

Jay Reed interviewing Gai Allen clip 1

Topic: Center for Black Culture

[Gai Allen is responding to a question about her first experiences and impressions of the University of Delaware.]

Gai Allen: Basically, being a student at the University of Delaware at that time, the, even though we all went to classes together, and we stayed in the dormitories together, basically, from a social standpoint it was like being in a subculture of the University. Because the African American students, because there were so few of us, maybe there were—I'm just guessing—maybe let's say 250 or so on campus, I don't know. But there wasn't a great number. So, we all congregated between classes at what at that time was called the Minority Center. I think now it's called the Center for Black Culture or something like that, but it's a house on, I forget the name of the street, but between classes you'd go there and just socialize or study or watch the soaps. So, we all did things together. And we had a Black Student Union, we had sororities and fraternities who on the weekends would have parties, but our parties were more like dances.