

## Audio file

[Interview with David Smith Bangor Side 1.wav](#)

### Transcript

Speaker 1

Happen to go see the president.

Speaker 2

I heard that he was going to be in Bangor and naturally I was very interested and wanted to go with a good friend of mine, Mike McGovern, and he advised me to go see David Smith. Of the history. Department. I did and I got an application form, filled it out, returned it to the Bangla Daily News. And was selected.

Speaker 1

And these application flows, that was the drawing that determined who got to go to the town meeting.

Speaker

Yeah, this was this.

Speaker 2

Was a lottery that decided who would be attending the town meeting. Where are you from? From Augusta? Augusta, ME.

Speaker 1

From from Augusta, and there was no problem. You being from Augusta, being able to get into the town meeting.

Speaker

All right.

Speaker 2

Know the the people who are running the meeting. I guess wanted to get university students there, right?

Speaker 1

So you arrived, and the president arrived. What did you think of the President? What? Was your first impression.

Speaker 2

My first impression was that he. Was a lot shorter. A lot shorter, a lot shorter than how it's. Gonna be, yeah.

Speaker 1

Did during the course of the town meeting, did anything impress you about what he did? Or were you generally unimpressed?

Speaker 2

I was impressed that he did make an effort to. Really communicate with those who are asking questions. He didn't make a point of. Remembering their names, I think just a little common courtesy that. Was that was good.

Speaker 1

Do you? Do you think he did this more as a public relations gimmick? Yelled, maybe thinking about one of his own future campaigns? Or do you think, do you think he really wanted to be sincere and getting out and seeing what the people. Wanted to believe and see to hear what they. Wanted to say.

Speaker 2

Well, I think it was a little. Bit of both. I guess he was fulfilling a campaign promise to come back and visit the area, but he did have the intention of coming back and pushing for 1/2 away.

Speaker 1

Senator Hathaway is running for election this year. Did you feel that? That was one of the major reasons why he came.

Speaker 2

To Bangor? Yeah, very clearly. He referred to senator halfway quite a bit during the course of the evening as well as Mr. Musky.

Speaker 1

Do you think he persuaded you all of how you might vote in November?

Speaker 2

He did try to. Make a few points in his favor, but. I don't think that the president's single visit will persuade me one way or.

Speaker 1

Another do you see the president anywhere else than that the town meeting?

Speaker 2

Not in person, no, no.

Speaker 1

What did you think of the way, for example, the press coverage treated the visit? Do you think it was adequate? Do you think the press?

Speaker 2

Coverage was adequate, I think was adequate. You had the the national. Broadcasting companies as well as the. The local press there I I think they give it.

Speaker 1

Do observance. Was there anything memory this this interview was taking place two months after the visit? And do you remember, was there anything memorable the president said?

Speaker 2

I I can't really think of anything memorable, he said. I was, I was just, you know, impressed with, with being there in the same building and not being that.

Speaker 1

Far away from him. You. You were impressed more with the Presidency than with the President.

Speaker 2

Yes, yes, yes.

Speaker 1

Anything else you'd like to say? Any any thoughts on the President or on the visit? It would. You definitely think it was worthwhile.

Speaker 2

Going and I I I enjoyed it and. I had. Good seats and which made it a lot more enjoyable. I I get to meet a lot of other dignitaries as well.

Speaker 1

And and who did you meet?

Speaker 2

I met Mr. Muskie and Mr. Hathaway, and we sat close proximity to a lot. Of the other seven. You see, Governor Longley, Governor Longley and Speaker of. The house, right?

Speaker 1

OK. Thank you very much, Ron. Thank you, Mike.