

Ron Hochstein  
Class of 1973

Q: What kinds of things were there to do in Hillsboro? What are some of the most marked changes? Land wise? Population?

A: There was a skating rink where the Public Library is now. Shute Park was used by the high school and was a safe place to go. There were two movie theaters in downtown Hillsboro.

The population of Hillsboro was about ten to twelve thousand versus the seventy-seven thousand it is now. Where the Esplanade is, there used to be a wheat field. There were no McDonalds or fast food restaurants. There wasn't a landfill either. In downtown Hillsboro, most stores were closed on Sundays.

Q: What were classes like? Favorite subject?

A: My favorite subject was forestry. There were about twenty people in a classroom. I was apart of the school's first and only zero period. It was auto mechanics. My sister Connie went to Hilhi the first year it transferred from the current JB Thomas. I went to the Mid High my freshman and sophomore year and Hilhi for my junior and senior year.

Q: What about lunch?

A: They used to have cinnamon rolls in the school's cafeteria. We called the lady that sold them 'Mom.' We would go in there every morning and buy a bunch of them.

Q: Remember any major international/national events that happened during high school?

A: Vietnam War was going on when I was in high school. In my senior year, all of the males had to sign up for the draft, but by the time we graduated, the draft had ended.

Q: Were you involved in any sports or clubs?

A: I was apart of the Ski Club. We went up to Multorpore Ski Bowl every Saturday. I'd work during the week to pay for the ticket.

Q: What kind of jobs did teens have?

A: There were no fast food restaurants to work at. A lot of high school kids worked on farms. I picked strawberries when I was five years old and started working at the nursery I own now when I was fifteen.

Q: What were the clothing styles? Favorite types of music?

A: Bell bottoms were in, a lot of guys had long hair, and girls wore short skirts. Everyone liked the Beatles, the Moody Blues, Elvis, and the Stones.

Q: Pep-assemblies, highlights of those?

A: They were probably the same as they are now. I had a friend, Debbie Johnson, who once played her nose at a Talent Assembly.

Q: What about dances?

A: Dances were popular. We had the normal dances in addition to a Sadie Hawkins one.

Q: Anything else to add?

A: There was more fighting back then whereas now days they don't tolerate that. People used to stand and watch guys fighting without breaking them up. Now as soon as one starts, staff members break it up instantly.