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Legends of the Deaf Community: B. Ennis, Sonnenstrahl, Gannon, Tom Fields JUL 02 1981

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WEBVTT

00:39:19.000 --> 00:39:29.000

<i>William Ennis/John Ennis (interpreter)</i>: All that time I decided, I don't wanna play baseball. I uh, I decided to use an excuse. I said I'm deaf mom and

00:39:29.000 --> 00:39:35.000

I don't know if I can get along with them out there. I'm not so sure if I can play that well. Changed my mind, I wanna go home.

00:39:35.000 --> 00:39:42.000

Mom said "what? Wait a minute get out you're gonna go play baseball with your brother get out." No, no. "Your brother can sign."

00:39:42.000 --> 00:39:54.000

"Yeah I know that, I know he can sign," but well my mother decided to just put her foot up and push me out of the car and I fell out of the car and I said—and then she took off.

00:39:54.000 --> 00:40:03.000

I said what? And I saw my brother stand there looking at me. [[AUDIENCE LAUGHING]] And I said alright, I have to do something about this, come on lets go.

00:40:03.000 --> 00:40:11.000

So we started walking over and really thank god we, we did have a good time. We made the team and had a fantastic time there playing little league.

00:40:11.000 --> 00:40:18.000

[[AUDIENCE LAUGHING]] [[CLAPPING]]

00:40:18.000 --> 00:40:28.000

<i>Jo Radner</i>: Well maybe it's a good time to start asking our audience if they have questions or experiences they wanna share. Yes.

00:40:28.000 --> 00:40:33.000

[[BACKGROUND NOISE, INAUDIBLE]]

00:40:33.000 --> 00:40:49.000

<i>Audience Member</i>: You know, it's to you, I'd like to know, mmhmm, I'd like to know with you being black, if you have special problems being deaf?

[SILENCE]

00:40:49.000 --> 00:40:59.000

[SPEAKER name="Nathie Couthen/John Ennis (interpreter)"] Well I consider myself deaf first, black as second, because I have a problem communicate—communicating in the first place.

00:40:59.000 --> 00:41:20.000

So um, I hang around with the deaf, not with the blacks, because, uh, being deaf, that makes me a Deaf person. I'm in a Deaf culture, in a Deaf world. Black, uh, I can't help that either. [[AUDIENCE LAUGHTER]]

00:41:20.000 --> 00:41:27.650

And you know the deaf are color blind. You know that, so that didn't make, didn't make any difference to me



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