# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers ® Video Oral History with Tom A. Goss

#### Overview of the Collection

**Repository:** The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616

info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Goss, Tom A., 1946-

**Title:** The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss,

**Dates:** July 1, 2014

Bulk Dates: 2014

**Physical Description:** 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:01:56).

**Abstract:** Insurance chief executive and athletic director Tom A. Goss (1946 - ), chairman of Goss

LLC and a principal at The Goss Group, Inc., was the first African American athletic director of the University of Michigan. Goss was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on July 1, 2014, in Chicago, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video

footage of the interview.

**Identification:** A2014 232

**Language:** The interview and records are in English.

## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Insurance chief executive and athletic director Tom A. Goss was born on July 6, 1946 in Knoxville, Tennessee. He attended Knoxville's Austin High School, where he was a standout football star in the 1960s. Goss went on to attend the University of Michigan and was named to the All-Big Ten team as a defensive tackle during his senior year. He graduated in 1968 with his B.S. degree in education.

Goss was first hired by Procter & Gamble in 1969. In 1970, he became a regional manager at R. J. Reynolds Industries, and was then named regional vice president for sales at Del Monte Corporation where he worked until the mid-1980s. Goss subsequently returned to Michigan as vice president of sales and marketing at Detroit's Faygo Beverages. In 1987, he moved to California and served as an executive at National Beverage Corporation until 1993, when he was named president and chief operating officer of PIA Merchandising. In March of 1997, Goss established and became managing partner/advisor of The Goss Group, Inc., a commercial insurance brokerage firm. That same year, he applied for and was hired as the first African American athletic director of the University of Michigan.

In 2000, Goss resigned from the University of Michigan and became chairman of The Goss Group, Inc. In 2001, The Goss Group, Marsh Inc. and the GMAC Insurance Group announced the establishment of a joint venture company, Goss LLC, where Goss also went on to serve as chairman.

Goss has served on numerous boards throughout his career, including the Barbara Ann Karmanos Institute, the Boys and Girls Club of Southeastern Michigan, the Detroit Tigers Baseball Advisory Board, United American Healthcare Corporation, and Omni Care Health Plan Inc. He was the former board chair of the Detroit Workforce Development Board, and has served as a trustee to the African American Experience Fund of the National Parks Service & Foundation. His awards include the 2001 University of Michigan's Distinguished Alumni Service Award.

Goss is married to Carol Goss. They have three children: Anika, Fatima and Maloni.

Tom Goss was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on July 1, 2014.

## **Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Tom A. Goss was conducted by Larry Crowe on July 1, 2014, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 9 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Insurance chief executive and athletic director Tom A. Goss (1946 - ), chairman of Goss LLC and a principal at The Goss Group, Inc., was the first African American athletic director of the University of Michigan.

#### Restrictions

#### **Restrictions on Access**

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

#### **Restrictions on Use**

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

## Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

#### **Controlled Access Terms**

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

#### Persons:

Goss, Tom A., 1946-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews Goss, Tom A., 1946---Interviews

## **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

## **Occupations:**

Athletic Director

## **HistoryMakers® Category:**

SportsMakers

## **Administrative Information**

## **Custodial History**

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

#### **Preferred Citation**

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, July 1, 2014. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

## **Processing Information**

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

# Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

#### **Series I: Original Interview Footage**

Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014 232 001 001, TRT: 1:28:39?

Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014 232 001 002, TRT: 2:28:26?

Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014 232 001 003, TRT: 3:28:58?

Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014 232 001 004, TRT: 4:28:19?

Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014\_232\_001\_005, TRT: 5:28:45? Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014\_232\_001\_006, TRT: 6:28:52? Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014\_232\_001\_007, TRT: 7:28:51? Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014\_232\_001\_008, TRT: 8:30:49? Video Oral History Interview with Tom A. Goss, Section A2014\_232\_001\_009, TRT: 9:10:17?