

Alumni Stories

Keith Haynes, Associate of Arts, 1983-1985

Years Attended: 1983-85

Area of Study: Associate of Arts

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I completed all my schooling here in Prescott. After I graduated high school, I got an A.A. degree from Yavapai in 1985. So, I was a student here in 1983, 1984, and 1985. I would say in the late 60's/early 70's it was very dicey here as far as [my father's] employment situation here. There were really no protections whatsoever for faculty in their careers and employment with the College. The administration was extremely authoritarian. Male faculty was prohibited from having beards. I've heard one story that any faculty caught on Whiskey Row would be terminated. I'm sure that was kind of a reaction against a lot of the social turmoil of the 1960's & "we're not going to let those long-

hairs come to Prescott and ruin our town..."

One of my best memories of Yavapai [as a student] during my last semester here was the College Honors Program trip. We went over to California and went to the Scripps Aquarium, went out on boats to Catalina Island across the Santa Barbara Channel. It was kind of an oceanographic-themed trip to Southern California. Dr. Jim Pence was the Honors Program coordinator at that time. He was an English instructor. He moved on from Yavapai within a couple years after that and I think he's actually a college President or pretty high up in Administration at a college in the north Midwest. Beth Boyd who teaches Geology right now and is currently a faculty member also went on that trip.

I have really good memories of how those people kind of bonded on that trip and did things that college students typically do—staying up late, having fun, bending the rules. That was definitely my best memory as far as the social life. I remember that trip being more exhausting than I had ever experienced in my life. When we got back from

that trip I slept for 3 days after being up for 5 days. That Honors Program really offered something nice to bring the extracurricular and social activities closer with the academic. I was always thankful for the Honors Program.

I got on a Humanities/English track. A big part of getting in that Humanities/English direction was a fabulous class I had with a man named David Hochstetler, who's one of the Yavapai icons. He retired about my first year that I taught here at YC in '92-'93. He ended up retiring sometime about then. First Dave was in the faculty at the College in the '70's, then he was in Administration, kind of an Academic Vice-President/Campus Dean, then he went back to faculty. His Humanities class that I attended, I think was called "Arts and Ideas", was really influential [to me].

Transcribed excerpt from an oral history interview of Keith Haynes with Kali Park, a College Honors Student, 2007/08