

MY FIRST JOB IN JOURNALISM

I also got a paper route in fifth grade. I used to deliver The Milwaukee Sentinel in the morning.

Q: How did that work? What time did you have to get up?

QUINN: Oh man, I don't know exactly. It was zero dark thirty.

Q: I had a cousin --

QUINN: Delivering the Sentinel wasn't like the La Crosse Tribune, where almost every house got one, The Sentinel subscribers were few and far between. So I had to learn the route and bring my bike and go down to the distribution office by the railroad station, since the paper was shipped overnight from Milwaukee by train. I would fold the papers first and then bike around town throwing them on doorsteps. It was arduous. Collecting the money from people took time so I didn't last terribly long at it. But I remember doing it long enough that it was a learning experience. I thought at first it was cool to be a paperboy. Then it was just hard work.

Q: How about the neighborhood? What sort of neighborhood was it?