

## Then and Now

By Jocelyn Hayes

For my Then and Now project, I decided to interview Karl Banks. He has been attending URC for approximately 12 years and has been playing in a band for the past 6 or 7 years. They play rock-n-roll music and he plays the guitar, and has been playing the guitar for 40 years.

Q: What was it like when you started to drive?

Mr. Banks: At 16 you get your permit and with that you could not drive after dusk and the car had to be home. At age 17, if you took drivers education, you could drive at night, otherwise, you cannot. There were no restrictions on how many passengers were allowed in the car.

Jocelyn: You get your permit at age 16, as well, but there is a limit to the number of people you can drive. You can only drive one non-family person at a time and with your permit you need a parent or someone licensed in the car with you at all times. The time you have to be off the roads has changed and for probationary and permit drivers, they need to be home by 11pm.

Q: Did you go to the high school football games and what were they like?

Mr. Banks: The Friday night football games were a big thing where mostly everyone in the school went too. My class size was about 200 and I'm still close with many of them. After the game, we would go out to the diner.

Jocelyn: Football games have not really changed, being that they are still a big event for everyone to go to on Friday nights. We still go out to eat after at the diner or all go to someone's house to hangout.

Q: What was the dress code like in school?

Mr. Banks: There were no sneakers allowed in school. People wore penny loafers and some even had pennies in them. The boys would wear slacks and a button down and girls would wear a skirt and a blouse or a dress.

Jocelyn: The dress code has changed a lot being that sneakers are what everyone pretty much wears. It is also very laid back and since I go to a public school, people get away with a lot of outfits. Jeans with holes are in style and we spoke about how it makes no sense for people to buy them like that. Short shorts and skirts are also something girls wear, which shows how the style has changed.

Q: What kind of music did you like to listen to?

Mr. Banks: Rock-n-roll is what I listened to and still do. Also, the classic 50's & 60's, from Elvis Presley and those artists and up. Also, the dances are much different and we did the Stroll and the Hully Gully.

Jocelyn: Most people my age do not listen to rock-n-roll anymore and they mainly listen to hip hop/rap. I like country music and Mr. Banks agrees and says he likes country music more now than he did when he was in high school. We have much less formal dances and people just kind of dance how they want.

Q: What would you do on a typical date?

Mr. Banks: We would go to any type of sporting event or a school dance were pretty popular dates. Also, going to the diner or a movie were a typical date, as well. Bowling was for a group of friends to do.

Jocelyn: I agree, going out to eat or going to a movie are typical dates, as well. I know bowling was big then for a group of people and I'd say for group dates, bowling is a typical place to go, but going out to eat and the movies are the most typical things to do on a date.