs up took me in the locker room hand out the literature. That's just an example and we won that race by the election night we were 22 votes apart. 190,000
votes cast and we were in a dead heat. And I said Ed I think you won. And he said maybe you won this thing. They had a recount Washtenaw County, Ed said there might be some bad ballots in Wayne County because of the history in Wayne County. Lo and behold, Harrison called a Press Conference three days later, Thursday at the Clerk’s Office in the County Building, that place was jammed. They said the next United States Congressman for the Second Congressional District is Carl Pursell. And Ed just collapsed because he thought he’d win in a landslide. By 344 votes. Fifth closest race in the nation. So I go down there and he contests the election in the House Elections Committee. And so he hired attorneys, we hired attorneys and the Democrats control that house election by a 3 to 2 subcommittee and they looked at the whole thing. I went down sworn in but I wasn’t officially in there yet and got my committee assignments and so forth. So anyway, and Ed had lost and the whole ballgame was over and I was launched into Congress.

LNS: Now who were some of your fellow freshman Congressman?

CDP: Dan Quayle. He was right next door to me. Al Gore was in my class and I could name a lot of them.

LNS: For the tape who’s President?

CDP: I was in a Republican Class of 20. Gerry Ford was President and he invited us over the White House. He just lost to Jimmy Carter. During my campaign let me back up, I flew in with Gerry Ford into the campus at U of M football team when they were practicing, Bo had the team out there and we flew in and he stopped practice and we all huddled around Gerry and he’s touting me as the next Congressman, that’s what I’m doing there. I get off the helicopter and do that. We do that all the time. So Bo Schembechler’s standing next to me and Anthony Carter is knelt on the ground with him helmet on listening to Gerry Ford and all this stuff about football history when he played there. Bo says Mr. President, he said, I want to tell you this is the only Carter I’m supporting. And you know, the place just cracked up. Anthony Carter, Jimmy Carter. So I got to go back now. Who was President? Gerry Ford was President, the day we were sworn in he invites us to the White House and he’s packing up to leave. There were 20 Republicans that went in there. I was the only Michigan Congressman other than Dave Stockman from Michigan that were freshman and so he gave us a little coffee and said he’s leaving the next day. That was really kind of him, he didn't have to do that. Class operation. So I launched my career there and I was assigned to Education Labor Committee, which is a very political committee run by Bill Ford and company. Who I like and I was a good friend, we grew up together and worked together but he was representing the NEA and the unions. And controlling the committee. So we got on the committee and I
I got a subcommittee assignment and my freshman term Al Kwee is the ranking Republican, Bill became Chairman later on but it was from Kentucky Student Aid Program for not pell, he's dead now. But then Ford was number three on the committee. And so Al Kwee was ranking he says Carl, I see you got a great record in education. You wrote the Gifted and Talented Act you're around school. Would you like to look at a study and help lead a forum for Gifted and Talented for the country? I said sure so I did that. My freshman term I wrote that for the whole country was adopted. [Name] in the Senate and he was on the subcommittee and went over the Senate after we passed it. I said Lot, can you get me some help on this and be a sponsor of the Senate? He says well don't tell anybody but my wife teaches gifted and talented. So I just fell into that one. And so we passed that one in the House overrode our Chairman's who didn't want a new program and that launched the gifted and talented nationally. So I started doing a success record in my first term. A lot of accomplishments. All bipartisan I did everything bipartisan never Party line. Working with the Democrats.

LNS: You pretty much maintained that throughout your career.

CDP: Right. See when Romney and that you start going to plant gates and you gotta listen. The basic reason we have our democracy Larry is that you have three branches of government, the legislative branch was my love, you're a lawyer, you like the judiciary and the court and stuff but the Constitution says you are a U.S. Representative, not Congressman. So Representative, what does that mean? That means that you go to Washington and Lansing to voice the views of your constituency. Not the other way around. They got it backward now. They say well I'm for gun law and I'm for HMOs and I don't care what you're for you represent us. So I got this new Congressional candidate turn upside down here and you're gonna see a dynamite campaign I think with Lynn Rivers because she's part of the Liberal 11, she doesn't represent the entire 600,000.

LNS: Running is Tom?

CDP: Hickey. Real fine man who was Chairman of the 13th Congressional District. And in our party today, Newt Gingrich, Speaker of Georgia, Dick Army who nominated me for conference Chairman is from Texas, Tom Dulay Majority Whip is from Texas, Bill Archer Chairman of Ways and Means is from Texas, Bob Levy is in Chairman of Appropriations who worked with me and I may have become Chairman, I don't know, I was close to it when I left. Became Chairman of Appropriation under this existing structure of the Republican Party and Tom [Name] is Chairman of Interstate Commerce the Dingell committee that he lost and they switched seats; all from the south. So obviously, coming out of Michigan one vote doesn't mean a damn thing, your nothing. You got 435
members but if you can put a coalition together, fine. I get elected under the Carter years.

LNS: Right.

CDP: Get my training, get my experience you know growing up in the system. Well I had all that leadership skills in Lansing and County Board and home stuff so I moved right into leadership just like that. On the Appropriation Committee, I was so excited about getting that assignment. When Reagan got elected in '81, we were 26 votes short of control of the House of Representatives. You've got to have 218 votes, got to learn how to count numbers real quick. 218 votes to pass a Bill. So the Senate, I think that time was Majority Leader Bob Dole and Speaker Tip O'Neill was our Speaker. So Reagan had a divided House. He had the presidency and the Senate but he didn't have the House. So that's when it all went head-to-head and that was history. So we went to the, this is going to be in my book. I'm working on my book also. Reagan is sitting there and how do we get 26 votes to get 218? Where would you go on the Democratic side? The guys from the Democratic side the southern conservatives were closer to the Republican Party than the Liberals from Northeast, Midwest which I was partly of, I was a moderate Republican historically, but I just had one vote. So they said OK. That was Phil Graham, Charlie Stenholm and all the boys that control the...and they sit and even today, they sit in the center of a chamber, very interesting, Liberals on the left and Republicans on the right as you face the podium. It's wonderful stuff for me. I'm just so glad. And so they formed a group called the "Bo Weevils" and in Reagan's first year. So we connected with them. So now they become a coalition with us and I'm setting there with a couple of other, Claudine Snyder from Connecticut saw it as I did, I said, Claudine I said they're going to take our budget away from the Northeast, Midwest, defense budget, tobacco subsidies, water project so on so oil. I said, what's gonna happen in the Northeast, Midwest? Well they needed our votes in order to get that 218 so obviously you say hey wait a minute. Let's us organize and then we'll be at the bargaining table so we did and I was elected the Chairman of that group. I was doing the strategy.

LNS: I remember those days.

CDP: Great stuff. It was behind the scenes. It wasn't published in the papers.
CDP: They formed the Bo Weevils and we said OK, we're going to organize or 
Reagan's all finished and Jim Baker said Carl you're absolutely right so I 
want you at the White House with your steering Committee every 
Thursday at 4:00 o'clock. Started to negotiate, I had a power position.

LNS: Now that's the other picture on your wall here. That meeting, the 
President around the table right over here?

CDP: Oh yeah all the time and there's my group. I don't know if you can see it 
here, but my whole staff, we had Press Conferences here. Here's my 
group at the White House.

LNS: This is what I remember. I remember when this all came about.

CDP: Big stuff there.

LNS: ________ Carl Pursell.

CDP: So that came later in '86 and what we called ourselves for the heck of it, 
Gypsy Moth, I don't know who came up with that name.

LNS: That's great.

CDP: Well the first big issue was the Ted Camproth Tax Cut, three year tax cut 
to give money back to you, the taxpayer. Of course, Democrats didn't like 
that because it was taking money out of the treasury that they couldn't 
spend. But the beauty of it was when you give somebody a tax cut, you 
give citizens a tax cut, they get the money, they go out and buy a car, 
upgrade their home, do whatever they want, go to college, and it 
generates more revenue in the private sector and that revenue, tax 
revenue for the Federal government called the __________ Supply side 
economics.

LNS: Is it also called Voodoo Economics?

CDP: Yeah that's what the Democrats named it but it wasn't. It made a lot of 
sense, it was so logical it was so, the economists, Milton Freedmon said 
yes it'll work. So that's what Reagan did, he started with Jack Kent he 
was my seatmate for years cause he was on Appropriations Committee 
with Jack and our pictures up there in Plymouth doing some fundraiser. 
So Supply side Economics had one major flaw in it and you could describe 
it as Voodoo Economics but the Democrats never mention it, that is if you 
cut taxes like a trillion dollars over three years that money comes back to 
the taxpayers who buy all of the products, homes and cars and everything 
else. That generates a lot of money, which it does. You look at the curve 
in the treasury department you see it just start shooting up. That's partly
the reason for the economy today. Not really Clinton. You go back and look at that and Jack Kemp says well it'll generate a lot of money but Jack wanted to be President. So Jack's thinking, how do I get this? He's from Buffalo, one of our Northeast, Midwest people. He says I got to be a conservative. Yeah he played with the Buffalo Bills, they won the Championship. Jack's thinking I got to be a part of this southern strategy in order to be a national candidate. And what are their priorities? Same as the Bo Weevils. Defense, number one. So he's looking down the road to supply side economics, took a trillion dollars out of the budget and the Democrats screamed, Voodoo economics. But in the long term, that money came back into the Federal Treasury. Reagan's first budget was a trillion dollar increase in Defense, B1, MX Cruise Missile, the whole works. And the MX, Carter wanted 200, Reagan says well let's build 100, Democrats said zero, so we had dead heat. Do they picked a taskforce, I was there, pictures on the wall in the White House, with Reagan, we settled at 40. So I win. I mean I win 40 compared to Carter and he was a Democrat now, and Reagan who wanted 100 cause you got to move those things around on all the states on tracks and Dick Cheney and God love him, he's from Wyoming said well I'll take them (M-X) cause nobody wanted them and the whole thing of nuclear stuff going down through a town on a track and moving them around so the Soviets can't see it. So the Defense Budget shot up and of course we said no way, we're going to go with a 12 percent increase whatever the factor was, we'll go with an inflation increase or something. So we negotiated a lot on every single; Medicare, Social Security, my team was in there, and I had remember a Steering Committee, experts on different fields from different states I appointed them to do our spokesman but I was doing all the brain power, strategically speaking. So Baker just loved me he said, gees you're really great. I never had a big press conference, we did for the region but not attacking Reagan because he was in our Party and he won that tax cut fight, I think like 6 votes and Tip O'Neill just got knocked full right square in the head he was just shocked. How could they do this? And we did it. And then the next step was we had to write a Federal budget so our group sets down at the bargaining table and the Party the Republicans pick 19 people in the Party from all over the country to be in the called the of 19. I was one of them and that was when Newt started to come in quietly and watch this whole process. I remember him walking around with his little clipboard just seeing how if you was doing good policy, get an assessment of alliance and that comes later. So after the budget fight we win again by around 6 or 10, I don't know what it was in a Democratic Liberal bastion had gone down the tube, it was over for years. So we had a lot of accomplishments. Cause you take a budget instead of going line item you vote for education, voting for Medicare, voting for this, as we did on the original bills, they put all the issues into one bill and you vote it up or down, one vote, yes or no for cutting taxes. Yes or no for spending. And so the constituencies of education, Bill Ford, Eastern
everybody else who were going that route on the line item, was getting increases every year. Just more money. But the deficit was in trouble and we have a debt Larry of $5 trillion dollars today. So the spenders of this nation, the liberal side spend us into a disaster situation. And I said Bill Ford, very honestly said, you know, Carl you ought to bring all your educators down to Washington for a conference on how to get Federal money. And paid by the taxpayers by the way so school boards mostly teachers went down there, big conference, I'm there he wanted me to speak on some subject and I could never do that. I didn't go to Washington to build a national debt for our grandchildren so that was a difference fundamentally. But anyway, when we won that budget fight, we made history and Reagan had a good first term, a historic first term. Second term he runs and Baker and him and some political people, Swikert, Secretary of Health, good friend of mine, Dick, former Governor of Pennsylvania, sat down and started talking about reforming Social Security as they're doing now. But they started talking about it way back then because of the upcoming deficits. And the growing, aging population. So they started talking about it, it got in the newspapers and all of a sudden, the Republicans are getting accused, the word cut is a vicious term in politics because of there programs, Reagan did not, he cut the big numbers but it was always more than last year. So the Democrats twisted that around you've heard it a thousand times, people say oh yeah, Republicans are cutting PELL Grants or something like that, not so. Cause they don't do their homework and they've never been to Washington, most of them, even you're good Vice President Colleague, and I debated with sometimes, who am I talking about? The Black? Courtney.

LNS: Courtney?

CDP: He was going down to Washington had the students all rolled up and he really didn't do his homework. I spent some time. I said Courtney, there's another side to this thing you gotta hear. And he finally began to see the light a little but so we became good friends. And that budget was up or down once of course you go home to your District and you say well are you going to cut spending or are you going to increase spending and build that deficit so today, Bill Clinton leaves offices from a trite $5 trillion dollar deficit that's gonna be $7 trillion. What do you hear? You hear that they balanced the budget and we got the deficit down. That's not the debt. The debt is the accumulation of the massive spending without some revenue coming in to balance that off. So the debt, the deficit you talk to a voter on the street, that won't know the difference. Now out of the budget Larry, this year $245 billion dollars is taken right out, real money to pay the interest on debt. It's one of the fastest growing programs in our government. The press hasn't really focused on that, it's just a disastrous course of history for young America to have that happen for our
grandchildren are going to pay the price for that. Taxes are going up. Today the taxpayer, every taxpayer spends 24 percent of his dollar for taxes, local, state, Federal, etc. Total combination. You have the Gross National Product. Well that's compiscatory taxation. That's one of the reason my philosophy's a lot different than Billy Ford's. That's the difference between the parties pretty much. Now supply side economics has one flaw that Jack says, I decide to write a freeze budget in that second term because the deficit showed up in 1986 at $200 million. Reagan goes back and I said you know you can write the history now. Reagan was no conservative. I think I'll use it as a title of my book, but I'm not sure I will. And we had a since our group is still intact, the old gypsy Moths, they said, gees what do we do now? We don't have control, Democrats take it back. And so we're back in the minority and they said; Carl what do we do now, our group? I said, well let's write a Federal budget, helluva challenge, Stockman's over there with 2,000 employees, writes the annual- budget days when I came in together. And I said yeah we could work nights so I'll get CPO Budget Office we'll set him in here, we'll audit every program, we'll go right through the budget discuss how we're going to handle the deficit. So we came up with a brilliant idea. We come up with a freeze for five years. We weren't going to cut the university PELL Grants or anything else in the nation, Defense, all the rest, we didn't need that $3 million dollar Defense Budget, talking to the President and to Baker and I said, you know the President says, I need that cause that's the Evil Empire and we're negotiating on nuclear arms and stuff. And I said yeah but how much is their ruble worth? How much and sure enough I was right, because the wall came down and they collapsed. And we spent this trillion dollars. We had to do that. So we write a Federal Freeze Budget, we worked a thousand hours, a thousand hours Larry at night, January, February and March of the first term of the second term of Reagan's presidency. But we lost 26 members of the House or Representatives because they started talking about reforming Social Security. Democrats said, oh they're going to cut Social Security. And we did. They ran ads in all the papers, Republican Larry Smith from Connecticut is going to cut Social Security and got knocked out of the Congress so those 26 we lost, we were back in the minority and the Democrats had won a big victory with the Social Security fight. At that point we're in a minority and my group says Carl what do we do now? We're in the minority? We're back to business as usual. I said let's write a Federal budget. We did. We spent a thousand hours doing it, I introduced it on time, it was a whole budget, freeze for five years, 1991 the deficit's gone, talk about the deficit, not gone. Said gees this is brilliant, I can go home and defend that. Olympia Snow in Maine, she's my Co-Chair, she loved the process, Tom Ridge who is on my steering, he's Governor of Pennsylvania, the pictures all there with my meetings. So we wrote a budget, I introduced it on time, Democrats said my god, this is a great budget. Now this is a little ad hoc, volunteer group that was meeting
at night with CBO, that's what you can do if you got an idea to get people that want to put in extra hours. I worked long hours.

LNS: So what happened now to the budget?

CDP: So I take it to my Caucus, who are the 40 Republicans in my Caucus said you know, we're all co-sponsors you look at the Bill and you have 40 Co-Sponsors on it and I introduced it, introduced it to the House, publicly so we got excited about it but now with Reagan's budget, with his typical budget slanted to the south, it was coming through the Senate. And our budget, the freeze budget, by only 40 Republicans out of 145 or something like that. And then Danny Rostenkowski, which controlled the House then, had the Democratic budget so you had three versions of the Federal budget for the future of the country to look at. So Jack Kemp, I took my Caucus and we went into our Caucus and I had big charts up there with teacher and I had my chalkboard and I had all the trades I learned at Eastern as a good teacher beside your voice and I presented that and Jack Kemp was Caucus here he was presiding over the thing and I'm making the presentation. Of course, I was using my seatmate and I'd known Jack a lot in the last few years and they look at it and says my god this is a great idea but we can't say no to the Reagan presidency and the south because he was looking at the south to put his coalition together. He says Carl that's a great budget but I can't vote for it. I got it in writing. I got a commendation letter that he sent me saying it was a great exercise of politics in this country, wonderful piece of history and Frederick Smith and New York Times wrote a whole book on it. And my names in it but he missed the whole point of what I'm telling you. So anyway we presented that Caucus and our group was going to say no we're voting for the Pursell budget, they give you the name of the budget after the sponsor as a Chair of the group. It's an amendment. It's heck of an amendment. It's a trillion, $500 billion dollar amendment. People don't understand. So the Reagan budget comes through Senate same as usual, southern strategy, that's what Republicans were, we were taken governorship, we were taking Congressman, the southern strategy was the old silent majority came out of Nixon. So obviously that's where we go in order to take the presidency well our people up here all the Presidents Jimmy Carter from the South, Gerry Ford was the last, but he was an Interim President, Reagan from California. So the whole thing shifted. The growth was out there, we were the rust belt we were losing people you remember and that gain was fast and we're still not gaining as fast as those states so we'll probably lose another Congressional seat next year. And we think we're doing great here regionally but we're not doing as great as Arizona and Colorado stuff when you look at the whole picture. Anyway, losing that race, doing the budget, and starting to negotiate and Kemp said no, I said I can't vote for that Carl, I said it's the right thing to do Jack. It hit me that he was staying with that national agenda and he says the _______ and you cut the taxes,
you get the spending in the Federal government, you get a lot of revenue but there's one thing he couldn't do, he couldn't vote no on the spending side. Appropriations. Oh yeah we'll give everybody all the money they want because it doesn't matter in his economic theory that spending is OK because we have the revenue to pay for it and it generates the economy and so it's a part of the Gross National Product that's a very small part of our total economic system and he's right about that. But I said Jack we've got a deficit here your President and you are going to be accused of spending money you don't have and the deficit at that point will bring this party down and it did and the Clinton campaign got it. Big spender, deficit, George Bush, etc., etc. Well anyway

LNS: the economy's too good

CDP: Yeah right. And he addresses that and never talked about the debt, just the deficit. So we took it to the floor in the Fall, late Summer. And I managed the Bill, I got a whole tape here of that day and we lost that vote. There were three, King of the Hill, the one that wins is the budget for the country and the House and then it goes to the Senate put it together and it goes to the President. So we lost that vote that day and our guys were just disenchanted because we lost the vote and said now Carl what do we do? Well the Reagan budget coming in, got trashed, we got more votes, I got more votes than Ronald Reagan, he was a second term President. He just visualized it. It all started coming back to me after I left Congress, what I had done because it was such a fast track. So Reagan budget goes down, it got 5 votes or something, Democrats just killed it. We voted some of our group voted for my budget so there wasn't much left for Reagan. When that budget was developing the Senate, Kemp Trenton Lot was our Majority Whip, third person in our ranking. I'll never forget this on the House floor one day he said, well Carl I hear you have a group of our colleagues writing a budget to freeze the budget. Well he's from Biloxi, Mississippi and he's in the Navy and the Defense budget would have gone down with us which is what we wanted to do so we could use that money for education, PELL Grants and all the priorities that we had in our region, education, Medicare, Social Security, not tobacco and all that stuff. So we have a different regional set of priorities here that's what made it exciting that we could trade dollars for dollars without spending more money, follow me? So that's what it cost while we were there to protect the universities, to protect the states in what they call Block Grants and things like that. And so we had a wonderful agenda but it was totally different than the south and obviously, when you negotiate a table you bring those two big demands down reasonably to common sense and get an agreement and that becomes your national policy on everything, programs and

LNS: So how does all this reconcile?
CDP: It was all reconciled because I, we lost our Bill and Reagan lost his and the Democrats passed theirs. The Senate was mostly southern Senators, controlled the Senate, and so they came to the conference committee and got a compromise and Reagan got most of his Defense Budget at least what we call business as usual. Didn't address the deficit. In that period, I was meeting with our group, we went over and sat with Bob Dole, he's standing in that picture there, I was presenting our budget, he says it's a great budget _______ Carl. You really got a helluva an idea here our group did and it was a combined idea. But we all got to do the Reagan budget. So they cut half the Reagan budget in the conference committee and that was the final law of the land. So we lost again. They came back, we convened, had coffee and said what do we do now? I said, we're at a freeze concept here let's go to the House Floor when all the authorizing Bills come up, and freeze them. No new increases. And so you got to go through the practice of authorizing. Bill Ford and I can authorize a program then after it comes back and goes to the Appropriations Committee to fund it so the authorizing Chairman, Bill Ford was one of them and a few others, and we said, that's a helluva idea. We're gonna freeze our budgets. Because everybody's getting nervous about the deficit. The Democrats are scared to death of it. Joe Kennedy and Tim Penney and some of the guys over there said, gees we want to be part of this action. So I formed a Co-Chair group of conservative Democrats who are from the Northeast with us and I could name the whole group. And we strategized and I said look, I can't offer amendments every week, I don't have the time to do it, writing a book, so I will assign different members to offer amendments on a subject they know best. Snow on women's issues, an educator on education, so I had a wonderful team, so we scheduled and when the authorizing Bill came up out of the subcommittee for funding there's usually a 3 or 4 percent business as usual increase of more, 8 percent, 7 percent, depends on the committee. Outer space program had a fast track and a lot of projects, some of those you got bigger increases on those southern things. You could see it from the south. So we won seven victories in a row and slashed the budget about $11 billion dollars decrease. I had Democratic sub-Chairmen who were managing the Bill the next day come to me and said Carl, are you going to offer a freeze limit tomorrow? I said yes one of our members will offer them on the House Floor. And most amendments did, they passed like 40 to 1. They couldn't vote no and that's all in like CQ the book the keeps all of my history and that's all my famous stories in all my scrap book and we started winning, our little group is winning House victories against the Democrats and I'd say yes, we're going to offer the amendment tomorrow, Steve Gunderson on agriculture and he said would you do me a favor, this is a Democratic _______ talking to a Republican guy. Would you do us a favor and let us off the amendment because we don't want to be embarrassed on the House Floor. So we went got to clean water that's a sexy subject.
LNS: Did you let him off the amendment?

CDP: Huh?

LNS: Did you let him do that?

CDP: Yeah. I don't care who gets credit, let's do it. So the Democrat came to me and we orchestrated this whole thing. Now we got the House Democratic Leadership freezing the budget so now we're headed to the right direction for the country. And we had a wonderful summer, that was a year, that was '86, I think it was and I've got three scrapbooks, three times because of the history of that. And with that we finished the second term, Bush gets elected. Bush comes in, he says walk in New Orleans, I'm sitting down there with a friend of mine, Joe Tate I took down as a manufacturer, he wanted to see the convention with the went to high school with him. And we're sitting there and Jack Kemp's ready to get the nomination. George Bush wants the nomination and he's Vice President. I endorsed Bush over Reagan the first time around because he was a northeast Midwest fair guy moderate.

LNS: Over Kemp or over Reagan?

CDP: Over Reagan. Reagan's coming from the south and I didn't really know him except Eastern Michigan. I was the President of TEK and he was the President at his college and we got put on the national boards and well he was out after the governorship before he was President.

LNS: Was Reagan a TEK also?

CDP: Huh?

LNS: Was Reagan a TEK?

CDP: Yeah, Reagan was a TEK. And we set at the Board in Indianapolis for lunch. Sitting across the table for me, we shake hands, you're a TEK, I'm a TEK and that's how I got to know the guy. And he gives me a postage stamp and said, Carl what do you think of this and he passed it around the lunch table and I looked at it and said well there's no denomination on this thing. Well that was during the Carter years when inflation was moving fast and they couldn't print stamps fast enough and that's how you devalued your money in Germany and that's all the history. And he said you're the first person to ever see that and I said my dad was a printer. When I was a kid he took me down to see the printing presses.

LNS: All comes back together doesn't it?
CDP: All does. And that was because I was a teacher at Eastern. So that connected early and we shook hands, when he got elected came over to the house for the first luncheon he and Bush and he saw me and gave me and people how'd you know, what's your connection to a governor from California? So anyway, that's called communication. That's why he was so damn good. He substantively he wasn't interested, he was a general, he had staff people, Baker and Meese and everybody, doing the cabinet people were putting the brains behind individual subjects. He just sat back and said here, you want a jellybean watching grade B movies.

LNS: He must've had some area where he did good?

CDP: Yeah, very common sense. He said you know we're a city on a hill

LNS: Shining city.

CDP: Yeah the Russians are evil empire, right away he had an adversary. And you have to have an adversary in order to function back and build your excitement of your nation and he had all that common sense..

LNS: Going back looking at, now you served under Bush, too?

CDP: Last piece of that was most important. Bush said "read my lips no new taxes". Everybody cheers everybody stands up, Jack Kemp is finished. He didn't even put his name in nomination. And Jack's stuff was sitting all over here. I liked Jack, I didn't really know Bush but I endorsed him over Reagan. Read my lips no new taxes, he comes back, gets elected 1991, he introduces the budget, what is it business as usual. More taxes and more spending. We go to, this is classic stuff. We go, we're gonna look at that and some of us said, gees, what are they going to do with this first budget if he's going to keep his word? So he introduces the Bill the budget concept to some of his colleagues and we screamed. This is Democratic stuff taxes and signed and you made a pledge Mr. President to do it differently. So it got to be a helluva debate. Bush with his program, Rostenkowski and the Democrats clashed and they had a heavy alarm collision so they trashed Bushes budget too. At that point they figured out how are we going to work with a Democrat which was the stymie he couldn't he didn't know what to do and so they came up with a brilliant idea, they great thought that they would send everybody home except the all key committees, Dole, Leadership, both sides, Rosty and the whole part and they go out to Andrew's Airforce Base for four days in a retreat and write a Federal budget. Now I'm just that close to leadership so I come home, I work in my District, I'm lying in bed one night and it hit me. I said what are these people doing? Dick Darmen Budget Director, Don Regan, Treasurer, non-elected bureaucrats for lack of a better word here went out and created this great idea of going out on a retreat and
writing a Federal budget so they could get a compromise to get it through, he said I gotta deal with these guys, let's do it this way. He signed off on it, Bob Teter Ann Arbor, he was the President's Counselor so he, they were advising Bush and they said this is the way to solve the problem. Well anyway to make a long story short, I wake up in the middle of the night and I said what am I doing, I've got 600,000 people that I represent in a constitutional form of government and I'm not at the table deciding which programs go and which one don't including Eastern Michigan University. And I was storming mad, I said I'm a representative, not Dick Darmen not at Andrew's Airforce Base this isn't the way the country is supposed to run. So I fly back, I'm hot. Sunday the day before when they signed off Newt walked out of that place for the very same reason I did only I wasn't communicated I wasn't part of this leadership group. It was just that we had a certain different set of principals. He took a lock and that was the end of George Bush. He lost the heart of the Republican Party in the country in the terms of people supporting, he knew it was over so when people say well when Clinton filed and ran, Gephardt and Bradley and all the candidates didn't run because he was so popular from the Gulf War. So Clinton said, well I'll run. He was the lower guy in the primary and he wins the presidency later on. Well I went back to the Caucus Monday, John Sununu was Chief of Staff and he calls a Caucus meeting and we go over there Monday morning, Monday afternoon, in the Caucus room 140 some people, John Sununu and Don Regan and Dick Darmen are there of course Bob Michael our House leader at that time brings the White House people over to present the case.

LNS: Wasn't he ready to retire at that time?

CDP: Who?

LNS: Bob Michael?

CDP: I'll tell you what I was part of that decision. But so John Sununu gets up there and he's looking out all of this and he was former governor of New Hampshire came in and campaigned for me one day out at Spring Arbor he showed up and I saw him in a lab and I said what are you doing here? And he said oh I came up to see what you were doing? Cause they knew whether I lose or not, I was the Lana Pollick for State Senator. Anyway, we went into Caucus and Sununu says now he says this is the Bush budget, this is our budget folks, and we want to you to support it next Wednesday on the floor. And if you don't we're going to send the President of the United States into your Congressional District and I'm sitting there next to Eddie Madigan from Illinois place is rows of Chairs like everything and I leaned over to Eddie had become Secretary of Agriculture under Bush later and said, Eddie did I hear what I heard there just a minute ago? I'm a pretty calm guy and I don't shake place people
up much and he said yeah that's exactly what he said. I got up grabbed that microphone and said John Sununu stop right there. I stopped that meeting cold. And I said I've been a Republican Precinct all my life, I was Congressional Chairman raised money for Ford, raised money for Goldwater, and I said all these people behind me are Republican's may have a switch come to the party and you're threatening them with our Republican President your Congressional District. I said you owe us an apology. I got a standing ovation. And the place went wild. Sununu comes back and well now we got trouble with the Caucus see. Deep trouble and sure enough they did. So I walked out of the meeting. Went back to my office. I got a call 20 minutes later from MacNeil Lehrer, Roger Mudd, he says I want to do a MacNeil Lehrer show on this what happened over there, they were the cameras were outside of the Caucus room and I said well Tuesday night, the day before the vote so I said OK. He said we're going to come up and televise you taking your car all the way down to the White House to meet with the President cause when you are a dissident with the President they call you all in and twist your vote and shake hands and what do you want a bridge or something for your vote, same old stuff and so they did they filmed that the next morning my car going down Pennsylvania Avenue I thank God Larry I had an American made car a little Cimarron I bought from Don Massey, was a contributor of mine. And it wasn't a big Cadillac it was seven years old, some teacher had owned it. And I'm driving down, my Secretary was driving the car and I was in the back with Roger Mudd doing the tape on why I was taking on the President of the United States who I had supported and what are you doing to the Republican Party? So there were 19 other members who agreed with us that this was the wrong future for them so they were in our group. When we went to the White House and walked in I think there were 6 or 7 of us there with Bob Michael, he always takes us down there, President comes in Darmin, Meese, Darmin and Don Regan the brains of this whole thing is sitting over there, Bush walks in, well hi Carl he says, yeah I need your vote for Wednesday can't you give us any help? I said it's too late and it's the wrong budget for a country and that's my first responsibility, my District. My District wanted a balanced budget by 81 percent of all of the communications and mailings and surveys so I'm speaking for my District Mr. President, this is the wrong budget. Well he said, he had a card, of course they gave him a card with all of the names on it so he doesn't screw up and forget the name. And he said and I had had him here as a Vice President fund raising because I had committed to him before Reagan so he returned the favor to me. And so he said Carl, he said, I really need your help. I gotta have your vote Wednesday this is important for the country. I said yeah it's important all right. I didn't say much I'm just listening in my respect for the President you just sit there and listen. And he said I've gotta go, I've gotta go. I have other things on my mind right now, never dawned on me what it was and I watched him walk out of the room and then I knew it was the Gulf War, he was ready to
pull the trigger on the Gulf War Foreign Policy and it hit me, politically my
instincts were so quick I looked up at Bush walking out Gulf War, good
reason to be deeply involved in that, I'll delegate the domestic budget to
my staff Dick Darmen time on that and they come up with this crazy
Andrew's Airforce Idea and Bush was working full 110% on the Gulf War
and I said a Republican President, Foreign Policy, Nixon Foreign Policy,
Reagan Soviet Union Foreign Policy, Gerry Ford Foreign Policy,
Kissinger, all of them, why do Republicans love Foreign Policy and the
answer to that?

LNS: It takes them away from the domestic problem.

CDP: Well that's one reason, it does. More importantly they don't need to vote
on it. The President is the Commander in Chief and he can say we go to
war almost till Vietnam but you had complete decision making
responsibilities and the domestic budget was that you were fighting
Democrats everyday. Head Start, Head Start classic example, I'm on a
subcommittee become ranking that term, Bush offers a $400 million dollar
increase to Head Start, David Obie sitting in there now, Chairman of
Appropriations. Dave and I were good friends. Dave said well just a
minute Mr. ________ Chairman from Kentucky and I'm sitting next to Bill,
I'm the Senior Republican. He says you know he says, "Us Democrats
have a record of really responsible Head Start programs we're not going to
let any Republican President or any other Republican outspend us". I
offered an amendment for a $600 million increase, Bill naturally they got
the voted 7 - 5 I've could'Ve called their roll-call and put them on the wire I
probably should have done that but it was an inside mark up we weren't in
the public that day we were just planning on drafting the Bill and our
budget was a $200 billion subcommittee budget that I was ranking on, on
the Republican side. So Obie gets that amendment adapted and that
Larry is the history of the two parties. So they got a $600 million in there
and the rest is economics you can play that out you know that we're on
the wrong side of the equation. At that point, Bushes budget is up for vote
Wednesday and I do the MacNeil thing, come back very disturbed so I get
calls from Gerry Ford, Romney, Lenore Romney's calling on behalf of
George Romney. I get calls from Gerry Ford calls and he's from Michigan
I know him, he said Carl how come you can't support the President? I
said well, it's a tax and spend bill. It's a Democratic Bill just a few number
differences tax and spend. He said well this is very important and Bush is
our President so I think you ought to vote for him. I said Gerry when you
were President how many Bills did you veto? He was calling from Palm
Springs. He says gees, I don't know I'll have to check. And I said I'll tell
you, 22 vetoes where you were President 2 1/2 years for spending bills,
Appropriations Bills. I said, you were gutsy, you did what had to be done.
Reagan was in there eight years and never vetoed a single Appropriation
Bill except a final contingent resolution at the end of the year. Not one
veto. While we are in the minority Larry if you were in the minority you could stop at two-thirds override because we had enough to do that. So Reagan could beat Tip O'Neill and the Democrats, Jim Wright and what's his name from Washington became Speaker, you had enough votes in the minority to stop an override on a two-thirds vote so you had power again. So I kept telling Newt and them, I said please tell Reagan to veto some Bills now we can sit down with the Democrats and really negotiate and so we did. Made a big tactical mistake there. I said go back and read the Constitution, I'm talking to the whole Caucus I said boys, I said, get a video. Up there's a Christian Science Monitor article, Bush should veto Bills or something like that I wrote an article for him on a thing and some reporter picked it up but it was a pretty good story and its documented now and Bush, I'm telling Gerry I said you've vetoed 22 budget Bills or Bills but only four spending. He said I did? I said yeah. I said do me a favor will you call George Bush back and tell him to veto some damn Bills up there and then we got some clout here and our minority becomes a majority. Simple tool in the Constitution, our Party never saw it or they didn't want to see it, that's a debatable historic history on Defense and other stuff. So they said thanks Carl and he was sort of shocked and didn't know what to do. Romney and I went through that litany with 3 or 4 other power people. Bob Teter called me, counselor, he was going to be Chief of Staff for Bush in his first term as Chief Counselor and Bob said no I want to do what Carl does I want to fly back every weekend to the District I got a home in Ann Arbor, I got kids in the Hockey Program, I can see better from Ann Arbor than I can see in the White House in the Beltway mentality. So he turns it down, he comes back here and he gets the word Bush people say hey Bob Teter you gotta go see Carl Pursell right away he's blowing this thing all to pieces. I was one there were a few others doing it a little different version. But I sort of had taken the lead the alternative after Teter says I'll fly in. I gotta meet with the President in the morning. I said OK where do you want to meet? 6:00 hotel right next door to the White House. And I said I'm gonna meet you there but I'm going to bring Cynthia Hutchins cause she's my Chief of Staff and I want a witness sitting there to see this. She was good friends of the Teter's and Teter came out of the Milliken era as a moderate and I was too that's why we always got along. So Teter flies down and we meet. And I got a clipboard in my hand. I'm the athletic coach for the Republican team. We won the annual Congressional Baseball game we raised $10,000 for Children's Hospital OK? Baseball Commissioner comes in and Brent Muskberger is the sports writer we put him up in the booth it's a night game out in Alexandria and the minor league place there, we had three four thousand people there Democrats and I coached the team and won six and lost two over my career. Speaking of Democrats when we had nine Democrats and nine Republicans out there said when we're even we can kill us we have the better team the better ideas and so we have more hits and anyway Bush played first, Gerry Ford had played over the years
at the annual thing. And I took my clipboard in my hands I said Bob who’s
making these decisions for the liberals? Well the Liberal Caucus, Tom
Donney from New York, George Miller from California, Gephardt from
Missouri, Dave Bonier from Michigan. I said, you know what? They’re all
athletes. They know how to win, they know how to compete, they lose,
they shake hands, they play by the rules but they’re aggressive and they
win on a basketball court and so do you. You’re an athlete, George Bush
was an athlete. So I made a list of all the liberal power guys in the House
always look at the cream of the crop who’s the power decision making the
decisions and then you work with that.
CDP: During that period I put money, I'm spending money for education and voting to get the MX and the B1 and the Cruise so I justified my vote and we delivered $1 million to Welch Hall and we delivered for Pease and so on and so on. So Bush is stymied. I tell Peter look, all these power people are making the power liberal decisions for America, for the Congress are all athletes super athletes. I play basketball with them every 4:30 in the afternoon in the gym. I know them. I know how they operate and how they think and we're good friends cause athletes shake hands and they're colleagues when you're playing the game. Afterwards, you go about your business but we play by the rules. And they have to play by the rules in sports but they don't necessarily have to on the House floor. And I named the Republican athletes and I said George Bush is a great athlete and I said where did he serve on committee when he was here Bob? And he said well Ways and Means. I said, Gephardt, where's he from? He's on Ways and Means in Missouri. Danny Rostenkowski he's the Chairman right? Ways and Means. Bob Michael, our leader from Illinois, but he was a buddy of Dan Rostenkowski, offices were next to each other in the ______ Room. When I saw that I said, my god, there so close Fred, they can't be confrontational to present our agenda. Bob Michael, a wonderful guy, I voted for him over Vanderjack. Vanderjack wanted to run. Was nice guy but he wasn't ready for floor leadership. He was running around the state, the country getting candidates and he's a great guy, former state senator. So I voted for an Illinois member to become a minority leader against my own Michigan colleague and the state senate went nuts up there. I drove upstate and said look we've got the votes, Vanderjack's doing a nice job but Michael has the votes, I said I want to be with a winner. Number one, I showed the web count. I showed all the senators up there in the caucus and they said Carl you're absolutely right go back and do what you believe in. I said well that's why I wanted to represent Michigan. So I got to work with a winner. Vanderjack will be gone, he'll lose. So anyway, I showed that to Bob Teter and Cynthia's looking there and her eyes are just, whew, whew ________ stuff for me too. I know I'm excited about it. I think it's the old saying of when the going gets tough, the tough get going. The tougher the competition, the better I liked it. It brings the best out of people. And in America or anywhere else, it's ideas that count. Not the personality or the messenger, it's the message. So if you look anywhere, and I said to the whole caucus, let us put a budget up there for the future America and let Bush be the president and we'll ratify it. Let the Democrats put their budget up there and then what do you have? The people look at the contrast, the two budgets, which one do I like? And our philosophies are written into those budgets. So the better idea will win every time if you make the case for it on anything. Whether you're talking about programs at Eastern so forth. Now you guys, with Bill Shelton, always come to us with one option. I don't like that. I want another option to look at or three options. I learned that in the military as an Army officer. Take the hill as a
commander, you say, how do I take that hill? How do I reach my objective? Well basic fundamental principle in the military is you offer three alternatives. Three different courses of action. Might go in and flank it, you might go direct, you might come in from behind, you might come in overhead. So you look at all those and say well that's the best chance to win that issue. Same in politics. So that's my big problem with Eastern.

LNS: We're going to come to Eastern in another second.

CDP: That's just an example that I like to look at options before I make a policy decision at Eastern or wherever. And so Bush's budget, so Peter goes back and explains that and says well Carl's gone and I lost it. So we go to the floor the next day and the vote, the Liberals don't like it cause it doesn't have enough money in it. Conservatives don't like Bush because he took the heart out of the Republican Party and us moderates sitting in there in the middle said he's spending more money, we're fiscally conservative but social moderates generally and that's my track record and that's why I got elected in that district. Not because I was a Conservative or some southern philosophy. I was from the Party of Lincoln. And I believe in Lincoln inclusion, not exclusion. Civil rights, I had a great civil rights record in the Lincoln tradition. When I wrote that budget and I rode by bicycle down to the Lincoln Memorial night when I was under stress. I said if he can change this country in the Civil War in the civil strike, I can go back and write a budget. I get excited, turned around run back and write that budget. I just love to do that stuff. Then Bush budget goes down, no budget for America. Rosty's people are sitting over here and we're sitting on our side. The vote was like, my budget's in there and Rosty's budget's there and the Bush budget and the freeze thing was there I'm sorry I got that mixed up. The freeze budget that I offered back under the Reagan second term got killed in Rules Committee at 2 o'clock in the morning. They didn't want to do it publicly cause it would have won. Joe Kennedy said Carl if you're budget goes we'll vote for it. But they, the Liberals couldn't take it. Anyway the Bush budget goes down the very next day, everybody's devastated because there's no budget for America or the country and Bob Michael calls me, the House Leader calls me the House Leader. He says, come on over to the office. I said ok. So I go over there and Newt is really starting to make his move for leadership and I said Bob I want to tell you something. When you guys are out at Camp David in the trenches with the Gephardts of the world, Newt was taking advantage of where the future of the party is going and it wasn't tax and spend, he though very clearly politically and he's going after you for minority leader. And he sort jumped back a little bit and I said yeah, don't you see that? You're trapped in the field and he's back at the command post starting to organize a whole new core within the caucus to become the next minority leader he was right there close to Michael threatening him at all times. And Michael, the next day, called his
caucus together of all his colleagues voting people where all the senior Republicans and won another term. But very close and then Newt becomes Speaker and Michael goes out. And I was sort of right in the mix of that whole thing. And I wasn't a great lover of Newt Gingrich, I didn't like his style, I didn't like his philosophy. I couldn't agree so I was never part of the COS that called the Conservative Opportunity Society. That was a conservative block mostly from the south and he led that he was brainstorming that. And in the Northeast, I was part of the Wednesday Club. The Moderates met every Wednesday and we talked about, discussed the agendas each day while you're voting upstairs. So I was going in a different direction. My party of Lincoln vs. the narrow focus of the Christian Right and all the rest that makes up that party. Not that I'm not moral and religious and that but they have a litmus test for everything. You're either Right to Life or you're not part of the party. It's a party of exclusion, not inclusion. And the Democrats are going to, that's part of the Democratic agenda for this Fall, you're gonna see it and it's gonna be a gut wrenching fight to regain eleven seats in the House on the issues of education and so forth. So Bush's budget loses, Michael says I want you to write a federal budget. You did it a couple of years back and you know you're the natural guy. So will you chair and 21-member committee to write a budget similar to your freeze budget that we can get through the House as an alternative to Rostenkowski Democratic vote. I said man you want that in 72 hours? He said yeah, we got it for the budget for the country it's timing, stalemate the Capital's closed, the federal government shutdown right then that's why it shut down. So we're voting on Sunday, next Sunday he says we're gonna reconvene and we'll stay right here the weekend till we get this done, nobody's going home. So Chairman of Policy Committee. Mickey __________ my classmate in Ohio said Carl you got to do this. I said gees, I'm just one man I can't write a federal budget in 72, nobody's ever done that before. And he said right but we have no alternative. You Chair the Committee and we'll hand pick the representatives from all the parts of the country, Olympia Snow, John Casic because my subcommittee chairman and we go and we meet in my office. I got a conference room in my office that other members didn't have. Bill McBride was so shrewd when Quayle moved out, picked up another piece of room and made a conference room for all of the constituents to come in. We set there and I called Cynthia in and I said get your bag packed you're coming in here to help do some of this stuff. She's a smart gal and Bill Kerns, Gary Case, my press secretary to help watch this thing flow. We did in 72 hours put a budget together and took it to the Senate House Leadership, our leadership caucus on Sunday afternoon and said here it is. And sure enough.

LNS: You had it printed somewhere?

CDP: Huh?
LNS: You had it printed somewhere?

CDP: Oh yeah, overnight xeroxed and we put a cover on it and called it the Blueprint for Progress or something like that. Some, I've got documents around it's all in the record. So we took it upstairs to caucus and the next day or the next hour or so they could all look at it and say all in favor say, aye, aye. And all voted for it. And that was my job. Now Bob Michael's the leader and he's very unhappy that they voted against Bush although he's a personal friend, our group voted against Bush. So as Chairman, he's got to defend this budget, cause this is the only game in town. But he couldn't in his heart cause this is the very group that took the Bush budget down. So I knew he wasn't my big spokesman for that I said Bob we just disagree, I love you and I like you as a leader you're a wonderful guy a great character, etc., but he got part of the crowd of Rostenkowski and Bush and was part of that business as usual effort over the years and he was a former staff member so he grew up in the system and never had you know the confrontational ideas of who's got a better idea in America, he couldn't see that vision out there. He was just ready to retire. And so we put it on the table and we adopted it and it went to caucus. I went up to Rules Committee that night 10 o'clock in the morning, I'm sitting there in front of Claude Pepper with a couple of my colleagues Tom Ridge is next to me, Governor of Pennsylvania and Duncan Hunter from California was a Conservative too but he saw what we were doing with this budget. This was better than Danny Rost, it's the two ideas again. We had a better idea than the Democrats did, we thought, we believe and I still believe that. Their Rules Committee is presiding, Claude Pepper, love the guy from Florida, went to Africa with him and I used to pay all his tips he was so old he forgot to tip anybody when he traveled, dusty roads and good old Claude Pepper he got out of that van that night and said come on, let's go have dinner and this guy's 80 years old. We're tired 250 miles across country, dust, everything else and he's ready to go to dinner. He's such an incredible guy and he was a father on Social Security or most of it. I get off course cause I can start remembering the details on this stuff. Pepper says well Mr. Pursell, you want to present you're budget now, you're on the column here so you go up and present the budget with your team to about 12 people called the Rules Committee. Tip O'Neill and Wright and all of them control the Congress by what goes to the floor. You got to get through the Rules Committee and they can stop you on everything. Joe Kennedy that night says Carl you've got a helluva budget, I wish we could vote for it, we would have to vote for it if you get it to the floor. I said I know that, that's why we wrote it. We had enough votes, people wanted to give a pre-concept rather than tax and spend.

LNS: So the budget gets voted on?
CDP: So Pepper says, well he's in trouble now. Because the Republicans on my side are speaking for it but he didn't have Bob Michael there fending for me as the Speaker on behalf of the party. Bob did not show up and I knew that would happen. So here it is small rump group in the House.

LNS: Bon didn't show up again for what reason?

CDP: Because he was he led the thing to endorse the Bush budget.

LNS: That's what I figured.

CDP: The prior few days back and obviously he's a minority leader so he's got to work with the president of the United States. He this loyalist, he's the messenger back to the House. So I understand all of that. So we didn't have any problem with that and so he says well we've got to study this, says motion to table. I move to table, boom, tabled, meeting adjourned. So we go down, we're voting on the floor the same time Rules Committee's on the second floor so you can do both things that's how fast this stuff goes. Down on the floor, Danny Rostenkowski is offering the Democratic budget we're gonna vote on it. And so my budget was killed up there and Bush's budget had been Dead on Arrival two days before his went down. So Rosty sees it, I go to the microphone down there and say the Democratic budget was written in the middle of the night. My budget for the Republican Caucus was defeated at Rules Committee at 2 o'clock in the morning and you're going to pass a final budget at 5 a.m. in the morning all in the middle of the night for this country. Mr. Rostenkowski sitting right in the front row looking at me so the Democrats won and I said all of this was done in the middle of the night. And that's all been my stuff here, great stuff for me cause I was really at my prime then. And his budget won and that was the end of George Bush. Then he went out to campaign and Clinton announces and that's the end of the story. Bush is, his heart has gone out of the party and he violated his own promise.

LNS: Yes he did.

CDP: Cut his throat.

LNS: Rostenkowski had heavy days coming up for himself though.

CDP: Later on his camp thing and the abuses of the check writing was the Gephardts in the world, those guys weren't paying attention to oversight and so you could go in and cash a check right next to where you vote because you're busy, cash a check? Oh yeah no problem. And not even tell you you had a balanced budget. I always had my secretary do it so I never touched it but sometimes you're short cash you go over and grab a sandwich stop at the bank cash a check. Bob Davis had 600 bad checks
up here and I didn't have any the first year I think I had 4 or 6 I'm not sure, the second term cause you lose track. My secretary lost track of the balances each day, she just let it slip and the bank guys up there were all Democrats, hand picked, so the big Democrats got caught and they lost their office there, kicked right out back home, Minnesota or wherever it's all over.

LNS: Rostenkowski went to prison.

CDP: Yeah well he went to prison a little later Larry because he had staff people and they go into the House Post Office and say banking privilege you could buy stamps and he'd take the stamps and turn them in for cash. A staff person was doing that and it ended up like $17,000 or something like that. Well that's criminal so he went to jail over that and he's out now. So that was my career.

LNS: So you left the House at the end of that?
CDP: And so I knew in my career that that was the heart of the Republican Party is not in my heart so I felt I had an obligation to my family who I'd been away from for 16 years and I flew every week back and forth, and I was always in the district seeing my family and my kids grew up without a father. And so now I got my grandkids here. So I'm re-energized and my grandson's coming in tomorrow morning since he was a baby and he's 18 months old so we've been over to the toyshop. I'm all excited. So it's big.

LNS: So he's coming tomorrow morning?
CDP: Yeah. We're picking him up at the airport. Cathy's got to go on to a business thing, there's another layover, we'll pick him up and bring him back for 7 days and then she'll fly back here and then they're going up north. Her husband's a cardio-vascular surgeon out of U of M. He's one of the brightest scientists of America.

LNS: Now this is Cathy's husband?
CDP: Yep, Brad Mart.

LNS: He's a cardio-vascular surgeon?
CDP: At University. Finishing his internship at Madison?

LNS: Oh then he's going to come over to U of M?
CDP: Well he graduates and they want to come back here. Cathy's making $100,000 salary. She's 32 years old, and the headhunters are trying to offer her other jobs around the region up there and she wants to come back here. And Brad does too. He's from Saginaw. His dad was Jack Mart, head of the Saginaw Hospital, U of M graduate and Brad was at U of M and he's Parke-Davis is now run by the Dean of the Medical School at U of M. He got taken from the University to the private sector at Parke-Davis and of course, he knew Brad there of the students he was the brightest kid of the class that had enormous, there aren't very many people Larry in the cardio-vascular that know the whole thing, the circulatory, they know parts of it. But Brad is one of the five in America that understands and articulate and do the research for the future.

LNS: So he's being recruited by U of M.

CDP: So Parke-Davis, the Dean moved over and he said Brad I want you when you graduate up in Wisconsin for your intern come on down. So he's got a job offer there and he's getting job offers all over the country. Stanford, Mayo Clinic and blah, blah, blah. So Cathy's trapped in coming back here but her husband has opportunities too.