BEACON ON THE HILL:
SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, 1903-1978

by

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This history of Southwest Texas State University is an attempt to capture the flavor of life on the Hill. It is my hope that this book will interest the friends and alumni of SWT, because they are its intended audience. The writing of this story of seventy-five years at Southwest Texas was easier because SWT has had several generations of concerned chroniclers and collectors. The University is fortunate to have nearly complete holdings of the Bulletins, Pedagogs and the Star. I thank Drs. Louis Moloney, William Mears and Mr. Hugh Black, Jr., for discussing these holdings with me and making my use of them easier.

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THEN AND NOW

From its inception Southwest Texas State University has undergone persistent change. Authorized by the Texas Legislature in 1899 and actually launched in the fall of 1903, Southwest Texas passed through earlier stages as a Normal School, Normal College, Teachers College and College before being designated a University in 1969. Back in 1903 Southwest Texas State Normal School was the youngest of Texas' institutions of higher education. San Marcos had contributed the original eleven-acre campus. The State Legislature had appropriated $55,000 for the construction of the Main Building and the payment of the faculty salaries. Thomas Green Harris, the first president, and 16 other faculty members opened the fall term for 303 students. All classes met in the Main Building, and both students and faculty boarded with San Marcos families.

By contrast, the present campus of Southwest Texas State University encompasses more than 200 acres of land which originally belonged to private citizens and the U.S. fish hatchery. In addition, the University owns an experimental farm and a recreational camp which total 692 acres. In 1978-1979 SWT's budget of $37,493,862 operates a school of 15,060 students, 500 regular staff and 563 full time faculty. While Old Main still serves the University community, an additional 105 permanent on-campus structures have been constructed. In statistical terms these are the differences between the Normal School of 1903 and the University celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary. This history will attempt to describe a portion of those events and individuals who have transformed the Normal School into the regional University of the 1970's.

A NORMAL SCHOOL

Southwest Texas State Normal School became the third institution of its kind in Texas. A unique American innovation, the normal school offered rudimentary training in teaching techniques and subject areas to several generations of public school teachers. In 1879 Texas had established its first normal, Sam Houston Normal Institute (Huntsville). North Texas (Denton), formerly a private school, became the second in 1899. Subsequent additions to the Texas Normal School and Teachers College system came with the creation of West Texas (Canyon) in 1909, East Texas (Commerce) and Sul Ross (Alpine) in 1917, and Stephen F. Austin (Nacogdoches) in 1923. According to an 1890 address by ex-Governor Oran M. Roberts, the purpose...
Today, the eleven-story J. C. Kellam Building houses both administrative offices and the Learning Resources Center (Library).
of these schools was to provide uniform training for the common school teachers of Texas. He believed that normals were an extension and “part of the public free school system of the State, and should be kept so.” When established they had two overriding objectives: to train prospective public school teachers in educational practices and to upgrade the qualifications of active teachers. When its first class enrolled on September 9, 1903, the Southwest Texas State Normal School became the newest institution in a community long identified with education.

SAN MARCOS AND EDUCATION

Local historians Dudley R. Dobie and Annie Hall have identified forty schools in the San Marcos area prior to the creation of SWT by the Twenty-Sixth Legislature. The most famous of these institutions was Coronal Institute, a Methodist preparatory school, operated in conjunction with Southwestern University in Georgetown. When Coronal Institute closed its doors in 1918, SWT remodeled the first floor of the classroom building for use as the college’s first indoor gymnasium. The social fraternity Pi Kappa Alpha now occupies the old Coronal Institute dormitory that has served both as a college dormitory and San Marcos hospital in the intervening decades. Thus there is a tenuous link between San Marcos’ most important nineteenth- and twentieth-century educational facilities.

In addition to formal schools, San Marcos was also the site of a local Chautauqua meeting ground. In 1885 Methodist minister Horace N. Dubose of Houston delivered the commencement address for Coronal Institute. He also conceived the idea of establishing a Chautauqua in central Texas above the banks of the San Marcos River. Like the original Lake Chautauqua, New York, Dubose found a scenic and recreational paradise ideally suited to religious instruction and inspiration. Dubose joined with John E. Pritchett, President of Coronal Institute and later SWT Professor of Latin, and local bankers W.D. Wood and Ed J.L. Green. Organized first as the Real Estate Association of San Marcos and later as the San Marcos Chautauqua, both subscription stock companies, they brought the Chautauqua experiment to San Marcos. The Association bought Wood’s Hill from W.D. Wood and renamed it Chautauqua Hill (now the University Hill).

Upon the crest of the hill they erected a wooden tabernacle that seated approximately 1500 people. The grounds were fenced and the entrance gate was located between the existing Science and Health Science Buildings. Between 1885 and 1895 the Chautauqua sponsored an annual summer session of activities that lasted a month or more. The programs featured Bible studies, sermons, and Sunday School institutes, as well as outdoor recreation, travel lectures, temperance rallies, discussions of social reforms, political speeches and in 1886 public displays of precision marching by the Chautauqua Guards. A small steamboat,
the Tom Glover, offered river excursions for a nickel a ride.

In two important respects the Chautauqua foreshadowed the influence that SWT later exerted on the community. Beginning in 1886 and continuing thereafter, San Marcos hosted a Texas summer normal institute where educators gathered to study and earn advanced certification. At this time teachers compiled credit by passing exams or completing normal school work which entitled them to teach more advanced students or to become administrators. Those coming to San Marcos for study saw its promise as a site for a permanent normal school to serve teachers in south Texas. In December, 1892, a teachers’ institute meeting in San Marcos petitioned the Legislature “to establish at least one more State Normal in this State, to be located in Southwest Texas.” In 1893 the Texas Legislature authorized Coronal Institute to issue diplomas if it obtained state approval for a teacher education program. Although Coronal never complied with these requirements, San Marcos strengthened its claim as the logical site for the “southwest” Texas normal.

Furthermore, San Marcans provided the services for the summer visitors. Restaurants, boarding houses and a local hotel accommodated the Chautauqua patrons as did local liverymen who lumbered up and down the “hill” with passengers and supplies. Families on a restricted budget could rent tents and camping supplies from other local promoters. The Lynch Brothers’ Restaurant on the Chautauqua grounds sold meals for a dollar a day, six dollars a week and twenty dollars a month. The Chautauqua decade strengthened San Marcos’ commitment to education as well as awakening an interest in tourism. In the twentieth century these economic activities have become the twin pillars of community prosperity. By 1978 tourism and diversified education — SWT, Brown School, Gary Job Corps, San Marcos Baptist Academy and public schools — are the central ingredients in a service-oriented economy.

The Chautauqua legacy has had special significance for Southwest Texas. In 1899 the city donated the eleven-acre Chautauqua site to the State for use as the campus of the proposed normal school. Old Main sits atop old Chautauqua Hill, and the first men’s literary society at SWTSNS bore the name of the earlier institution. The University’s continuing interest in religious education, cultural development, adult education and summer instructional programs reaffirm the tenets of the Chautauqua movement.

The Pi Kappa Alpha social fraternity now occupies the building that was originally part of the Coronal Institute.

As many as 1,500 people attended summer activities in the wooden tabernacle on Chautauqua Hill in the late 19th century. (photo courtesy of the Tula Townsend Wyatt Collection, San Marcos Public Library)
SWT CREATED

The movement for a south Texas normal culminated in March, 1899, when Fred Cooke, representative from the Ninety-Eighth District, which included Hays County, introduced legislation to establish a new state school in San Marcos. State Senator J.B. Dibrell of Seguin offered a companion bill which eventually passed both Houses and became the authorization for the new normal. The act provided that the Southwest Texas Normal School be established in San Marcos if "San Marcos and the citizens thereof shall, without charge or cost to the State, ... cause to be conveyed unto the State of Texas, a good and perfect title in and to the ... eleven acres of land known as Chautauqua Hill, ... together with all buildings and improvements." On October 16, 1899, Mayor Howell Hardy and aldermen George N. Donaldson, N.K. Farris, W.D. Wood, Peter Ault, Thomas Taylor and G.G. Johnson approved the transfer of the property. The Legislature argued that the normal was necessary to relieve the hardships of southwest Texans wanting to become teachers.

When the Twenty-Seventh Legislature convened in 1901, Senator Dibrell again sponsored the bill accepting Chautauqua Hill and appropriating an initial $35,000 for the construction of buildings and operation of the institution. Work on Old Main began on April 28, 1902, when Governor Joseph D. Sayers laid the cornerstone. Its construction proved expensive and complicated because it sat atop the hill and directly over a subterranean cavern that absorbed load after load of concrete. Finally the foundation was secured by filling the northeast corner with concrete; thereafter the work proceeded uninterrupted until the school opened in September 1903.

GETTING STARTED

The unexpected complications with Old Main forced the Legislature to pass a supplementary appropriation of $20,000. In the spring of 1903 San Marcans W.D. Wood, Ed J.L. Green and S.V. Daniel were appointed to the Local Board of Trustees for SWT under the general supervision of the State Board of Education. The State Board also chose Thomas Green Harris as the new normal's first principal. Harris, superintendent of the Austin public schools prior to his appointment, was an experienced "school man," who was serious, absolutely honest and a zealous opponent of "demon rum." Selected from a list of twelve applicants, he was well qualified to administer the new normal which offered three years of work — two of high school and one of college. Since he possessed broad experience in Texas public schools and had numerous professional acquaintances around the state, his appointment strengthened both the appeal of the school and the credentials of its graduates.

The first students enrolled in courses offered by the seventeen-member faculty. In addition to Harris there were Miss Maud M. Shipe, Miss Lula Hines, J.E. Blair, Mrs. Lillie Shaver, Miss Kate White, W.A. Palmer, Mrs. Willie S. Foster, Miss Annie Pearsall, Alfred Freshney, S.W. Stanfield, J.S. Brown, Miss Jessie Sayers (sister of ex-Governor J.D. Sayers), J.E. Pritchett (formerly of Coronal), Miss Helen Hornsby, Miss Mary S. Butler and Mrs. Lucy Burleson. Prospective or practicing teachers took coursework in history, State Senator J.B. Dibrell of Seguin introduced the bill that eventually established a normal school in San Marcos.

Governor Joseph D. Sayers laid the cornerstone of Old Main on April 28, 1902.

Thomas Green Harris was chosen as the first principal of the normal.
A typical clothing ad in the early part of the century

Boarding house rates were $16 and $20 a month in 1913

EARLY STUDENT EXPENSES

State officials and educators considered normal institutions a part of the public educational system, which led to special obligations and benefits for students. Upon enrolling at SWT, students had to promise to teach as many sessions of public school as they had attended the normal. Codes of conduct required strict obedience to standards of behavior for public school teachers. Compensation came in the form of free textbooks and an extensive system of scholarships for students nominated by the legislators, the lieutenant governor, the superintendent of public instruction and the state board of education members.

Tuition was reasonably priced. Depending upon whether or not they had scholarships, students paid between $100 and $150 per session or a maximum of $450 for an academic year — September to June. Laboratory fees were $3 per term, and incidentals cost between $2 and $7. Local boarding houses provided food and lodging at $15 to $18 per month. These expenses must be balanced against a generally low wage scale (unskilled workers normally made $1 per day or less); faculty members could not earn more than $1500 for nine months, and Principal Harris received only $2000. By 1970’s standards, clothing was cheap. Men’s suits sold for $5 to $15; hats were less than $1. Although the costs of attending college have increased dramatically since the early 1900’s, frugal students can still attend SWT for approximately $1000 per year — $400 for tuition, $500 for dormitory and food service, $200 to $400 for miscellaneous expenses. Public higher education remains a bargain for the residents of Texas.

BOARDING HOUSE LIFE

From the beginning there has been a strong spirit of cooperation between San Marcos and its college on the Hill. When school opened in 1903, Mayor Howell Hardy called upon San Marcans to help the Normal and its students. The city hauled adobe bricks to townspeople who were willing to build walkways so that students and faculty did not have to tramp through muddy streets on their way to classes. Public-spirited citizens revived discussion of a projected riverside park that had been planned in the Chautauqua years. Residents converted their homes into boarding houses. The first students lived with the Garths, the Perrys, the Moores, the Nances and others. Students expected to find a bed and a dining room, but they often found a sitting room or study room, too. School and community leaders expected the owners to enforce the proper standards of conduct for young men and women. The boarding houses lined the side of the Hill, Guadalupe, Austin and North Streets. In 1913 they advertised rates of $16 to $20 a month and housed as
many as 16 to 18 young men or women. Like all students those at Southwest Texas found time to grumble about their accommodations and food. In 1905 this critique of boarding house life appeared:

Backward, turn backward, O, time in your flight,
Feed me on gruel again just for to-night.
I am weary of sole-leather steak,
Petrified biscuit, and vulcanized cake,
Oysters that sleep in a watery bath,
And butter as strong as Goliath of Gath;
Backward, turn backward, how weary I am!
Give me a swipe at grandmother’s jam;
Let me drink milk that hasn’t been skimmed;
Let me eat butter whose whiskers are trimmed;
And then I'll be ready to curl up and die.

It is doggerel to be sure, but it echoes a complaint that comes down over the ages. In 1909 Edda Bose caricatured the leaden “boarding house biscuit” that fell upon an unsuspecting pantry raider, knocked her to the floor, and left her battered and dazed. This was one segment of a stinging satire entitled “Fragmentary Facts and Traditions of an Ancient City” that appeared in the Pedagog. In the 1930’s the boarding house would begin to give way to the college dormitory, but not before student pundits had a few last laughs. The infamous and irreverent “Cat’s Claw” section of the 1930 Pedagog pilloried “Our Boarding Houses” under such headings as “Girls’ Reformatory,” “Nunnery,” “Prexy’s (President C.E. Evans) Garage,” and the following description of “Pevey House:”

Signifying: Satan’s Hangout
Founded: By the moron himself
Standing in the Community: Next to heaven according to (Dean of Women) Miss Brogdon.
Worse than hell according to inhabitants.
Motto: Evil lies in darkness, but be damned if we furnish stronger than 10 watt bulbs.

SPECIAL FRIENDS IN TOWN

The boarding houses were only the most obvious link between the town and the college. Another connection was the friendly and interesting Mose Cheatham, a black who operated the horsedrawn taxi or jitney in San Marcos. For years Mose met incoming students at the railroad station. Alumni remember him as a kind and thoughtful man with only one leg; he had lost his other leg when he rescued a child from a runaway carriage. He soon learned each student’s name and was often able to transport them from the station to the proper boarding house without specific instructions. By the 1920’s Mose had exchanged his coach for one of the newfangled automobiles, but his service was as friendly as ever. Although named for an early San Marcos family, Cheatham Street links alumni reminiscences of Mose with a current fa-
The name "Cheatham" and students still go together — now it's the Cheatham Street Warehouse, one of the town's popular watering holes.

Scottie's Taxi and Younger Travel serve the transportation needs of some students in 1978.

Many students have their own automobiles, a situation that makes travel convenient but creates heavy space demands for parking.

Yancy Yarbrough came to SWT in 1922 and drove taxis to earn extra money.

Shuttle and commuter buses of Transportation Enterprises solve some of the problems caused by the parking and energy shortages.
they are less likely to meet Doyle Scott or his drivers, who operate Scottie’s Taxi. Many students living in Houston or Dallas-Ft. Worth know Jay Younger, the friendly proprietor of the combination bus station and travel agency on Hutchinson Street. Others come to know the regular drivers on the commuter and campus-area buses operated by Transportation Enterprises. Like Harmshel, Transportation Enterprises hires SWT students on some of its runs and helps them work their way through college. The increased use of buses operated by Transportation Enterprises has helped to relieve perplexing parking problems on a campus that struggles constantly to keep pace with rising student enrollment and an expanding physical plant.

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**STUDENT REGULATIONS**

The Normal School initially limited its admissions to students sixteen years of age or older who were residents of Texas or intended to become Texans. Students had to conform to the School’s rules and regulations. They pledged not to engage “in any conduct that in the judgment of the faculty would be prejudicial to the interests of the school.” Principal Thomas Harris was a strict disciplinarian who quickly punished students who violated the rules. In 1905 he issued a list of “Regulations for the Guidance of Students of Southwest Texas State Normal:”

1. School will be in session from 8:45 A.M. till 2 P.M. on each Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Home study periods will be from 3:30 P.M. till 5:30 P.M. and from 7 P.M. till 10 P.M. each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. From 2 P.M. on Saturday till noon Monday students may devote their time to rest, appropriate exercises and recreation, attendance on Sunday School and Church services and other duties.
2. The hours designated above as study periods are to be spent by all students in their own rooms, or in the library, or in the laboratory, in the prosecution of school work . . .
3. In all boarding houses the use of the telephone by the students must be limited to the giving or receiving of important information in regard to school work, or to communications with parents, guardians, or members of the faculty . . .
4. Students will not without special permission from some member of the faculty, go to the post office either to post or to call for mail or for any other purposes . . .
5. During the afternoons and evenings of Saturday and Sundays, students may, within proper bounds, make and receive social visits, but such visits may not extend later than 10 P.M. and the proprietors of boarding homes are directed to see that their parlors are in all cases vacated by students not later than this hour. The purpose which justifies the existence of the Normal is the preparation of young men and women to teach, not to afford opportunity to marry. Any marked indications that students are spending their time in courting, or in being courted, or in trifling about such matters, will be deemed sufficient for the prompt removal of such students from the Normal (emphasis added).

Both T.G. Harris (1903-11) and his successor Cecil Eugene Evans (1911-42) saw themselves and their faculties as the students’ temporary parents. The Latin phrase *in loco parentis* is often used to describe this conception of the college’s role in the lives of the students. By the teens new temptations led the administration to expand the list of proscribed activities. Students were forbidden to leave campus without the approval of President Evans and were expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times. “The smoking of cigarettes and the indulgence in intoxicating drinks are habits unworthy of a student in a normal school.” “Prexy” Evans reminded students that all collegiate functions such as athletic contests were under the supervision of the faculty. He cautioned them not to “request time from school for visiting friends and relatives,” as these activities were supposed to be “limited to week-ends, and then only in rare instances.” During the 1920’s Henry Ford’s cheap automobiles posed a new social danger which, as Dr. Leland Derrick recalled, prompted another regulation that
absolutely forbade "a young woman to enter an automobile with a young man." On one occasion an engaged couple were "campused" by Deans Henry Speck and Mary Brogdon because they had ridden together in a car driven by the young man's parents.

When C.E. Evans arrived in 1911 to administer SWT, he had already established the habit of keeping his "little redbooks," pocket-sized, red-leather bound, memorandum books. In them he recorded everything from information about the backgrounds of SWT students and notes for speeches to his personal concerns as president. Tom W. Nichols, alumnus, long time faculty member and Evans biographer, noted that the books spanned more than half a century. "(T)here are 143 of the little books, each carefully dated and indexed, and there is not a single gap from the beginning to the end." (The redbooks are now part of the C.E. Evans Collection housed in the Special Collections Room in the Learning Resources Center.) As early as November 30, 1911, Evans listed several sources of trouble and temptation for the normal students.

1. The town-goers and their control.
2. How to keep up with girl in town.
3. The post office, meeting relatives at train; out-of-town trips; holidays; buggy riding.
4. Stealing of books.
5. Three young men standing on corner waiting for normal girls to pass; and then young men following.
6. The number of wives in San Marcos who came to Normal School but stayed to be wives and mothers of local men.

The students were absolutely forbidden to attend motion-picture shows without faculty approval, and they found two of their favorite "spooning" and courting spots, Rio Vista Park and the fish hatchery, on Prexy's list of "no noes."

**DISCIPLINE: DEAN BROGDON TO 1978**

Dean Mary Brogdon was a strict disciplinarian

Initially Harris and Evans handled all discipline matters personally, but in the 1920's President Evans delegated many of the routine responsibilities to the newly created deans of men and women. Dean Mary Brogdon (1923-49) performed the duties of her office with a strong personal distrust of any contact between members of the opposite sexes. Female frosh, or "fish" as they were called, were required to attend Miss Brogdon's orientation classes. She allegedly cautioned young ladies not to sit in chairs that had been occupied by men until the chairs had had a chance to cool, as they otherwise might "excite the passions." Unquestionably Miss Brogdon took her responsibilities quite seriously; she was a woman who as, Dr. Retta Murphy describes her, "liked her job."

There were persistent rumors among both the faculty and the students that she "used to dress in men's clothing and get a woman who was a member of the English staff with her dressed in the same manner and they would ride around at night and kind of look things over." In 1925 her strict supervision of student morality prompted spontaneous student protests that condemned her enforcement of a seemingly unreasonable code of behavior. The immediate cause of the disturbance was her decision to campus several of the school's most popular women. The protesters accused her of spying and disguising herself as a Mexican laborer in order to catch offenders. President Evans listened to the student complaints and conducted a thorough investigation of the affair, including requiring Miss Brogdon to answer individually each of the student charges. In a general assembly he reported that he had found no evidence implicating the administration in the student charges but explained that he did not endorse spying. He reminded the students of the special obligations of the faculty and administration "to the board of regents, to your parents and to Texas for maintaining of standards of propriety worthy of the best ideals of Christian homes."

The character of student discipline has changed over the years. By 1950 the College no longer listed specific offenses that students were expected to avoid. It simply said:

The Southwest Texas State Teachers College invites to its classrooms only persons of good habits, strong character, and noble purposes. Students of this type voluntarily refrain from improprieties of conduct, and counsel freely with the President and members of the faculty.

By the 1970's the University had virtually abandoned the concept of in loco parentis.

According to the 1977-78 Hill Hints, the student handbook, Southwest Texas State University "expects its students to conduct themselves in a fashion that will reflect credit upon the University and themselves."

An important part of these expectations is the basic
standard, which requires: (a) that a student not violate any municipal, state, or federal laws, or (b) that a student not interfere with or disrupt the orderly educational processes of the University. The University has established rules and regulations to ensure order, protect individual freedoms in the campus community, and to encourage the development of self-responsibility.

The policies and regulations prohibit "hazing activities whether on or off-campus," as well as "disruptive activities" such as interfering with a lawful assembly and hindering or threatening persons. Thus while the University retains the essential disciplinary sanctions (reprimand, probation, suspension and expulsion), it has renounced its control except where student behavior conflicts with statutory law or the orderly functioning of the institution. In recent years the most pressing matters of discipline have been occasional disturbances associated with opposition to the Vietnam War in the early 1970's, the brief flirtation with the national fad of "streaking" in 1974, and perennial collegiate pranks like panty raids. These activities continue to concern administrators because of their potential for mischief and university-community discord. By contrast, the guidance system provided by the faculty, dormitory personnel and University Affairs Division staff attempts to encourage individual responsibility among the students.

The students did not always abide by the strict rules and regulations developed by the Harris and Evans administrations. As early as 1905, the Pedagog reported that one of the Senior Threes (an academic division based upon one's elective) had "decided that a little less studying, a little more housekeeping, and a little bigger pupil than is to be found in the common school would be lovely — and she it was that got married." Dating restrictions were always difficult to enforce, especially since women outnumbered men by as many as five to one, a state of affairs commemorated in the Junior Class symbol of 1904 — M Fe. As Evans' earlier notions implied, it proved especially difficult to keep the college girls separated from eligible San Marcos males, who were immune to the college's rules. The ever-vigilant Miss Brogdon maintained a "blacklist" of undesirable "townies," in hopes that she could keep her girls from harm. Student satirists like Eddo Bose reminded students that in "their city," tardiness, going to the post office, using the telephone, dancing, leaving the city or being out after study hours were crimes punishable by "expulsion from the community and loss of citizenship." As early as this 1906 poem entitled "Too Bad," students vented their frustrations over the restrictions on their lives.

Nothing to do but study,
Nothing to eat but hash,
Nothing but a glimpse of a boy in the hall
Then he is gone like a flash.

Nothing to sing but do, re, mi.
Ah, well, alas! Alack!
Nowhere to go but where girls are,
Nowhere to come but back.

DANCING AND OTHER PROBLEMS

In the early 1920's many of the students violated the dancing restrictions in the privacy of homes and boarding houses where victrolas played Rudy Vallee singing his hit tune "My Time Is Your Time." Soon his songs gave way to jazz, the Charleston tunes, and the ever-popular country music. In 1920 the San Marcos Fire Department hosted a public dance on the square, but attending students found themselves campused for three days for violating the dancing rule. The first school-sanctioned dance occurred in 1926 when Dean Brogdon, perhaps in penance for the student revolt of 1925, chaperoned the affair held in the Boys' Gym. Dr. Robert Tampke had an important responsibility in preparing for this first dance, for to him fell the job of getting an orchestra. In early 1978 he recalled this historic relaxation in the rules.

I was given the job of getting the orchestra, .... but the prescription was this orchestra dare not have a saxophone in it, because the saxophone was thought of generally as a rotten instrument, even by good people, that's a fact! Already at that time, you knock the saxophones out of an orchestra and brother you haven't got much left. Fortunately I had friends in New Braunfels and Seguin, so I got busy and got an orchestra together according to specifications .... I ended up with a piano player, drummer, trombone, trumpet, fiddle and a clarinet. I think I had six or eight altogether.

He remembered that it was awfully difficult to get music for his odd combo, but they were good musicians and performed admirably. It was a formal affair with Lyons McCall and Carol Fourqurean leading the promenade of seventy-two couples. While some townspeople were enraged to learn that the school had held a dance, the storm of controversy passed and dancing became an integral part of campus life. About a month after the fact, President Evans called Tampke to his office and told him, "Tampke, we should have done that years ago!" Yet like so much else that happened in those first two decades, the school and its leaders cautiously threaded their way through crises and changing social mores.

Evans was also concerned about students' activities at the two earliest campus hangouts — the Bobcat and Galbraith's. Since the Bobcat was situated just off campus, ironically on the present site of Evans Academic Center, it caused more alarm. Two brothers, John and Leland Coers, operated this little refreshment and entertainment stand. Pe-
riodically Evans heard that students had been drinking there or that its table service bore remarkable similarities to the dishes in the college cafeteria. Worst of all for Prexy Evans, it seemed to attract idlers, and he objected to the frivolous wasting of time. His irritation at those who frittered away their education was so great that in 1916 he penned a little caricature that he called the Loafer’s License.

Students were “campused” for attending a public dance in 1920. The Bobcat was a popular off-campus gathering place that did not sit well with Prexy Evans.

I desire to loaf in the corridors during hours not used in recitations. I am of kindergarten disposition and, therefore, unable to stay in the library and keep quiet longer than ten or fifteen minutes at the time. I will pass from one building to another as many times as possible and guarantee the minimum of work with the maximum of trouble to my teachers.

In his messages to the students, whether in chapel (later called general assembly) or in student publications, he always emphasized the opportunities that college and human interaction provided. In an article for the Star published on September 17, 1935, he advised students to:

Make optimism epidemic on the College campus. Look for the best in fellow students and you may expect them to look for the best in you. Look for the best in the faculty and your favorable attitude gives you a chance for the faculty to know you at your best ... Sell sincerity, good will, honest standards, loyalty, and happy relations everywhere in college life.

FACULTY AND THE STUDENT CLUBS

It was this positive vision that contributed to the growth and development of the little teachers college in San Marcos. From its inception SWT has been blessed with a dedicated and enthusiastic faculty. Presidents from C.E. Evans to Lee H. Smith have reaffirmed the contributions of these teachers and scholars. From the students’ perspectives their professors have performed admirably both in the classroom and outside it. In particular, faculty members have broadened the social and intellectual content of the school by their support of and participation in student organizations.

In that first year the normalites and their teachers organized three music associations, a YWCA, and the Gypsies, a girls’ basketball team, as well as the literary societies. Located as it was in “German Texas,” SWT always attracted students with German ancestry. This helps to explain why two of the early music organizations bore the names of the famed composers, Schubert and Mendelssohn. In conjunction with the Glee Club these student associations, with the direction and encouragement of Miss Mary Stuart Butler, provided recitals and concerts for the campus and the community. The Schubert and Mendelssohn Clubs continued into the 1930’s except for a brief interlude during World War I, when, like sauerkraut, they experienced a patriotic name change — THE LIBERTY CHORUS.

The early student groups, unlike similar organizations today, often had a strong ethnic, geographic or personal character. As Miss Butler was the special patron of the musicians, so Miss Helen Hornsby assumed leadership of the German Club, Germanistische Gesellschaft, which was organized in 1908. Until its disappearance in 1919 Germanistische Gesellschaft was one of the most active associations on campus. As its membership lists indicate, it attracted many of the German-Americans attending SWT. According to its 1908 statement of purpose, the club stood “for the cultivation of a deeper feeling of sympathy among the students of German, and a truer appreciation and broader knowledge of German life, history, literature and music.” Membership in the organization depended upon a student’s meeting one of its three criteria: the ability to sing the initiation song, the ability to sing and speak German or the courage and determination to study the language. The club’s early Pedagog entries always included a portion written in old German script. The members gathered four or five times a year for social affairs that included the singing of German songs, the playing of German children’s games and the studying of
Germany, Austria-Hungary or Switzerland. Two annual events were a German Christmas carol sing at the home of President and Mrs. Evans and a spring picnic. As late as the fall of 1914 those attending the first meeting listened to Miss Frances White discuss her trip to Germany. She presented the club with a German flag, and all joined in singing the patriotic anthems, "Wacht am Rhein" and "Deutschland Uber Alles." The club customarily presented a scene or scenes from Wilhelm Tell at one of the student assemblies. This organization blended ethnic and cultural awareness with the school's curriculum in which German was one of the earliest electives.

While Germanistische Gesellschaft was both academic and ethnic in purpose, the Komensky Club organized by SWT's Bohemian students in 1912 was more narrowly ethnic in purpose. The student members pledged themselves to "interest Bohemian students and youth in higher education and to cultivate the mother tongue." They tried to organize a Bohemian library, and encouraged one another to write articles about their experiences and heritage to the various Czech newspapers in Texas. Like their German counterparts, they studied their history and brought countrymen like Miss Louise Lewellyn to the campus to sing songs and to perform traditional dances. In 1914 they joined the University of Texas Czech students and former SWT Czechs in planning a convention that would promote interest in and respect for their cultural heritage and the opportunities of American higher education. In essence this group combined an ethnic consciousness with a strong support for individual initiative and the value of education.

One of the early clubs brought together students with a peculiar genetic trait — red hair. The United Order of Fiery Tops appeared as early as 1907-08 and was organized periodically thereafter. The last mention of any club based on this unique characteristic was one appropriately entitled Flaming Youth. Other organizations of similar eccentricities were the Elberta Peach Club, composed of East Texans whose motto was "Eat what you can and what you can't you can," the San Marcos High School Club, the Valley Club and the Atascosa County Club. Another unusual association was the Student Police Force mentioned in the 1915 Pedagog. Composed of B.L. Davis, Chief, and members L.J. Culpepper, F.M. Delaney, G.H. Reagan and W.S. Peters, the force sought to act as "an ethical factor in the lives of the young ladies" of SWT. Their badge was an enormous safety pin — apparently an old horse blanket pin. This police club lasted
The Schubert and Mendelssohn Clubs became the Liberty Chorus during the sensitive World War I years.

The United Order of Fiery Tops had one thing in common — red hair

only for that single year. Harvard and Yale will be surprised to learn that way back in 1914 Southwest Texas actually had three crews of student rowers. They rowed about in the San Marcos River with small rowboats and even raced along a course from the wharf to the headwaters of the river and back. Fortunately for those eastern shell-racing powers, the Senior Boys' Boating Club lasted only one academic year and then passed into oblivion.

THE ACADEMIC CLUBS

The second generation of student associations developed in response to academic activities. In the teens Miss Lula Hines, professor of reading and physical education, sponsored the Story Tellers' League, where members practiced their story telling. At a time when many SWT coeds planned to become elementary teachers, the League was a practical society that gave students opportunities for practice and criticism. When Spanish and French were added to the school's curriculum, new foreign language clubs promptly followed. In the fall of 1916 President Evans hired George B. Marsh to offer the first Spanish classes. Gladys Thomson remembers Marsh as a man who had been born and reared in the Philippines. At Southwest Texas he was a popular teacher who helped organize La Salamanca and the Orchestra Español, a Spanish combo. The club promoted interest in Spanish and gave students an out-of-class organization where they could speak the language. Club members studied Spanish authors and customs, performed folk dances, and presented scenes from plays. At their recreational outings they rode burros, ate chili con carne, and took pictures of local scenery. In 1926-27 they invited Señor Guerrero, pastor of the Mexican Presbyterian Church of San Marcos, to present a lecture on "The Culture and Customs of the Mexican People." Other language societies soon modeled themselves on La Salamanca.

In 1918 Miss Mary Eskridge became the school's first French instructor, and she promptly helped to organize Le Circle Francais, a club for the French students. In 1919 Dr. Alfred H. Nolle, the first professor with a doctorate, joined the faculty to teach German. After the war Dr. Nolle reestablished the German Club. In 1923 its members renamed it the Schiller Verein to honor one of their favorite authors. Once again the club grew and attracted interested students until the fall of 1943 when a second war with Germany ended this
venerable organization.

The twenties were years of great social change throughout America; nowhere was this more apparent than on the college campuses. Sinclair Lewis wrote about America's "main streets" and "babbits," while the irreverent H.L. Mencken chided the nation's leaders in the American Mercury. The Great Commoner, William Jennings Bryan, visited San Marcos twice in the years before he went to Dayton, Tennessee, for the famous Scopes Trial. The acerbic Mencken said that if Bryan "was sincere, then so was P.T. Barnum," but San Marcans enjoyed these visits by the famed Democrat who had once moved the hearts of millions with his "Cross of Gold" speech. Everywhere it was an era of prohibition, and for San Marcos the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act ended several decades of bitter strife between the "wets" and the "drys." At Southwest Texas the students struggled to keep pace with the changes, and yet the old lingered on.

A host of new academic clubs emerged. The first art club was established in 1922 when the Art Lover's Club proclaimed "an interest in and love of the beautiful." Though it was more of a design appreciation group than a true association of art lovers, it symbolized a new interest in things aesthetic. In 1925 Miss Georgia Lazenby replaced it with the Art Club that met twice each month. W.I. Woodson played an active role in the formation of a special club for public school administrators. Variously called the Administration Club or the Schoolmasters' Club, this organization was active during the summer terms. It encouraged fellowship and permanent friendships among those men intending to become school administrators, customarily a male vocation. The club met one evening each week, and members discussed current problems in education.

One of the most active organizations of the decade was the Rabbit's Foot Dramatic Club formed in the fall of 1919. For nine years it was almost the only source of legitimate theater at SWT. The R.F.D.C. presented Elizabeth McFadden's Why the Chimes Rang on December 17, 1919, and with the curtain call came the beginning of organized drama at the college. During its first sixteen years, the school had relied upon performances by the student literary societies and clubs like Germanistische Gesellschaft. Between 1919 and 1922 Mr. George H. Sholts, instructor of public speaking, directed the student company. Mrs. Hester Graves King succeeded Sholts and supervised the R.F.D.C. productions until Mr. Dunn, the new speech and dramatic instructor, replaced her in 1928. One of the memorable achievements of the Rabbit's Foot group was their presentation of Shakespeare's As You Like It on the island at Riverside as a part of the commencement exercises of 1926.

Mr. Dunn reorganized the dramatics club and renamed it the College Players. Under faculty direction the College Players continued to provide the school's principal theatrical performances. They presented a varied program of serious drama such as George Bernard Shaw's satirical Androcles and the Lion (summer, 1932) and Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest (1930-31), light comedies and an annual group of student-written and directed one-act plays. Although College Players continued into the 1960's, its importance declined as the drama faculty assumed complete control over the College offerings.

Purple Mask, the dramatics honorary, was organized by the Rabbit's Foot group. Juniors, seniors and faculty members were eligible for membership in Purple Mask. Students had to have a C average, and all members had to have made major contributions in acting, stage management, scenic design, costume design, stage crew service, directing or writing. Purple Mask continued to serve as the SWT dramatics honorary through the 1930's and 1940's.

Drama at Southwest Texas attained a high level of sophistication under the skillful direction of Professors Monroe Lippman and Dallas Williams. During the thirties and forties these able young directors carried the program at SWT to new heights. Although both left the College, they laid a solid foundation upon which Professor James G. Barton has established one of the finest collegiate dramatics and theatrical programs in the Southwest. Professor Emeritus Ralph H. Houston describes Barton as "the great power in the recent development of college theater here. He stresses quality in all his productions, and expects the same dedication from student performers, technicians and writers." During the 1960's Southwest Texas obtained the services of Ramsey Yelvington, the playwright-in-residence. At least twice during these years Professor Barton directed Yelvington's Cloud of Witnesses at the outdoor theater on the grounds of the Mission San Jose in San Antonio. At present Dr. John E. Clifford is serving as Director of Theater and Dr. David A. Rush is the playwright-in-residence.

With the music clubs and the Story Tellers' League, the Home Economics Club has the distinction of being one of the oldest professional organizations on campus. In 1919-20 it sponsored Halloween and Christmas parties, Washington's Birthday picnic and monthly meetings. In November, 1919, Mrs. Spurgeon Smith discussed "The College Girl's Dress," a topic of considerable interest in what would become the turbulent fashion world of the 1920's. The Peda-
tured discussions of electric coils, electric charges in plants, wave motions, microscope slides, surveying, aviation and explosives. Given the state of scientific research at the time and the international conflict that swept through the world in 1939, these topics were most appropriate.

Over the years the English Department has had some of the most active student clubs, and its faculty members have been most supportive of these associations. From his arrival in 1909 until his untimely death in 1945, Professor Gates Thomas cultivated student interest in writing. [Mrs. Thomas later endowed the Gates Thomas Creative Writing Awards as what seemed to her a most fitting memorial to her husband.] Beginning with the Scribbler’s Club organized in 1928 and continuing into the 1970’s as the Cheshyre Cheese Club, English student associations have encouraged student writing and criticism.

Professor L.N. “Deacon” Wright sponsored and promoted the Scribblers’ Club. Wright and the students established it to furnish an outlet for those “interested in the creative side of literature, and with the further, and perhaps more basic, end in view of creating something like a literary atmosphere here on the Hill.” The club’s scheme of organization bore the unmistakable mark of Deacon’s free-thinking inclinations. Unlike most other clubs at SWT, the Scribblers had no permanent officers. Instead, a chairman or “factotum” (roughly translated “flunky”) presided at each meeting. The factotum changed hands each year so that the society operated with both a touch of anarchy and a dash of absolutism. No regular meetings were scheduled since the club members met only when they had written enough to justify a good session of criticism.

The Scribblers began the publication of student fiction, essays and poetry in their Sheaf Number One, published in May, 1928, as volume 17, number 14 of the Teachers College Bulletin. In his foreword to the Sheaf, Professor Thomas describes its publication as “a gratifying sign of our cultural maturing institutionally.” Professors Wright and Sue Taylor joined Thomas as the faculty consultants for this publication. The student contributors were Mayme Evans, Jim Jones, Nell Kruger, H.D. Morgan, Lorene Price, Lois Wales, Katherine Wall and Hugh Williamson, Jr. In the summer of 1928 Professor Thomas released a mimeographed publication entitled Summer Rhythms. Beginning in 1929 The Scrip became the formal successor to Sheaf Number One and continued as a mimeographed anthology of student writing.

In 1932 the Scribblers’ Club dissolved to reemerge as the Writers Club, an organization with similar aspirations if somewhat less eccentric in its organization. In the fifties Sigma Tau Delta and then the Cheshyre Cheese Club (1958) carried on the tradition begun in the twenties. In more recent years Drs. Leland Derrick (1926-71) and Ralph Houston (1937 to present) have advised the English student clubs, which continue to encourage and to criticize students interested in writing. In 1978-79 Southwest Texas students and faculty are the richer for this labor of love. The heritage of the Sheaf and Scrip (retitled Script in 1958) lives on in the literary journal Persona and in the contemporary feature magazine Genesis.
One other important student organization merits special consideration. Alpha Chi or the Nolle Scholarship Society, as it was called in the twenties, was the peculiar interest of Dean Alfred Nolle. The impetus for the association came from SWT's old rival Southwestern University in Georgetown. In 1915 Southwestern had created an organization to encourage and acknowledge superior students. In 1922 Southwestern's faculty issued a call to four other central Texas institutions to join with them in creating an intercollegiate association of scholarly societies. Dr. Nolle attended the organizational meetings that eventually established the Scholarship Societies of Texas. As with other organizations of this era, the new group's badge and motto attracted student interest — their common badge was shaped like a shield, bore a lamp and the motto, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." Their colors were green, signifying victory, and sapphire blue, representing truth. The Southwest Texas chapter of seven members was established on November 30, 1923. Students could be selected on three separate occasions — junior, senior, and college graduate. To qualify for selection, students had to rank in the top 10 percent of their respective class.

According to the 1926 Pedagog, "the object of the Scholarship Society is the stimulation, development, and recognition of scholarship and those elements of character which make scholarship effective." The association usually had several yearly meetings, one of which was a formal banquet with a visiting scholar as the speaker. Throughout the early years Dr. Alfred Nolle, Dean of the College, acted as the principal sponsor of the group. Dr. Nolle is known to both alumni and faculty as a man committed to the highest standards of teaching and scholarship. Certainly the Nolle Scholarship Society, which became Alpha Chi in 1935, represents an enduring contribution and affirmation of his ideals of academic excellence. Dr. Nolle served the general honor society as secretary-treasurer when it was The Scholarship Societies of Texas (1923-27). He became president of the short-lived Scholarship Societies of the South. When it became Alpha Chi, he again assumed the office of secretary-treasurer, a position he held for almost fifty years. For his distinguished service to Alpha Chi Dr. Nolle was made secretary-treasurer emeritus. SWT alumnus J.M. Brandstetter also made a lasting contribution to Alpha Chi; he wrote the lyrics for the society song, "Hail to Alpha Chi."

Over the past few decades Alpha Chi has changed to accommodate a much larger and more diverse student body. All juniors, seniors and transfer students with thirty hours at SWT prior to the senior year are eligible for membership if they have attained a 3.25 grade point average. Dr. Thomas L. Brasher, Professor of English, sponsored Alpha Chi for almost a quarter of a century.
Even the annual banquets have been abandoned in recent years.

While there have been a host of other clubs and associations that have enriched the quality and character of campus life over the past seventy-five years, their stories remain untold. A list of the academic organizations active in the fall of 1978 follows:

**Departmental Organizations**

Accounting Club
Aktive-Deutsch-Verin
American Society of Interior Design
Anthropology Club
Biology Club
Chemistry Club
Cheshyre Cheese
Child Development Association
Computer Science Association
Council for Exceptional Children
Creative Opportunity

**Honorary Organizations**

Kappa Lambda Kappa
Lady Bird Johnson Society of Media Women
National Art Education Association
National Student Speech and Hearing Association (NSSHA)
Organization of Student Social Workers
Phi Chi Theta
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia
Professional Health Educators Club
Public Relations Student Society
Sigma Delta Chi (Journalism Dept.)
Student Data Processing Management Association
Student Dietetic Association
Texas Student Education Association

**Professional Organizations**

Alpha Kappa Psi
American Society for Interior Designers
Association for Childhood Education
Collegiate Chapter of American Marketing Association

**A SCHOOL OF DEBATERS**

For the average student or alumnus of the post World War II era, college debate is one of those activities occasionally mentioned as an interesting extracurricular activity. Most students never see a debate, and may sit beside forensic champions without the slightest hint of their special talents. How shocked they would be if they were suddenly transported back to the early twentieth-century school on the Hill. From SWT’s founding until the 1930’s college debate was one of the most exciting aspects of college life. The first two men’s literary societies, Chautauqua and Harris-Blair, cultivated debating and parliamentary skills. Their members represented the Normal against opponents from the sister schools at Huntsville, College and Denton. For the first fifteen years the debaters were more important than the athletic clubs. The early Pedagogues devoted an entire page to each of the SWT debates, whereas athletic teams often shared space on the same page. While football game summaries first appeared in 1918, the debating sections always mentioned the topic, the participants and the outcome.

Why was debating so popular in the early twentieth century? In the first place there were few radios and no televisions. For over a hundred years political oratory had provided community information and entertainment. College debaters were often aspiring politicians, and their youthful enthusiasm interested both students and adults. Modern telecommunications have displaced debate as a form of entertainment, but in those early years the forensics attracted more attention than the technological breakthroughs in radio communication. In 1907 Lee De Forest became the first American to transmit a radio signal, but the Normalites cheered H.O. Dabney (Chautauqua) and H.F. Grindstaff (Harris-Blair), who debated the Monroe Doctrine with their North Texas counterparts. In 1919 Owen D. Young organized the Radio Corporation of America (RCA), but San Marceans listened attentively to Claude Elliot, M.L. Shepherd, Dewey Lawley and Richard Hays argue the importance of immigration restriction. The following August Detroit’s WWJ began commercial broadcasting in the United States; Bobcat debaters L.C. McDonald, Alfred J. Ivey, Oscar C. Strom- man and Richard Hays discussed the open shop. Unconsciously Americans witnessed the passing of an era. Debate continued to be popular, but the twenties witnessed the growing appeal of its competitors — radio and intercollegiate athletics.

The first recorded debate at the Normal occurred in 1904 when O.A. Smith, W.J. Carrell and B.H. Glenn affirmed the proposition, “Ancient Civilization Reached a Higher Plane than Modern.” Their counterparts from Coronal Institute disputed this “absurd” proposition. In succeeding years students debated defense policy, the initiative and the referendum as suitable constitutional amendments for Texas, the income tax, immigration policy and even the need for new marriage and divorce legislation. In 1978-79 these old issues seem to have a current appeal.

During the first thirty years debate attracted many of SWT’s outstanding students. For example, San Marcos historian Dudley Dobie won his letter during 1926-27 when he and G. Preston Smith defeated the lads from North Texas State. San Marcos educator, administrator and dedicated alumnus Yancy Yarbrough represented SWT during two seasons — 1922-23 and 1923-24. When he returned to San...
Marcos High School as its debate coach in 1925, he joined "Prof" H.M. Greene as a debate critic for occasional college meets. Once he rendered an adverse decision to a team that included a strapping young man from the Texas Hill Country — Lyndon B. Johnson. While Johnson became the most famous of the debaters, the other young participants of these decades later brought considerable personal fame to their alma mater.

During the 1920's Prof Greene and Dr. M.L. Arnold, teachers of government and history respectively, assisted the speech and drama instructors as debate coaches. Dr. Arnold directed the research and helped the students organize their materials; Prof Greene was the master of finding bizarre bits of relevant information that confounded opposing teams. Greene carried his interest in debate into every aspect of his academic career; his classes became laboratories for the study of current issues. Several generations of SWT students and debaters remember him as a singular character among the faculty members that they knew. By the mid 1930's debate was losing its peculiar status at the college, and by the end of President Evans' administration in 1942, debate was little more than another collegiate activity.

Debate had had its day, but its legacy lived on briefly in the literary societies it had spawned at the turn of the century.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

During their very first year at Southwest Texas State Normal the students organized literary societies. Under faculty sponsorship these associations proclaimed their intention to study art, literature, poetry, drama, debate, public speaking and parliamentary procedure. The first men's debating club was the Chautauqua Literary Society, which took its name from the organization that first brought education to "the Hill." Its arch rival was the Harris-Blair Literary Society, an amalgam of the names of Principal Thomas G. Harris and J.E. Blair, an instructor of English and an unreconstructed Confederate. Blair's ideological attachment to the rhetoric of the Lost Cause and States' Rights apparently contributed to the language that the Harris-Blairs used to describe their break with the Chautauquans. Writing in 1905 their Pedagog reporter explained that as "thoroughly indoctrinated" States' Rightsers and one-time Chautauquans, the founders of Harris-Blair had "discovered that, among other things, the Chautauqua Constitution did not contain a Bill of Rights or a clause against trusts." These critics eventually seceded from the C.L.S. which steadfastly resisted their reforms. "The secessionists got together and took the famous 'Tennis Court Oath' to form a literary society, whose constitution should be the literary marvel of the ages." While their constitution has not survived the intervening years, the principles and historical analogies that they chose suggest their strong affection for the traditions of revolution and secession.

The first women's societies were the Comenian Society, whose members studied art and the child in literature; the Shakespeare Club, who examined the works of their namesake; and the Idyllic Club where Tennyson became the girls' idol. By 1906 two new women's societies, the Pierian Club and the Every Day Society, had joined the original three. Unlike men who were slow to establish new organizations, the SWT coeds fashioned new groups whenever the need arose.

From the beginning the societies fulfilled a social as well as an intellectual function in the students' lives. The Shakespeareans eventually became the special preserve of San Marcos misses, while the Idyllics and Comenians stressed their chronological primacy. The Every Day Society was probably the least pretentious of all the associations; typical of their activities was their "Every Day Party" of 1917 when the guests and club members all wore their everyday clothing — blue shirts for the men and white middies for the ladies. The Shakespeareans expressed a more typical elitism when they noted in 1905 that "we do not think we say too much when we claim that the Shakespeare Club is at the head." In an era of collegiate enthusiasm that included class, club and school loyalty, the Harris-Blair yell of 1905 aggressively asserted:

Boomeracker! Boomeracker! What d' we care?
Sis Boom! Firecracker! Harris-Blair!
Hipzoo! Razzoo! Zip-rah Boom!
We're Harris-Blair! Give us room!

By 1908 their youthful belligerence had turned to an affirmation of their fundamental superiority. Then they chanted,
“Prof” H. M. Greene brought his interest in debate to every aspect of his academic career.

Hokey, pokey, likity split
Harris-Blair Harris Blair she is it,
First in work, first in fun,
The best society under the sun.

Thereafter their cheer changed only to add some Rah’s and finish with the words Harris-Blair. During these years the Harris-Blairs used the pages of the Pedagog to caricature the rival Chautauquans. In cartoons they depicted the Chautauquans taking wrong turns to wisdom and knowledge or falling short of the cherished ideals of “Normalities.” By contrast the Chautauquans seemed secure in their campus status; their yell was a simple cheer that might just as easily have been applied to the early Bobcat athletic teams.

Raslem! Daslem! Zip! Boom! Rah!
Chautalk’wa! Chautalkwa! Rah! Rah! Rah!

The literary societies planned monthly or biweekly meetings at which they pursued their year’s course of study and participated in social and political activities of their own organizations. For example, the Comenians of 1910-11 decided to prepare themselves for teaching the “children’s story hour” that was then part of most public school curricula. They researched the possible sources of stories in mythology, fairy tales, biographies and famous pictures, and then told the stories or prepared dramatizations of them. They blended this academic and professional activity with the social forms of the group — election of officers, hosting of entertainment and parties, and coordination of school projects. Two years later the clubs participated in “Hill and River Day” when clubs presented skits and joined together in a general campus picnic. By 1914 the seven literary societies had formed a federation that coordinated campus beautification efforts and organized the Colonial Party held on Washington’s Birthday. Here they re-enacted the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Benjamin Franklin’s reception at the court of Louis XVI, colonial dancing, Washington’s birthday party and his entry into Trenton.

In the middle teens the social activities of the societies became increasingly important. In 1915 the Idyllics hosted an informal dinner for the respective debate teams from Sam Houston State and Southwest Texas. In the meantime they had relegated the study of Tennyson’s works to a project undertaken once every four years. They hosted more parties and prided themselves upon the extracurricular activities of the members. For example, eight members of the 1917 Pedagog staff were Idyllics. By 1921 the Chautauquans proposed “to cultivate the social and fraternal ties that should bind together the young men of the Southwest Texas Normal College [emphasis added].” During the 1920’s the other societies also became de facto fraternities and sororities. In 1922 the Idyllics sought members who were strong workers and steady thinkers as well as loyal and fun-loving.
The organization had affiliated with the Federated Women's Clubs and even sent a delegate to that organization's convention in San Antonio. They abandoned the debaters for the football team and hosted parties that included games, Victrola music and that twenties fad — charades. By 1922 the Chautauquans had changed their motto to "law and order" and had even established a system of initiation work for prospective members. Although the old society would disappear within three years, it would have completed the transition from nineteenth-century literary society to twentieth-century social fraternity.

When in 1923 a group of women formed the Philosophian Literary Society, they chose not only a name, but also a "society pin" comprising the letter P, pearls and a lamp which presumably symbolized learning. The new group scheduled two meetings each month; one was a business session and the other, literary. In the following fall other coeds formed the Pennybacker Literary Society in honor of Mrs. Anna J. Pennybacker, a prominent Texas woman and international social reformer. This society planned to study the deeds, facts and events of the most prominent American women, but it tempered this with a commitment to an active social calendar. In 1926 the third new women's group chose to call itself the Allie Evans Literary Society in honor of President Evans' wife. This society planned to study literary activities in Texas with special attention to poets and their poems, legends, sculptors, musicians and painters. Like the other associations it established a varied activity calendar that included hikes, picnics and parties. By 1928 the Shakespeareans described the character of their organization as well as that of the others: "The chief activities of the Shakespeares, however, have been in a social way. The entertainments were teas, theatre parties, 'haunted-house' initiations, picnics, Wimberley trips, and banquets." By the end of the decade the women's societies reported numerous bridge parties, a reflection of that game's growing national popularity, and their new priorities.

At the end of thirty years of college existence the Idyllics

The Chautauqua Literary Society was the arch-rival of the Harris-Blair Literary Society.

The Allie Evans Literary Society named itself after the president's wife.

The Allie Evans Literary Society

The Allie Evans Literary Society is the youngest one on the hill. It was organized in December 1926 with twenty-five charter members. This "baby sister" of other literary societies was christened in honor of Mrs. C. E. (Allie) Evans. Membership to this society is open only upon invitation.

We have two regular meetings each month at which time literary programs utilize phases of interest in Texas, such as study of poets and poems, legends, sculptors, musicians, and painters. Our plan is study Texas until we have gained some knowledge of its literary achievements and then to extend our field, making a similar study of the achievements of the United States. Thus, we intend to enlighten ourselves in the literary world of our home.

We have attempted to help beautify our hill and campus by planting our Texas flower, the Bluebonnet, and our society flower, the sweet pea, which may be seen under the club room windows.

Among our memories of social events we have the first "outing," a banquet, and Friendship Party. In groups we went to the woods, gathered plants, and rest them on the southeast side of the hill, where after careful nourishment they soon waved their Bluebonnets at passers-by.
After World War II the societies abandoned all pretense of being literary societies. For example, in 1947 the Allie Evans Literary Society described itself as "a girl's society designed to foster life-long friendship among its members as well as to promote school spirit among the entire student body." Each society reaffirmed these same goals. Two new women's organizations, the Sallie Beretta Literary Society (named for the long-time regent and SWT benefactress) and the Aonian Literary Society (named for the mountains where the Greek goddesses and muses lived), appeared in 1946 and 1949 respectively. Recounting the club activities of the 1950's re-captures the events that absorbed SWT students in these years. Hazing, initiation, rush and dances continued, but were augmented by "sock hops" and the spring festival called "Frontier Days."

The first step toward the establishment of national fraternities and sororities came in the fall of 1957 when the literary societies abandoned their fifty-year heritage and chose Greek-letter names. Former Dean of Students and Professor of Education Dr. Martin O. Juels remembered that both the men and women endorsed the initial name change. He explained: "I knew this was going to be the forerunner of fraternities and sororities, but I just thought well, if that's what they want, what's the difference?" Requests from the SWT locals to permit them to obtain national affiliation came in the early 1960's. Dean of Students Juels and President Flowers decided to undertake a campus-wide study of the question. "We," recalls Dr. Juels, "set up a committee and studied national affiliation for a whole year. At the end of the year we recommended that nationals be allowed on campus, but they had to conform . . . to specific requirements that the committee developed."

In 1964 the local Greek organizations began the process of national affiliation. By that time only four of the sororities remained, and two new fraternities had developed to give them an equal number. There are now eleven social fraternities and nine sororities, one of which is a new colony of Alpha Phi. The present organizations and their predecessors are listed below.

FRATERNITIES

- Alpha Phi Alpha
- Delta Tau Delta
- Kappa Alpha Chi
- Lambda Chi Alpha
- Omicron Phi Psi
- Phi Kappa Psi
- Phi Kappa Tau
- Pi Kappa Alpha
- Sigma Nu
- Tau Kappa Epsilon
- Theta Xi

SORORITIES

- Alpha Delta Pi (Shakespeare)
- Alpha Kappa Alpha
- Alpha Xi Delta (Philosophian)
- Chi Omega (Idyllic)
- Delta Sigma Theta
- Delta Zeta (Allie Evans)
- Gamma Phi Beta
- Sigma Kappa

At present the fraternities have or are obtaining permanent off-campus houses. Inasmuch as the property near campus is both expensive and scarce, these organizations have been forced to move away from the campus core. Two of the fraternities are located several miles outside of the San Marcos city limits. This dispersal, combined with an increase
In the late 1970s the Greek organizations experienced an upswing in popularity. Alpha Phi, the youngest sorority at SWT, had its first pledge class in spring of 1978.

in off-campus living and commuting, has contributed to a breakdown of University identification and weekend flight from San Marcos. Alumni and faculty remember the post World War II era when SWT was primarily a resident college. They are surprised that a University of 15,000 has trouble filling a football stadium that barely met the needs of an institution one-eighth its size.

**STARS: BLACK AND WHITE**

It is not precisely accurate to conclude that SWT's first fraternities came in the 1960's. Actually that distinction goes to the Beta Sigmas, commonly called the "Black Stars," of the 1920's. The confusion about the name of this organization stemmed from its secret character. Non-members learned that the club's initials were B.S., and, since the school's emblem was a star, they assumed that the letters stood for "Black Stars." As David E. Conrad points out in Lyndon Baines Johnson: The Formative Years, this secret society was actually an organization of campus leaders, many of whom were the football stars. Membership in the club came only after nomination and unanimous approval by the members. It was both a social and political organization that had been organized in 1920 and initially invited Coach and Mrs. Oscar Strahan to its social functions. When the activities and exclusive character of the group began to cause team conflict, Strahan tried to dissolve the organization. The Black Stars were most active in campus politics, using the club as an organizational base from which to run their candidates for class and campus offices. The key issue was control of the student activity fees. These funds were administered by the Student Council composed of representatives from each of the classes. In addition to the fee disbursement, the Council also appointed the editors of the *Star* and *Pedagog*, and the business manager of the *Pedagog*. Each of these offices then carried a thirty-dollar per month salary that made it attractive to interested students. During the early 1920's the Black Stars dominated campus affairs; Yancy Yarbrough, Henry Shands, Ed Kallina, the Kellam brothers, Jesse and Claude, and Alfred Johnson were prominent members of the society. Their very success, however, spawned resentment and eventually a rival organization emerged that called itself the White Stars.

The White Stars were founded in the fall of 1928 by a group of non-athletes that included Lyndon Johnson, Vernon Whitesides, Horace Richards, Willard Deason, Wilton Woods, and Hollis Frazer. According to an account by Alfred Johnson, Lyndon spear-headed the new organization when he was denied admission to Black Stars. Like its counterpart, White Stars had a Greek name — Alpha and Omega — and selected its members from among the most promising students on the campus. The White Stars countered the activities of the Black Stars, swore an oath of secrecy and promised to help each other throughout their lives. Inevitably the battleground became campus politics and the issue, the disposition of student fees. The Black Stars wanted the funds to flow into the athletic activities; the White Stars preferred to allocate money to debate, drama, music and special events. While Lyndon worked for President Evans, he exerted con-
considerable influence over the jobs that White Stars obtained—they had office and indoor tasks, while the Black Stars labored outside on the maintenance crews. The White Stars dominated the campus publications and won repeated electoral victories in the late 1920's and 1930's. These conflicts gave Lyndon Johnson an opportunity to cultivate his considerable political talents. In later years many of these campus rivals became lifelong friends.

The Student Senate replaced the Student Council in the early 1960s

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

The struggles of the Black Stars and White Stars are but one ingredient in the seventy-five year history of student government at Southwest Texas. The first Hill officials were the class officers of 1903-04. The seniors elected Charles Gault, president; B.H. Glenn, vice-president; and Hannah Smith, secretary. The first junior officials were H.E. Meador, president; Reuby Caperton, vice-president; Attie May Holli-day, secretary; and R. Biesele, sergeant-at-arms. W.H. McNair, president; Annie Wilbarger, vice-president; Mabel Lylle, secretary; and W.A. Cilburn, sergeant-at-arms, led the first class of “fish.”

For the next fifteen years class officers remained the most important elective leaders. Although there were sporadic attempts to establish a campus-wide government, the Student Welfare Council organized in 1919 is the lineal ancestor of the present student government. As simply the Student Council, this body became the students’ representative institution during the 1920’s. According to the 1926 Pedagog the Council included three representatives each from the junior and senior classes and two from both the freshmen and sophomores. The Council met with the Registrar, the Dean of Students and the Dean of Women, and apportioned the student blanket tax funds. The Council also sponsored the debate team awards, awarded sweaters to the student “yell leaders,” elected the most valuable players in the major sports, and coordinated efforts to build SWT’s first basketball gymnasium. Student members of the Council had to have been students for one term, with an overall average of “C”, as well as being at least eighteen and free of previous disciplinary sanctions. Throughout C.E. Evans’ presidency, the Student Council promoted cooperation between the students and the faculty. In 1933 the Pedagog explained that it was “no attempt at student self-government, but its work does have a large influence in the guidance of the student’s school life. It is through this agency that sentiment, suggestions, and ideas of the students arising on the campus are given recognition and guidance by the faculty.” The Council also assumed responsibility for assuring morality on the campus.

By the early 1960’s the old Council had been replaced by the Student Senate, but the basic features and responsibilities remained unchanged.

The purpose of the Student Senate at Southwest Texas State College is to encourage and initiate proposals and measures of benefit to the student body; to encourage and to develop leadership; to
assist in the supervision and coordination of student activities; to conduct and supervise all school elections; to promote harmonious relationships between the student body and all other segments of the College community; to recommend and refer to the President of the College matters pertinent to the welfare of the student body at SWT.

The present student government emerged from a reorganization in 1961-62. Called the Associated Students, it has three branches — Executive, Legislative and Judicial. In the last eighteen years student leaders have acted in policy areas that were far beyond the reach of earlier student governments. They have debated such issues as Vietnam, civil rights and student rights. Currently they are discussing faculty evaluation, legal assistance for students, the shuttle bus system and housing problems in San Marcos. In important respects these initiatives have addressed the changing character of the student body and student life in the third quarter of the twentieth century.

In recent years the low voter turn-out in the Associated Student elections has raised the question of student apathy. Campus leaders have responded by identifying new issues and projects for student government. Student officials continue to participate in the appropriation and allocation of student fee funds, and thus have some power to promote or discourage certain student activities. The Associated Students also nominate students to various university advisory committees and represent students' concerns to the administration. As in the past student government continues to provide an important means by which selected students gain experience in politics and social governance.

Roller skates were the thing in the early days at SWT. In the 1970s skateboarding became popular; in the 1980s it reappeared as an occasional fad as has its more exciting 1970’s counterpart — skateboarding. Hazing freshmen became standard fare for several generations of students: freshmen were required to wear special caps, sometimes called "beanies," that distinguished them from upperclassmen. By the 1920’s they were universally referred to as "fish," and, as this 1906 poem by Maude Caspary suggests, older students invariably linked them to the color green, which connoted fresh, immature, and unsophisticated.

Throughout its history Southwest Texas State has supported an active social life for its students. Clubs, debates, student politics and athletic contests have been important ingredients in this aspect of campus affairs. Nearly twenty generations of students also have amused themselves with campus walks, dates, classroom flirtations and unorganized leisure time activities. In the early years roller skating was an interesting pastime that has reappeared as an occasional fad as has its more exciting 1970’s counterpart — skateboarding. Hazing freshmen became standard fare for several generations of students; freshmen were required to wear special caps, sometimes called "beanies," that distinguished them from upperclassmen. By the 1920’s they were universally referred to as "fish," and, as this 1906 poem by Maude Caspary suggests, older students invariably linked them to the color green, which connoted fresh, immature, and unsophisticated.

We saw a thing of greenish hue,
And thought it was a lawn of grass,
But when we nearer to it drew,
We found it was the Freshman Class.

Student hazing, although technically forbidden by statute and College policy was tolerated by administrators and faculty. By the late 1950’s the procedures and practices had been formalized and were broadly enforced. Then in the 1960’s an awakened interest in civil and human rights brought freshman resistance and shortly thereafter the practices simply disappeared, at least within the university as a whole. The death of hazing stemmed from the realization by
both administrators and students that violations of restrictions and customs could not be prevented. What happened here was merely one aspect of a national reaction against institutionalized hazing.

The San Marcos River has always been an important part of the student social life at Southwest Texas. Miss Elsie Ely, who attended the normal in 1907-08, remembers that students of her generation walked along the river, watched the boys fishing and occasionally rowed on the river. Walks along the river were ever popular with young couples from the school, but the river gained importance during President Evans’ administration. In the early teens the societies held their annual Hill and River Day or Colonial Party on Washington’s Birthday. All of the students attended the festivities, but the social clubs and student organizations presented folk dances, skits and musical entertainment. Curiously there was no formal swimming in the river until Dr. S.M. Sewell waded into the water one hot summer day in 1916.

Sewell came to the college as an instructor of Mathematics, but became the patron and patriarch of Riverside, subsequently renamed Sewell Park in his honor. In 1916 the San Marcos River was clogged with the refuse of man and nature — trash, old logs and centuries of mud. With the support of Dr. C. Spurgeon Smith, scientist and then football coach, P.T. Miller, a chemist, and President Evans, Sewell oversaw the cleansing of the river and the preparation of Riverside Park. Most of the work fell to Rufus Wimberley, the college engineer, who dredged out the mud with mule teams and scrapers. In the summer of 1917 the new facility opened to the students and faculty of the school. It replaced an older pool, located near the present power house, that had been used for swimming. From the beginning S.M. Sewell and his wife supervised activities at Riverside. In today’s era of two-piece, bikini and backless swimsuits for women and skimpy jockey-style briefs for men, the initial regulations of Riverside Park seem positively shocking, as, of course, these new styles would surely have seemed to those pre-World War I students. The student swimmers were segregated within the pool itself — women in one end and men at the other. All suits had to be dark colored, and men then wore one-piece outfits that covered everything between their knees and neck. Women’s apparel was even more conservative; their suits had broad shoulder straps and according to Bernice Evans Soyars, President Evans’ daughter, “covered everything but the end of your nose.” Her description of bathing attire and regulations for women is a cherished memory of times long past.

We had these lovely bloomer things and to those you attached your stockings and if you thought you could appear on the walk from the Sewell bathhouse to the water without any stockings on, you were crazy, ‘cause Mrs. Sewell proposed you went back into that house and got stockings to cover those legs.

Dr. Retta Murphy, a professor of history in this era, remembered that during the 1920’s Dean Mary Brogdon even required women faculty members to wear the stockings. When Dr. Murphy learned to swim, not, incidentally, at Riverside, her instructor, a minister, told her to get rid of those silly stockings, but back in San Marcos they continued to be a standard requirement. In writing about this era of extreme personal modesty, SWT historian Joe B. Vogel reported that “Sewell cut the legs off a pair of trousers and sewed them to the bottom of his suit for more protection.” Sewell loved to swim and even formed a San Marcos version of a polar bear club — a group that went swimming year around and always on Christmas Day.

“Froggy” Sewell supervised the swimming and lifesaving instruction that took place at the new swimming facility. Beginning in the twenties the Aquatic Club, Red Cross Senior Life Savers and Water Safety Instructors assisted Sewell in administering Riverside activities. They also sponsored the annual Water Pageant that began on July 4, 1920, and continued intermittently for more than thirty years. The first year the affair was simply a swimming and diving exhibition that President Evans authorized in conjunction with the opening of the pool. The activities gradually expanded with Professors Spurgeon Smith and “Deacon” Wright writing scripts for the two-day extravaganza that included performances by the student swimmers, as well as a parade of decorated river floats, musical presentations by the band and chorus, and
dramatic productions. These summer festivals eventually attracted several thousand visitors each year. Band director Dr. Robert Tampke and his charges presented a musical program that once included members of the Houston Symphony, which was conducting a summer camp in New Braunfels. Tampke remembered this very special pageant and the voluntary participation of these fine musicians from Houston.

Ernest Hoffman was the director of the Houston Symphony. I had learned to know him in the music meetings . . . So this summer comes along and Mr. Hoffman, his first chair violinist, a man by the name of Heckel, his chief bassoonist, his oboist, his violist, and cellist — it was practically an orchestra by itself — they heard about this [pageant] coming up, Hoffman did and he says, “Well, why can’t we play with ya?” Kidding, I said, “You reckon you can cut the mustard?” . . . So they came and we had a dinger of an orchestra and ol’ Hoffman (the stuff we played, for him was duck soup, you know what I mean) . . . he and the first chair fiddle would just carry on and never miss a note. We played ballet music, some of the grand opera.

The Water Pageants continued into the early 1950’s until as Dr. Tampke remembered it, they were discontinued. “I say why? You couldn’t get people to stay on the weekends to put on a show or practice.” The passing of the summer festival did nothing to diminish the attraction of the river for SWT students, and new activities arrived to replace the old.

During the 1920’s improvement of the Riverside facilities occurred gradually as President Evans added to the original tract of four acres that he leased for the college from the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries. Sewell Park now contains nearly twenty-three acres along the San Marcos River. One of the most important innovations employed at Riverside was the special creation of Professor J.A. Clayton of the Manual Arts Department (now renamed Industrial Arts). Since the college lacked the resources necessary to set concrete forms along the river, Clayton suggested that the concrete be poured into forms placed along the banks. Steel reinforcing rods were extended beyond the individual slabs and shaped into hooks and eyes that matched those in the next slab. When cured, the concrete slabs were lowered into the river, one at a time, and then literally “hooked” together in the concrete series that continues to form the banks of the river through Sewell Park. Clayton was an especially inventive individual who devised a water-powered dumb waiter that was used in the old college cafeteria located in what is now the Art Building. He also created the first electric scoreboard in the college gymnasium. He has the distinction of being one of the few fathers of father-and-son faculty combinations. His son Charles E. Clayton is presently an Assistant Professor of History and one of the university’s student teacher supervisors. Both J.A. and his son graduated from Southwest Texas.

President Evans envisioned his College as a community. He was always willing to organize a school party because he believed that they were good for morale. From 1911 until World War I he sanctioned an annual one-day trip to Wimberley. According to the recollections of participants, both
The Water Pageant had its beginning in 1920 and continued intermittently for 30 years.

The late Erwin and Bernice Evans Soyars at their home in Sabinal. Mrs. Soyars is the daughter of SWT's second president.

Faculty and students boarded commodious passenger vans (horse drawn, of course) rented from the A.B. Rogers Furniture Company. The caravan set out over the narrow, dusty, packed-caliche road that linked San Marcos and Wimberley. It was a wearying ordeal, but no one ever forgot the comradeship or the picnic and games up in the Hill Country.

Dr. Ralph Houston believes that "Hobo Day" was probably the direct descendent of this earlier collegiate celebration. During the 1930's "Prof" Greene and President Evans created the annual spring carnival dubbed Hobo Day. Under Greene's leadership the dress-dumpy day became a springtime holiday that temporarily ended the strict separation of

Rusty Lewis, Class of '33, was the youngest water safety instructor under "Froggy" Sewell. He is pictured here during a 1978 visit to the campus.
students and faculty. On Hobo Day students and faculty alike joined in revelry along the riverside. Students often seized a favorite professor and gave him a dunking in this splendid outdoor swimming pool. President Evans was always in attendance. Professor Houston recalls that "Prexy" wore "a greening black frock coat and derby hat, his face appropriately smudged." One interesting picture of C.E. Evans shows him sitting on a bench in conjunction with this special day of foolishness. Taken within a few years of his retirement, the photograph shows the sparkling eyes and the kind and friendly countenance of a president who was willing, for that day, at least, to conduct himself as the students suggested.

When Dr. John Flowers assumed the presidency of SWT, he believed that Hobo Day cast a negative image over the College. He decided that it would be changed, and after the war a committee developed an alternative — Frontier Days. The first Frontier Day was established to clean up the college campsite in Wimberley, a gift of Regent Mrs. Sallie Beckett. For the first few years a work session at the campsite accompanied the other festivities. Frontier Days preserved some of the earlier traditions of Hobo Day, notably the practice of dunking faculty members. Dr. William C. Pool, member of the History Department since the late 1940's, remembered it as a time of fun to release tensions. As a victim of one of the dunkings, however, he noted that some faculty members preferred to avoid the celebration for obvious reasons. As with Hobo Days, everyone dressed the part and donned stetsons, levis and decorated western shirts. It began with a parade through San Marcos. There were floats, marching units and old cars in the review. In later years there was a student rodeo. The talented displayed their skills as ropers and riders, and the greenhorns tried to match these feats of derring-do.

By the early 1960's growing opposition brought an end to Frontier Days; however, riverside activities continued, first as Sadie Hawkins Day or Activity Day, and later as the Spring Fling, a more sedate celebration which began in 1964. These later celebrations featured egg-throwing contests, sack races, three-legged races, riverside dances and exciting tugs of war across the San Marcos River. These last events offered the exhilaration of triumph to the victorious, and the physical discomfort of a dunk in the stream to the defeated.

Each generation of SWT students has found its own satisfactions along the banks of the San Marcos River. Today it is the place to go for girl- or boy-watching, sunbathing, swimming, frisbee throwing, touch football, or just plain relaxing under the shady trees beside the rippling waters. In 1936 the Pedagog carried the following description of Riverside. Except for slight differences in the uses to which the river was put, it might have been written yesterday or in 1903.

Riverside! A magic word to every student who ever graced this campus with his presence. A word that spells pleasure to thousands of students who have found there a spot where they can forget the worries of work and studies and for a few hours really live — live where invigorating breezes blow off opalescent green waters. Cool shades of drooping willows speak an irresistible invitation to come and lounge there — lounge a lazy hour in the true style of the old South. A splash of water breaks the silence — a peal of laughter rends the cool air — and building up a wall of pleasure and relaxation through which thoughts of studies and classes, only a few blocks away, can never penetrate. The constant roar of roller skates drones in the air. It’s all in a day at Riverside!

Then comes night! All Riverside is alive with activities of students and professors alike. From under powerful searchlights comes the crack of the bat — a baseball game in progress. On the other side of the resort is heard the happy voices of players busily engaged in volleyball games. Fast, exciting
table tennis attracts several. One pauses in the mad rush of pleasures. On a dimly lighted pavilion, dancers, silhouetted against the background of clear, sparkling waters, glide to the rhythm of soft, sobbing music.

This then is our riverside, Sewell Park, simply "the river." Now that it has been joined by the new Jowers Center recreational facilities, this part of campus continues to be the leisure time and activities center of the campus.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Over the years the campus has witnessed various special or unusual events. On October 16, 1915, Messrs. Garrett and Sewell and Miss O’Ranion accompanied the SWT freshmen on a "Possum Hunt" that included a late night picnic and a chance to join in games and campfire jokes. On March 27, 1926, the faculty women sponsored a special excursion to see the bluebonnets. Under the supervision of Mrs. Gates Thomas and Dean Brogdon, sixty carloads of coeds drove off toward Austin, Wimberley and New Braunfels to see the state flower in bloom and, coincidentally, celebrate the coming of spring. Miss Brogdon also inaugurated a series of inter-class teas and receptions during the 1920's; besides being a renowned disciplinarian, she proved a resourceful social planner. However, nothing in the early years compared with the appearance in 1928 of Jack Holman, a free-lance Hollywood cameraman and aspiring director. Using student talent, Holman produced a film entitled "The San Marcos Sheik," an obvious attempt to capitalize on the continuing popularity of Rudolph Valentino, the silent screen’s greatest lover. Valentino died in 1926, but his San Marcos successors played in a comedy that brought together the elements of 1920’s theatre fare — a villainous (college) sheik, a hero, a heroine and a vampiress. The cast of this remarkable film included Eleanor Parke, Boody Johnson, Joe Louis Taylor, Lorna Raby, Lynette Daily, Annie Marie Barnes, Frances Parke, Lauris Serur, Cotton Brannum, "Sloppy" Shelton, Albert Harzke, and Lynn Cox. Holman succeeded in producing a popular hometown favorite that played briefly to capacity crowds in San Marcos. Ironically, his "discovery" of San Marcos and central Texas as a suitable setting for motion pictures anticipated the later popularity that the region has had with movie companies. Students and faculty members of the 1970's have obtained bit parts in such pictures as The Getaway, The Great Waldo Pepper and most
Homecoming bonfires have been a longstanding spirit builder.

In the late 1950's the Christmas Madrigal Banquet was put on by the College Choir, Modern Dance Club, Alpha Muse and Kappa Tau Delta.

recently The Pirahnas. Students invariably remember these activities as a highlight of their college experiences.

During the mid-1930's the college joined the rest of Texas in the preparations for and celebration of the Texas Centennial. In San Marcos Miss Irma L. Bruce, then a supervisory teacher in the campus school and later Associate Professor of Education, was chairman of the centennial festivities. Professor Bruce remembered that the "climax of all events was a beautiful pageant, Texas through the Years," which was presented at Evans Field on May 1, 1936. According to Miss Bruce,

The History of Texas was depicted in six episodes: Episode I by the Southside School; Episode II, by the Junior High School; Episode III, by San Marcos Academy; Episode IV, by the Senior High School; Episode V, by SWT; and Episode VI, by Senior High School. An interlude was presented by the Negro School. The Grand Finale received a tremendous applause as all of the participants appeared simultaneously in their groups.

This was the most beautiful production ever presented in San Marcos with so many participants. There was not even standing room for crowds of spectators seeking admission. With regret, we refused their request for a repetition of the pageant on the following evening.

The most spectacular part of the presentation was surely the prelude, a dance of the massed elementary classes of San Marcos. Each class, dressed as a separate Texas wildflower, danced in separate circles on Evans Field. This community and college extravaganza demonstrated Texas patriotism and optimism in the midst of the Great Depression.

Generations of former "fish" remember fondly the preparations for the Homecoming bonfires. For days, even weeks, they gathered every scrap of combustible material. They stacked it on a gigantic pile and then wearily guarded the bonfire site. Finally on Homecoming eve they ignited their precious mound. Sometimes the canvassing for the supplies took on the character of vandalism as students found the perfect outhouse or unattended lumber, and simply didn't bother to ask if it were available for their use. In the fall of 1963 the "bonfire crisis" almost ended the practice when "outsiders" twice fired the stack of scraps. Unfortunately, the third and successful bonfire had been built of stolen timber that prompted demands for repayment as well as disciplinary action for the student culprits.

There have been other less controversial events that have dignified campus life. For example, in the late 1950's the College Choir, the Modern Dance Club, Alpha Muse and Kappa Tau Delta hosted an annual Christmas Madrigal dinner that included food and entertainment in the Elizabethan style. Similarly, the students have had opportunities to meet and listen to addresses by prominent entertainers, writers and political figures. Among them have been Eleanor Roosevelt, Norman Cousins, Henry S. Commager, Walter Prescott Webb, J.H. Plumb, James Arness, Dean Rusk, Alvin Toffler, Timothy Leary, Larry McMurtry and alumnus Lyndon B. Johnson. Students, faculty and San Marcans benefit from these interchanges. As the university celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary, the combined efforts of the LBJ Student Center, the Student Lecture Committee, the History Department through its James A. Taylor Lecture Series and the English Department with its special lectures and campus visits made possible through the Therese Kayser Lindsey Chair of Literature fund promise to continue bringing controversial and distinguished social, political and literary figures to the SWT campus.
GAILLARDIANS AND QUEENS

Campus popularity and beauty contests constitute other very special events in the lives of individual Southwest Texas students. Over the last four decades these contests have assumed increased importance and have developed special procedures and significance within the campus community. In 1910 the Pedagog included the first section devoted to "Our Pretty Girls," Donna Devoe and Lona Lederer, who were the forerunners of later campus queens and misses congeniality. For the next sixteen years the Pedagog normally featured campus beauties and student favorites, but an important change came in 1925-26 when the Pedagog staff inaugurated a contest for selecting the "Most Representative Students of the Southwest Texas State Teachers College," the Gaillardians.

The qualifications for Gaillardian candidates specified that nominees had attended two college terms prior to the winter term, had earned at least a "C" average in their preceding two terms, and had participated in one or more of the following extracurricular activities: dramatics, band, football, basketball, baseball, track, Student Council, Press Club, The College Star, The Pedagog, Women's Athletic Association, YWCA or YMCA cabinets, intercollegiate debate, and the literary societies (Harris-Blair, Idyllic, Pennybacker, Philosopher and Shakespeare). The Pedagog staff conducted the election in which each student had one vote and in which class, organization, political and financial considerations were completely ignored. This contest produced the first ten Gaillardians, eight from the college and two from the sub-college students. Those first eight Gaillardians were Ray Dixon, Janie Ivey, Ben Brite, Vera Lee Cook, Geneva Lancaster, Carrol Stevens, Harroll Stevens and Lela Stutling; their sub-college counterparts were Ella SoRelle and Vance Terrell. In the following year the qualifications and procedures for nomination were altered slightly. All previous Gaillardians were excluded from the competition as were students currently under disciplinary sanctions. Furthermore, the initial effort to eliminate class and organizational preferences was reversed; each of the four classes, the five literary societies, the Women's Athletic Association and the "T" Association nominated two candidates, a man and a woman. From this total of twenty-two nominees, students elected the eight Gaillardians. This second group of Gaillardians included Claude Dalley, Lena Belle Barber, Alfred "Boody" Johnson, Lawrence Lowman, Mary Louise Ivey, May Erskine, Elizabeth Berry and Douglass Uzzell.

The contest changed again in 1927-28 when only women were eligible for designation as Gaillardians. For the next twenty years the term Gaillardians applied only to the coeds although men were selected to serve as their escorts at the presentation ceremonies and the Gaillardian Dance. From the fall of 1947 onward the term Gaillardian has applied to both men and women; the nominating agencies have been expanded to include every campus organization that wants to designate candidates. In 1978 there were 110 Gaillardian candidates from whom 12 Gaillardians were elected and presented to the campus community at Homecoming. The seventy-fifth anniversary Gaillardians (the fifty-third continuous group) are Greg Cavanaugh, Nancy Plummer, Mike Clanton, Amy Collins, Max Scurlock, Jennifer Austin, Susan

75th Anniversary Gaillardians

Janie Ivey was one of the first eight Gaillardians, the all-campus favorites first elected in 1925-26.
Angell, Kyle Cole, June Blocker, Richard Cook, Melanie Angel and Chris Echols. A comprehensive list of all the Southwest Texas State Gaillardians will be found at the end of this history.

Campus queens and bathing beauties can trace their SWT origins back to the same 1910 Pedagog, but the first of the contemporary contests probably took place during World War II in the academic year of 1942-43. These contests probably attained their broad appeal as a result of the increasingly popular Miss America Contests that had begun in 1921, and at a time when "pin-up" girls and Hollywood sirens were enjoying great popularity with American servicemen overseas. Back in San Marcos, Nelva Smith won the first bathing beauty contest at the college. The runner-up was Louise Hoban, and Sue Webster finished third. Since 1947 SWT coeds have competed for assorted beauty titles — All-College Beauty, Frontier Days Queen, Rodeo Queen, Homecoming Queen, Chili Queen and Miss SWT. Carla Beilharz won the title of "Miss SWT" in 1947 and was featured with the other contestants in the Pedagog of 1948. Evaluating beauty, poise, talent and a swimming suit appearance, the Miss SWT contest became the first step for aspirants for the title of Miss Texas and then possibly Miss America. Over the years these contests have attracted considerable campus interest and have produced interesting solutions to the problems of impartial selection. As with selection as a Gaillardian, the beauty contest winners regard their accomplishments as treasured collegiate memories. Other alumni

"MARCHING BOBCATS"

The Bobcat Band was organized in the fall of 1919 and will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary one year after the school celebrates three quarters of a century of service to Texas. The Southwest Texas band began with support from the Board of Regents and eleven instruments furnished at State expense. D.D. Snow was its first director and there were twenty-two student musicians, who looked upon band as a pleasant evening study break. They first performed at the SWT-San Marcos Academy football game on November 28, 1919. According to the 1920 Pedagog, the band was "a valuable asset because it furnishes music to all students and can perform at all occasions." Certainly the early bandsmen acted as the ambassadors of the college when they performed in concert and at athletic contests. On March 12, 1926, the San Antonio Light station broadcast the Bobcat Band. This brought regional recognition to the organization which obtained its first permanent director Robert A. Tampke in 1923.

When Tampke came to Southwest Texas, he replaced E.L. Barrow, the second director of the student band. President Evans hired Tampke to teach in the sub-college (SWT's preparatory high school that accommodated San Marcos children and college students with high school deficiencies). He was also charged with directing the college band. A graduate of North Texas State, Tampke had taken most of his coursework in English and social studies. His primary qualifications for the appointment were his ability to play a few instruments and band membership at NTS. As he remembered it, President Bruce of North Texas had recommended him to C.E. Evans. Tampke decided to interview for the position upon the advice of his father who reminded him of the discipline problems that accompanied high school teaching. In an era when C.E. Evans told faculty members that "If you've had it (a course or subject area), you can teach it!" Bob Tampke found himself the band director because he could play an instrument.
subsidies for travel, Professor Tampke called upon faculty members to transport the band in their private cars. Sometimes as many as fifteen to eighteen autos filled with musicians commuted between San Marcos and Commerce or Denton. Periodically a car or two would get lost, and there were several accidents although Tampke reported that there were never any serious mishaps. Probably one of Tampke's funniest recollections involved Professor W.I. Woodson.

As Tampke described it, Woodson drove three boys and two girls to North Texas State in conjunction with a band performance at a North Texas-Southwest Texas football game. Each of the drivers agreed to rendezvous with their riders at a particular point. Mr. Woodson and his group agreed to meet at the American Cafe on the square in Denton. When the weather turned cold, the students decided to wait for Woodson inside the cafe. Meanwhile Woodson circled the square several times, could not see the students and promptly headed for home. When he did not show up, the students surmised that he had left them and set out on separate tracks. The girls hitchhiked back to San Marcos, and the boys found a way to Ft. Worth where they managed to appear on a radio variety show called Bewley's Best broadcast over WFHA. Back in San Marcos, Tampke learned of the mix-up when the girls' housemother called in the middle of the night and asked him where they were. Though he suffered a few hours of uncertainty, the girls arrived shortly after daybreak to end the worst of his anxiety.

What did it mean to Tampke? He explained that it showed clearly “the difficulty of doing things at all and the fact that people did help out.” Tampke directed the band for nearly a quarter of a century and when asked in early 1978 what his greatest satisfaction at SWT had been, he answered without hesitation:

I guess it was my relationship with the people in the bands over the years. I had a wonderful bunch of kids, I'll declare. I never had to discipline but

Describing the SWT Band of the 1920's, Tampke called it "a wide open organization . . . [which] played primarily upon good will — you know what I mean, enthusiasm." Professor Tampke remembered these pre-World War II years as good years for the College's band organization. There were problems and frustrations, especially when it came to transporting the band members out of San Marcos. Lacking

Eva Dorsey was Miss SWT in 1976, the last year the title was awarded

Robert A. Tampke took over direction of the Bobcat Band in 1923

In 1928 the band members got their first uniforms, complete with capes

In 1928 the band members got their first uniforms, complete with capes
The SWT Band marched in parades at two Presidential Inaugurations in Washington, D.C.

In 1978 the SWT Band was still an important ambassador for the university.

one. I had the band for twenty-five years ... We didn’t play good, but we sure played loud ... We played county fairs, legion conventions, strawberry festivals, watermelon thumps, and inaugural parades in Austin.

In 1928 the band members got their first uniforms; they were maroon and gold, and included capes and caps. The uniforms occasioned another crisis as Tampke remembered it. In accordance with national trends in band attire, Professor Tampke wanted all the band dressed alike with caps, capes, blouses and pants. These last were stumbling blocks, because Miss Brogdon thought them inappropriate attire for young ladies until Tampke explained how much more embarrassing it would be for the young women if they wore dresses when performing on a raised stage.

When Tampke left the band in the 1950’s, he was succeeded by Anton Bek. Bek directed the band during the years of slow growth, but he encouraged the development of the first drill teams and baton twirlers. When Maurice Callahan became band director in 1960, he proposed the change in uniforms and the creation of the drill team that has become the Strutters. He led the band during the Johnson years when the SWT Band twice participated in Presidential Inaugurations honoring the famous alumnus. In 1965 the so-called “battle of the bands” made national headlines when the University of Texas Band attempted to lead the inaugural parade. Briefly tempers flared, and attention focused upon which band should lead the parade. The timely intervention of then President James McCrocKlin ended any doubts as to which organization would follow the presidential party down Constitution Avenue. In the 1970’s James C. Sudduth directs the Bobcat Band.

The role of the SWT Band has changed little over the past fifty years; it remains an important ambassador of the University as well as an important part of the music curriculum at Southwest Texas State. It performs at all home football games and its members often participate in the pep band that entertains fans during the basketball season. In the spring the band breaks up into smaller groups which function as concert bands. Other elements of the Music Department’s performing organizations are the University Chorale, the University Singers, the University Chorus, the University Chamber Orchestra, the University Symphony Orchestra (being formed in 1978), the Stage Bands, the Madrigal Singers, the Opera Ensemble, the Brass Choir, the Trombone Ensemble and the Chamber Ensembles. These organizations add immeasurably to the quality and quantity of musical performances at Southwest Texas State University.
Organized in 1960, the Strutters have been an adjunct to the SWT band organizations. The Strutters are a combination drill unit and precision dance team. Like the band, they marched in the Inaugural Parades of 1961 and 1965. Participating coeds have performed at all home SWT football games, and have traveled around the country and throughout the state of Texas as the emissaries of the University. On the field the young women dress and perform in absolute unity, the result of incessant practice. Over the past eighteen years the Strutters have gained national attention for their alma mater. Beginning in the Fall of 1979 the Strutters and long time director Mrs. Barbara Tidwell will perform under the auspices of the Athletic Department.
Intercollegiate athletics, like the SWT Band, had rather humble beginnings at the Normal in San Marcos. The first formal athletic teams were the women’s basketball teams. For the first decade women’s teams in basketball and tennis outnumbered those of their male counterparts. The most popular of the early women’s sports was basketball; at times the coeds had as many as four different teams that bore such interesting names as the Gypsies, Nymphs, Topsies, Sprites and Goblins. For nearly twenty years the girls’ teams competed first at the intramural level and then within an intercollegiate program. In 1923 and 1924 the Gypsies, coached by Berta Lowman, captured the Women’s Intercollegiate Athletic Association championships by defeating such rivals as Southwestern University, Southern Methodist University, Texas Women’s College, Hardin-Simmons and North Texas State. All of this ended in 1925 when Lula Hines and Dorthy Gregory reorganized the women’s athletic program and established the Women’s Athletic Association. This society fostered intramural rather than intercollegiate athletics for women. Although this was part of a national trend to limit competitive sports for women, it temporarily destroyed one of the oldest and most vigorous sports traditions in the College. It would be almost forty years before women again had an opportunity to participate in intercollegiate athletic programs comparable to those enjoyed by men.

Women’s basketball teams have been a longstanding tradition at SWT

The first men’s teams appeared in 1904-05. They too played basketball, but the premier sport was baseball. The earliest Normal football team organized in the fall of 1908 and had become a permanent part of the school’s athletic program by the fall of 1910. By 1913 the football and baseball teams were scheduling games against collegiate and high school opponents in central Texas. They too developed their special team cheers, the following example is the baseball yell of 1913.

Johnny, get a rat-trap bigger than a cat-trap,
Johnny, get a cat-trap bigger than a rat-trap,
Cannibal, Cannibal, Sis, Boom, Bah.
Normal, Normal, Normal
Rah, Rah, Rah!
Oscar W. "Oskie" Strahan became the school's first professional coach in 1919.

The first real gymnasium, a college and community project, opened in 1921.

If the nonsense words had symbolic meaning, their significance has been lost in the intervening decades, but the cheer excited both the fans and the players.

During this formative period, there were no full time coaches. Instead, faculty members doubled as coaches of both the men's and women's teams. Jimmy Coxen, head of the Manual Training Department, was the first football coach, but he soon shared these responsibilities with scientist C. Spurgeon Smith and Spanish instructor George B. Marsh. Thomas E. Ferguson, an English instructor, joined Marsh as coach of the baseball team, and H.A. Nelson, head of the Agriculture Department, directed the Gypsies through the mid and late teens.

Oscar W. "Oskie" Strahan, the school's first professional coach, came to Southwest Texas in the fall of 1919 after "interviewing" Prexy Evans in St. Louis' Union Station. Strahan had been a pre-war track and football star at Drake University in Iowa, which then as now was known as a track school. After graduating from Drake, Strahan joined the Signal Corps and served in France with the American Expeditionary Forces. When he discussed the SWT job with C.E. Evans, he asked if the college had a gymnasium to which Prexy allegedly grunted: "Gym? We don't need gyms in Texas. Weather's too good to play indoors."

Nevertheless, Coach Strahan worked to get a gymnasium. He established a make-shift gymnasium in the old Coronal Institute auditorium which served until the first special purpose gym was completed in 1921. Those who watched the Bobcats play basketball at Coronal will remember that the presence of three padded support columns in the middle of the floor aided the "picks and screens." The spectators who got into the building sat on old school benches. On occasion the press of fans forced officials to lock the doors and hold down the windows, lest the overflow crowds spill over onto the playing floor. The original locker and shower facilities at SWT were primitive. The men dressed under the baseball bleachers until Coach Strahan obtained a vacant room in the Power House. The basketball players "showered" in an old washtub that was heated over an old stove; at the end of the game the players took turns rinsing themselves in the hot water.

Students and San Marcans contributed both time and money toward the construction of the first bona fide college gymnasium. The first men's gym opened during the winter of 1921. It had become a college and community project with hundreds of individuals participating as amateur carters and teamsters, carpenters and painters. Varying the normal construction techniques slightly, the building's walls and all-important basketball floor were completed before the roof was finished. When Coach Strahan and President Evans decided to play the first basketball game in the uncompleted structure, all went well until a rain storm threatened to turn the building into a gigantic swimming pool. That basketball team of 1921 won three games while losing twelve, but it surely established a college record of sorts when it played ten games during one twenty-day stretch in February — an
average of a game every other day. Coach Strahan's charges played a schedule that included the University of Texas, Southwestern University, Howard Payne, the San Marcos Academy, Sam Houston State and Simmons College.

In the early years Strahan coached every sport except baseball which he did not like; thus baseball, initially the favorite sport, was relegated to a secondary position. During the 1920's the hardball team struggled along under the direction of SWT alumnus and basketball coach Henry G. "Pete" Shands, who had lettered in football and was captain of the famous undefeated Normal College champions of 1921. It disappeared as an intercollegiate sport after the 1930 season, did not return to campus until 1958 and continues to attract a following as a club sport in 1978. It is the only collegiate sport that is not coached by a designated coach or a member of the Physical Education Department. Professors William C. Pool (History), Martin O. Juel and W.C. Newberry (both Education) serve as faculty sponsors and part-time coaches of the school's first major sport.

Coach Strahan's favorite sport was track which he coached until his retirement from SWT, but his first years at SWT were hectic as he also served as athletic director (1919-61), football coach (1919-34) and basketball coach (1919-24). Coach Strahan also helped organize the Texas Intercollegiate Athletic Association and the Lone Star Conference (1931), as well as being active in the affairs of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. Two of Coach Strahan's most successful football teams appeared at the beginning and end of the 1920's, a decade in which football itself became nationally prominent. The 1921 team transformed football into a major sport at SWT; suddenly students and faculty turned out to watch the games on the old field located across Sessoms Drive in the field adjacent to the present University tennis courts. The 1921 team compiled a 7-0 record, which included three shutouts, and defeated normal college rivals from Huntsville, Commerce and Denton to earn the title "Normal Champions" of 1921. The sweetest victory of that year was the triumph over North Texas State, a win that gave SWT the distinction of being the first normal ever to defeat its Denton rival. The 1929 Bobcats won the TIAA championship for the first time while winning five games, losing one, and tying two. The squad's only loss was to powerful Howard Payne of Brownwood, but it was a non-conference game. Three Bobcats, "Cotton" Bruman, "Effie" Lindsey and Joe Berry, earned All-TIAA first-team honors, and two others, "Goof" Gordon and Ed Horton, were second-team selections.

Coach Strahan was equally successful in track, winning two championships during the 1920's and finishing near the top in most conference meets. Meanwhile, Pete Shands' basketball team of 1929-30 compiled a 15-4 record, which included a victory over the Southwest Conference neighbor to the north — UT. These victories brought state-wide recognition to both SWT and Coach Shands, who in 1935 was offered and accepted the position of basketball coach of North Texas State. At North Texas he organized and instituted "health workshops for teachers" and the first basket-
In 1960 the SWT basketball team won the national championship under the coaching of Jowers. Coach Strahan became a living legend at SWT; his association with the college and its athletes brought him recognition as a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletic Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1954. More importantly he developed an athletic program that was stable, produced splendid championship teams, and turned out several generations of successful high school and college coaches. Four years before President Evans hired “Oskie” Strahan, he identified the benefits and dangers associated with an active athletic program. He believed that a good program could promote physical skills, develop intellectual strength, and spawn self-control, self-reliance and courage, as well as foster teamwork and school spirit. The perils were the tendency to overemphasize winning and to sacrifice scholarship and professionalism which would undermine the school’s standards and sense of purpose. In appointing Oscar W. Strahan, President Evans showed the wisdom and judgment of character that brought SWT a coach who averted the perils and accomplished the purposes that Evans had foreseen. Coach Strahan’s death at the age of 87 on August 21, 1978, was a serious loss to the school and to his many friends.

In the mid-1930’s Coaches Strahan and Shands left basketball and football in the hands of their successors, Joe Bailey Cheaney, former coach of Howard Payne, George Vest and Frank Gensburg, a former Bobcat. Cheaney served as head football coach from 1935 to 1942, hard years for the Bobcats. The anticipated return to the victorious tradition of the 1920’s seemed always just around the corner. Cheaney’s best team came in the fall of 1941 when the Bobcats played an abbreviated schedule of five games, winning four of them and finishing second in the Lone Star Conference. Vest coached basketball from 1939 to 1942, and became head football coach after the war. In 1948 Vest directed the Bobcats to an 8-1 record and the Lone Star Conference championship. The 1948 team was led by four all-conference players — Elmer Dahlberg, Thomas Coers, George Carlisle and Gonzalo Garcia. These accomplishments in the late 1940’s and the appointment of Milton Jowers as head basketball coach in 1946 set the stage for what became the remarkable 1950’s — the Jowers Era.

THE JOWERS ERA

Milton Jowers had played for both Coaches Strahan and Shands in the early 1930’s; he starred in both football and basketball before graduating in 1935. Upon leaving SWT Jowers coached at Teague, Shiner and San Marcos High Schools before returning to Southwest Texas in 1946 after serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II. At San Marcos High Jowers had coached a state championship team in the days before the class system was adopted. As head coach...
The multi-purpose Jowers Center was named in memory of one of SWT's most beloved and successful coaches.

of the SWT cagers, Milton Jowers tied or won the Lone Star Conference championship on six occasions — 1950, 1951, 1952, 1955, 1959 and 1960. On six occasions SWT won NAIA district tournaments; in 1952 and 1959 the Bobcats reached the semi-finals of the NAIA tournament, and in 1960 they captured the elusive national championship. This remarkable performance brought Jowers the honor of NAIA "Coach of the Year," and the chance to coach the NAIA Olympic all-star team which defeated NCAA University Champion Ohio State, then coached by Fred Taylor, AP and UPI "Coach of the Year." In 1961 Jowers relinquished basketball and turned instead to football. In 1960 the Bobcat gridders had won only two games, but by 1962 Jowers had turned the program around, and his team finished second in the LSC behind perennial powerhouse Texas A&I. In 1963 he coached the football squad to a conference championship and the first perfect season in the school's history. Finishing 10-0 this team had two All-Americans, end Jerry Cole and tackle John Reese. That year proved doubly gratifying because Coach Jowers was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame, making him the second SWT coach so honored. In 1965 he resigned as head football coach, but continued to serve as Athletic Director, a job that he had assumed when Strahan retired. In 1972 Milton Jowers faced the mortal illness that forced him to leave his beloved athletes and his alma mater. That same year he received the SWT Distinguished Alumnus Award. Like his own mentor, Coach Strahan, he left an enduring legacy at SWT. Two of his former players and long time aides, Billy M. Miller and Vernon McDonald, succeeded him as football (1966-78) and basketball (1961-77) coaches, respectively. Neither had the overwhelming success that attended Coach Jowers, but each led his charges to one LSC co-championship (football in 1971 and basketball in 1974) and kept their teams close to the top in other seasons.

What kind of a coach was Milton Jowers? This was the question that Dr. Pence Dacus, now SWT's Vice-President for Institutional Advancement, addressed in a recent interview with Mrs. Pat Murdock, Director of the University News Service. As a letterman in basketball, football, track and tennis, Dacus had played for Milton Jowers between 1952 and 1956. Dacus remembers Jowers as "an extraordinary person" who had an "understanding of what motivates people."

He had an innate sense of getting what was there out of the players . . . He worked the athletes very hard, but they feared and respected him. He had a charisma that the average coach doesn't have, and he knew how to use the charisma to his advantage to get the most out of his athletes and that's the reason for his tremendous success . . . [He had] a few standout athletes, but most of our players were just good ol' country boys who happened to come to San Marcos.

In addition to its basketball, football, track and tennis teams, Southwest Texas also organized a golf team after World War II. Since there was no money for golf, direction of the program was delegated to academic faculty members.
who were good amateur golfers. The first "coach" of the golf team was Professor C.E. Chamberlain of the Business Department. He was succeeded in turn by chemist Dr. C.L. Key and economist Dr. Maurice Erickson, who had the distinction of being the last amateur coach of a major competitive sport.

Professor Erickson explained that a shift from weekend matches to weekday tournaments ultimately made it almost impossible for him to coach the team. Since he simply could not afford to miss too many classes, he often sent the team to meets on their own. This produced occasional crisis, as when East Texas alleged that Jimmy "Yogi Bear" Cash had lured their team into an all night drinking bout so that the SWT team might win a tournament.


As the University celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary, the athletic program is changing. Women's athletic teams have become increasingly important as a result of federal legislation, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which requires parity in funding for most men's and women's sports. The growth of interest in competitive athletics for women is part of a broader social interest in these six varsity sports: basketball, gymnastics, swimming, tennis, track and volleyball. SWT women's teams compete in the South Zone of the Texas Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women which includes collegiate teams from Incarnate Word, Our Lady of the Lake, Trinity, St. Mary's, St. Edward's, Southwestern, UT, Texas A&I and Texas Lutheran. Winners of the South Zone tournaments advance to state championships and, if victorious, move on to regional and national contests.

New sports and coaches also reflect the changing character of athletics on the Hill. One of the fastest growing new sports is fencing. For the past several years this sport has drawn increased student interest and has become an important adjunct to the athletic program. In 1978-79 SWT is recognized as a regional fencing power with numerous statewide championships to its credit.

In 1977 Southwest Texas brought in Daniel P. Wall as the replacement for veteran basketball coach Vernon McDonald, whose health forced him to assume the less strenuous duties of Assistant Athletic Director. Coach Wall's first squad completed a successful (20-6) season, and his veteran team of 1978-79 won twelve straight games while compiling a 23-6 record and winning both the regular season and tournament Lone Star Conference championships. The "Cardiac Cats," as they will likely be remembered, won an extraordinary number of close games and became the most successful Bobcat basketball team since the NAIA champions of 1960.
In the fall of 1978 the SWT football team established new scoring records on successive weekends, providing a fitting final season for Coach Bill Miller. When Coach Miller announced his resignation at the end of the 1978 season, Southwest Texas found a capable replacement in Dr. Jim Wacker, formerly head coach at Texas Lutheran College and North Dakota State. Wacker's collegiate coaching record of 62-25-1 augurs well for the future, as does the fact that he took both TLC and NDS teams to post-season tournaments.

SWT applied for and was granted admission to the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Division II; now University teams can compete in either NAIA or NCAA post-season tournaments. Finally, the SWT Master Plan for the growth of the campus projects a new basketball arena as stage II of the Jowers Center as well as a new football stadium to replace antiquated Evans Field. The total impact of these changes will not be apparent for some time to come, but the directions seem unmistakable. A bright future seems the certain destiny of all aspects of the intercollegiate athletics program at SWT.

Frederick Ward Adams, a distinguished Alumnus Award recipient, was the moving force behind the establishment of the Normal Star in 1911.

THE PEDAGOG AND THE STAR

SWT students have excelled not only on the athletic fields but also in the campus newsrooms. No history of the past seventy-five years would be complete or even possible without mention of the two most important student publications: The Pedagog (1904-75) and The Star (1911-present). William Dyer Moore was the first editor-in-chief of what was originally titled The Pedagogue, the school yearbook. The first three decades of Pedagogs combined photographic portrayals of the school with explanations of what the pictures indicated about life on the Hill. The Pedagog staffs worked long hours to put together their reminiscences of each particular year. During the 1920's they became increasingly interested in the quality of their publication and experimented with its format and layout in an effort to attract national attention and awards from the publishing firms and the intercollegiate press associations.

The Pedagog editorship became one of the contested appointments in campus politics. The editor controlled the placement of copy within the yearbook. Even a superficial study of the erratic movement of the Harris-Blairs or the Shakespeares or the Idyllics shows that there was a link between the choice of editor and the location of his or her clubs and literary society. Furthermore, the notorious "Cat's Claw" section in the Pedagog gave the vindictive or the satirically inclined editor an unique opportunity to ridicule his rivals. The "Cat's Claw" proved so irritating to President Evans that he refused to distribute the public copies of the Pedagog until he had personally examined every segment of this section. On several occasions he ordered the entire section purged from those yearbooks sent to the Regents and other officials. No matter how vigilant the editor or the faculty sponsor, something objectionable was sure to creep in.

The Pedagogs bore a direct relationship to the growth and financial stability of the school, so, for example, the annuals increased in size and featured new techniques in photographic display and arrangement during the prosperous twenties and in the years after 1945. Conversely, the yearbooks retrenched during the early 1930's and during both World Wars. Seeking novelty, editors added and deleted sections. Editor Esther Peterson and her staff discontinued the old "Cat's Claw" section and replaced it with "Catty Camera" in their 1938 Pedagog. They also restructured the yearbook as a photographic portrayal of college life rather than a verbal description of the year's experiences. They added a "Who's Who" section and expanded the photographic coverage of club and faculty activities. Since these sections were continued, the editor and staff of the 1938 yearbook assumed increased importance as innovators.

During the late 1960's another change occurred. In its last years the Pedagog became the staff's personal statement about the nature and quality of college life. Pedagogs pictured the changing social mores and the new social tensions that characterized student and national life. By the 1970's the costs of publication and growing student disinterest in the publication, led to the decision to abandon the Pedagog.
after the 1975 edition. In 1977 students resurrected the concept of an annual in the form of a senior book. As one aspect of the seventy-fifth anniversary celebration, the Pedagog has been reestablished. It is hoped that this will restore the old tradition.

The Normal Star was the special concern of Frederick Ward Adams. Young Adams believed that SWT needed a student newspaper, so he canvassed the campus and the community to raise sufficient funds to start publication. For Fred Adams this was merely the beginning of his contributions to SWT and to education in Texas. In 1973 the Alumni Association honored Fred for his accomplishments in education, business, and public philanthropy. When the first Star appeared in 1911, T.H. Leslie was its editor. It has served as the record of activities at SWT for sixty-seven years. Changing its name to conform to the academic status of the school, it became in turn the College Star and the University Star. Like all student newspapers, it exists to serve the University community and seeks to keep this special audience of students, faculty, staff and administrators aware of what is happening on campus. It also serves as a training laboratory for journalism majors, and, as such, it becomes the practical vehicle by which undergraduates practice reporting, editing, advertising, and photographing the news.

This aspect of the Star has periodically brought the reporters and editors into conflict with other parts of the University community, notably campus administrators. Conscious of their responsibilities as aspiring journalists, students present the news from their unique perspective which occasionally conflicts with the aspirations of school officials. During the 1920's, for example, the Star staffs naively proclaimed that their reporting and editorial comments "attempted, as a mouthpiece of the student body, to voice the student opinion at all times, but in so doing they had not conflicted with the aims of administration."

The Star, however, did upset President Evans, who repeatedly affirmed the need for censorship. "There is nothing advisable, unwise, or dangerous in the censoring of school papers," he explained to Sam Houston State President H.F. Estill. "Any college adopting any other policy than that of reasonable censorship will come to grief." President Evans disliked student complaints about class schedules, campus and cafeteria regulations, and especially the school’s strict absence policy. Invariably the Star was the vehicle by which campus disagreements became matters of public controversy. Then too, the infighting between the Black Stars and the White Stars occasionally spilled over into the Star, especially into the editor's column, "El Toro."

President Evans’ response to these challenges was strict faculty supervision of Star activities and articles. For several years in the early 1930’s the Star was edited by Professor Gates Thomas and trusted English majors, who turned the newspaper into a virtual literary journal. When student complaints ended this arrangement, the paper returned to student control with first Tom Nichols and then L.N. Wright serving as its faculty sponsors. During the mid-1930s each year’s staff reaffirmed its "one desire," "fervent hope," "unsuppressed desire" and "wish" that the Star be permitted to continue under student control with a minimum of faculty censorship. In retrospect, few of the Star’s articles or editorials have seemed that controversial, but the problems of a too "free" press and too much "censorship" have plagued the relations between every SWT President and the editors of the student paper.

In the last two decades the Star has distinguished itself as one of the premier student papers for schools of SWT’s size. It appears twice weekly, and consists of regular news stories, editorials, special columns, cartoons, sports stories, and special features such as those describing the past history of SWT published in conjunction with the fiftieth and seventy-fifth anniversary celebrations. On occasion the editorial columns of the Star initiate special school-wide campaigns, as for example with the issues of faculty evaluation and university spirit. The Star remains the principle element in the campus community’s communication network, but it has been joined by special student news and feature programming on the San Marcos cable television station — Channel 10. One of the most ambitious television enter-
prises was an all-day celebration of the University's seventy-fifth anniversary produced in conjunction with Homecoming weekend. In addition, the Department of Journalism, University administrators and interested students are studying the possibilities of obtaining an SWT radio station. All of this indicates both the vitality and continuing significance of SWT's mass communications media.

**RELIGION ON THE HILL**

The religious organizations have a long tradition of service to the campus community. The first Announcement of the Normal described San Marcos as a community renowned for "its churches and the high moral tone of its citizenship." Miss Elsie Ely remembered that in 1907-08 church activities and Sunday School had been an important part of the student's life. That very year saw the creation of the first campus religious organization, the YWCA. According to the 1908 Pedagog, the YWCA's objectives "were to develop Christian character and to train members for service in the churches as well as to prosecute Christian work to win women to a Christian life." In its first year on campus the YWCA attracted 85 members, enlisted 320 women in its Bible study program, raised $50 for state YWCA work, and assumed the service function of providing refreshments during registration periods.

For the next thirty years the YWCA and its male counterpart, the YMCA, sponsored assorted religious and community activities. Organized in the midst of what historians call the Progressive Era, the YWCA and YMCA adopted the broad commitment for social and spiritual renewal characteristic of the period. In 1909 the YMCA invited "every young man in the Normal, whether Christian or sinner, to its meetings, since it strives to better the social and moral atmosphere as well." In 1913 the two organizations raised enough money from students, faculty and the Regents to hire a full time general secretary, Miss Mabel Gaines. With this newly acquired professional help, the organizations opened the first campus store. Located in the Main Building, it sold school supplies and snacks. In essence the "Y" store is the ancestor of the present University Bookstore and Student Center. In addition to the store, the YMCA published the earliest student handbooks in the late 1920's.

The programs of the various YW-YMCA study groups focused upon missionary work, especially in China and Latin America; Bible study; contemporary morals; the Peace Movement; social hygiene; science and religion; and community action. It was this last phase of "Y" activity that spawned the Country Life Club in 1918 and the Mexican Night School, two of the most interesting activities to appear at SWT in the early years. The Country Life Club sought to make efficient social leaders out of the prospective rural teachers. Filled with the era's reforming zeal, CLC members studied "such rural problems as the lack of cooperation in the country, the exodus to the cities of country young, and the dearth of organized play [in the country]."

The Mexican Night School was an even more ambitious enterprise that seems to have grown out of study groups of 1919-21 that called upon the students to ask "What can I do in my community?" In San Marcos the SWT students answered the question by organizing a special school for Mexican-American children. Training themselves for public school teaching, the students naturally sought to educate the Mexican-American youth of San Marcos. In addition to these serious endeavors, the "Y" groups sponsored various recreational activities for their members and the entire student body.

The first Catholic student association, the Newman Club, appeared in 1914. Like its Protestant counterpart, the Newman Club fostered the development of "moral earnestness, and the serious realization of true Christian citizenship through a knowledge and practice of the Catholic Faith." Though small, the Newman group held regular meetings, engaged in religious study and planned an active social calendar. Strongest of the Protestant clubs was the Baptist Student Union organized in 1926 and sponsored by Professor W.I. Woodson. In the 1940's the other Protestant denominations established their own college youth groups. By 1959
they coalesced into the Campus Christian Community which provides ecumenical activities for students belonging to the Christian Church, the Methodist Church, the Presbyterian Church and the United Christian Church. The Church of Christ, like the Baptist Church, supported a separate ministry to the college students. The newest of the student religious groups is the Jewish Student Association, founded in 1974.

During the 1950's SWT students and their University Christian Mission supported an annual "Religious Emphasis Week," that had begun in 1944. This special period of religious dedication brought speakers to campus to discuss moral and ethical problems confronting students and American society. After twenty years, the programs were abandoned in 1963 and replaced by topical programs on moral and religious issues presented throughout the year. As the school has continued to grow and diversify, the religious unity characteristic of this earlier era has disintegrated, but religious associations, both campus and community, continue to play an important role in the lives of SWT students.

Simultaneously, the College began to schedule a limited number of courses in religion taught by the directors of the church student centers. Undergraduates could obtain up to twelve hours of academic credit in the systematic study of the Old and New Testaments, the life and teachings of Jesus, Christianity and its doctrines, and comparative religions. These courses continue to meet the needs of students desiring to investigate the origins of religion from a Christian perspective.
Southwest Texas State University has been blessed with several generations of dedicated teachers and scholars. When the first class arrived in the fall of 1903, there were sixteen faculty members and principal Thomas G. Harris. In choosing the original teachers, Principal Harris explained that "I selected the faculty from the standpoint of their ability to teach, and not for the degrees they held." The first Ph.D., Alfred H. Nolle, was not hired until 1919. Four of the original faculty had master’s degrees, three held the baccalaureate degree, two had obtained their normal school certificates and eight had no college-level degree. Ten of the seventeen were women; and women remained the majority of the faculty until 1912. Twelve of the first seventeen were still teaching at SWT in the fall of 1911 when Cecil E. Evans became the second president of the Normal. Six present campus structures bear the names of the first faculty: Lucy Burleson Hall, Mary Stuart Butler Hall, Thomas G. Harris Hall, Lula Hines Gymnasium (presently being remodeled for classroom use), Sayers Hall and Helen Hornsby Hall.

Former students like Miss Elsie Ely, Mrs. Gladys Fourqurean Thomson and Mrs. Ida Rouse Webb remember fondly their former professors at SWT — Miss Jessie A. Sayers, Miss Lula Hines, Mrs. Lucy Burleson, the Normal’s first librarian. Miss Sayers was the sister of former Governor Joseph D. Sayers and a beautiful and gracious woman. Both Professor Irma Bruce and Mrs. Bernice Evans Soyars remember that Miss Sayers enjoyed reminiscing about those days when she had served as hostess at the Governor’s Mansion in Austin. Jessie Sayers also wrote the lyrics for the Alma Mater, which is reproduced in full at the end of this history.

The early faculty taught their classes and assumed broad parental responsibilities for their students. For example, Joe
Vogel records that Mr. S.S. Stanfield not only taught biology and penmanship but also "met all the trains at registration time to direct students to their proper houses and to help them secure proper lodging." Many of the faculty taught Sunday School classes in the San Marcos churches, and nearly all of them assumed duties that ranged from janitorial work to clerical and administrative activities now reserved for deans and their secretaries. Faculty members supervised the sweeping of the gymnasium as late as the 1950's and performed other duties that included collecting tickets at concerts and athletic contests. They served as advisors and sponsors of most student activities and clubs. Often they promoted student organizations and always chaperoned the social activities of any student group with which they were associated.

The early Normalites respected and admired such favored teachers as Dr. C. Spurgeon Smith and Mr. Gates Thomas. Besides being a part-time coach, Spurgeon Smith, who came to SWT in 1913, taught biological sciences and was one of the eligible bachelors on the pre-World War I faculty. He was a renowned teacher and dedicated scientist. In 1924 the Pedagog staff dedicated their yearbook to him in appreciation "of his sincere interest in each one of us, and because of the encouragement which he is ever ready to give to help us attain the best in college life." Dr. Lloyd Rogers remembers Spurgeon as something of a scientist even in his humorous pranks, as, for example, when he offered two pots of coffee to the men's faculty club, but told his colleagues that one contained coffee and the other, sanka. When individuals "commented on how well they had slept or how poorly and attributed it to having had coffee," the playful scientist merely smiled and noted the evidence.

Gates Thomas was another of the bachelors. He joined the faculty in 1909 as head of the English Department. Several generations of SWT coeds remember him as a skilled and compassionate teacher who loved poetry and transmit-
Gates Thomas headed the English Department in 1909

A. W. Birdwell, first dean of the faculty

ted his affection for it through sensitive readings. When he died unexpectedly in 1945 the Pedagog eulogized him with a poem that is probably a fitting memorial for all of the dedicated teachers on the Hill:

Though gone from us to your eternal peace
To be in that celestial school on high,
The love we have from you will never cease;
We say farewell, dear friend, but not good-bye.
No more the quad will be our meeting place,
No more you'll greet us with your friendly smile;
You've gone to meet your Teacher face to face,
While we must toil and linger yet awhile.
You bore your mark of learning, rich and rare,
With gentle, quiet dignity and poise,
In all your teaching you were just and fair —
So well you knew the hearts of girls and boys.
Your high attainments here you've left behind
To be for aye a Doctor of Mankind.

The early social scientists established a school-wide reputation for their sound teaching and independence of thought. Professor A.W. Birdwell joined the faculty in 1910 and served SWT as head of the History Department and first Dean of the Faculty (1920-22) until he left Southwest Texas to assume the presidency of Stephen F. Austin State Teachers College. Dr. M.L. Arnold joined the history faculty in 1911 and lived with his family in a two-story house located where Flowers Hall now stands. Mrs. Arnold operated a cafeteria in her home, and according to Professor Irma Bruce, served "the most delectable foods." In 1930 Professor Arnold completed work on his doctorate to join Spurgeon Smith (1928) and Dean Nolle as the only faculty members holding the Ph.D. In addition to teaching history, M.L. Arnold bore the grief that came to SWT in 1917-18. Six alumni died in World War I and Jack Arnold, a popular pre-war student and son of Dr. Arnold, was one of them. Jack's death prompted Professor Arnold to write a series of eulogies for American veterans who had died in the fields of France. In 1919 the Pedagog published one of M.L. Arnold's poems entitled "The Deathless Dead."

For freemen in the coming years,
As long as men are free,
As long as Valor's death endears,
As long as honor yet may be,
With words of love and looks of pride,
With glowing cheek and kind'ling eye,
Will tell of how they died;
The deathless dead, they shall not die.

In that same year Dr. Retta Murphy joined the History Department and began a career that spanned almost forty years. When she retired in 1956, Dr. Murphy had established an enviable reputation as an exacting scholar and teacher. Former students invariably remember her as one of those teachers who pushed them to the limits of their ability. She came to SWT after serving as Dean of Women at Trinity University, then in Warahachie, and was glad to have the chance to just teach history, for as she recalled, "I'd much
rather be a janitor anytime than Dean of Women."

In 1923 Professor H.M. Greene joined the social science faculty, and, by the time he retired in 1957, he had established a campus-wide reputation as a controversial, self-confident, individualistic free-thinker who came to class dressed in a khaki shirt and rumpled trousers. David Conrad claims that once during the 1930's "Prof" Greene was mistaken for a tenant farmer in need of employment. Another faculty member remembers that when Greene visited President Lyndon Johnson he occupied Lyndon's chair and put his feet up on the desk. When cautioned to show proper respect for the President, Greene replied tartly, "Shucks, Lyndon won't care!" and indeed President Johnson did not.

In the fall of 1930 Dr. Claude Elliott joined the history faculty and later became registrar, director of personnel and coordinator of veterans affairs, as well as Dean of the Graduate School. Besides being a distinguished Texas historian, Elliott was a former Bobcat debater and an SWT graduate.

In the post World War II era Dr. James Taylor was the dominant figure in the Social Sciences. Coming to SWT in 1946 as chairman of the Social Science Department, Dr. Taylor established an enviable record as teacher, scholar and administrator. As a founder of the Social Studies Conference of the Texas Council for Social Studies, he earned wide acclaim for his interest in the teaching of social studies in the public schools. He worked to improve the lot of college teachers through the Texas Association of College Teachers (TACT). He was a most capable administrator,
who hired three of SWT’s six recipients of the Minnie Stevens Piper Awards for Distinguished Teachers — Professors Emmie Craddock (History), Dan Farlow (Political Science) and Clarence Schultz (Sociology). When Dr. Taylor retired in 1962, Southwest Texas established in his honor its first permanent annual lecture series — the James Taylor Lectures.

Dr. Richard B. Henderson, an alumnus, succeeded Dr. Taylor in 1962. In 1965 the old Social Science Department was subdivided into the disciplines of history, government and economics-sociology-geography. Other prominent members of social sciences in the post war years were A.A. Grusendorf, sociologist; Elmer A. De Shazo, political scientist; Maurice J. Erickson, economist; Merry K. FitzPatrick, Cecil O. Hahn, Betty J. Kissler, William D. Liddle, James W. Pohl, William C. Pool and Everette Swinney, historians; and Elizabeth Sterry, geography.

During most of the school’s history the Education Department faculty occupied the central position in the institution. Until the 1950’s one of the prerequisites for all faculty was public school teaching experience. From 1903 until 1959 the words Normal, Normal College and Teachers College affirmed the single purpose of SWT. For seventy-five years the Education Department has prepared generation after generation of Texas public school teachers. In most recent years SWT has consistently ranked second or third in the total number of undergraduates obtaining teacher certification. Although precise figures are not available, Southwest Texas is believed to have more active teachers than any other Texas school.

In the early years Principal Harris, Miss Annie Pearsall and Miss Lula Hines taught the “professional work” courses. President Evans and Mrs. Maud M. Shipe assumed Harris’
responsibilities in professional work in 1911. In 1912 Mr. W.I. Woodson joined the faculty and reduced Prexy's responsibilities in the secondary education curriculum.

In 1914 the Normal opened its Training School, which operated under auspices of the Education Department then headed by Woodson. Lynton Garrett was the first principal of the practice school, which according to the 1915 Bulletin, "bears the same relationship to the profession of teaching, as the laboratory does to science, or the work shop does to Manual Training." The lab school students came from the community and the faculty. Among the early faculty children were Bernice Evans, the Woodson girls and Janie Shands. Many prominent members of the Education Department began teaching in the laboratory school. Elizabeth Falls, Irma Bruce, E.O. Wiley and Ruby Henderson began there as critic teachers or administrators. Irma Bruce, later a professor of education, remembers her critic teaching as "very challenging," and the students, most perceptive.

Other prominent members of the Education Department include: Dr. David Votaw, Dr. J. Lloyd Rogers, Dr. Buford Williams, Dr. Hazel McCanne, Dr. Martin O. Juel and Dr. William F. Brown. In the separate field of special education Dr. Empress Zedler and Olga A. Domínguez have brought national acclaim to Southwest Texas.

In the early years of the Normal the disciplines of domestic science (home economics), manual training (industrial arts) and agriculture were closely linked to the Education Department. Helen Halm became the first home economist in 1910. Others prominent in this field include Cora Lay and Nelwyn B. Moore. James R. Coxen was the first member of what has become the Industrial Arts Department. J.A. Clayton, William L. Deck, John A. Yarchuska, John R. Ballard, Victor L. Bow-
ers and Billy L. Windham have carried this department into the modern era. For years the dominant figure in the Agriculture Department was Professor H.A. Nelson. Nelson joined the faculty in 1910, and lived for years beside old Evans Field along what is today Sessoms Drive. More recently, T.R. Buie, Cecil Gregg, Leroy Young, Gerald B. Champagne and James Elliott have taught post war farmers and agricultural educators.

The Health and Physical Education Department began with a few recreational courses taught by members of the faculty and the coaching staff. In recent years it has broadened its programs and perspectives. Recent leaders of this department are Jean A. Smith, Henrietta Avent (1979 Piper Professor), Don P. Forester, Keith F. Hoffmann, Dorothy Lancaster, Robert E. Patton and Albert F. Reeh.

In its seventy-five year history Southwest Texas has established a solid reputation in the sciences. In 1922 Dr. Carroll L. Key, chemist, joined Spurgeon Smith and Dr. S.M. Sewell to round out the Science and Mathematics Departments. Since World War II two of the most prominent scientist-administrators have been Dr. Archie O. Parks and Dr. William E. "Henry" Norris. Both have been departmental chairmen and school deans; Dr. Norris is the current Vice President for Academic Affairs. Mathematicians Ural B. Walker, William C. Akin, Burrell W. Helton, Henry N. McEwen and Robert A. Northcutt have trained several generations of teachers and scholars. In the biological sciences SWT faculty have prepared both scientists and physicians, as well as a large number of public school teachers. Recent graduates will remember the contributions of William K. Davis, William H. Emery, Sidney W. Edwards, Herbert H. Hannan, Donald Tuff and Willard C. Young.

Undergraduates occasionally complain about those "tough" courses in physics and chemistry. Certainly the SWT faculty in these disciplines pride themselves upon their rigorous standards. The Chemistry Department has an expe-
Dr. Ralph Houston, SWT's first Distinguished Professor Emeritus

Dr. Rudolph Kirk, formerly of Rutgers

Mary Louise Hightower, English

rienced faculty that includes John W. Hopson, Robert Lowman, Charles R. Willms, Willis A. Cude, David Lippmann and Billy J. Yager. Physics is one of the smaller departments, but Arthur W. Spear and Robert E. Anderson have been two dedicated teachers in the last fifteen to twenty years.

The foreign language faculty has consistently championed the concept of quality at Southwest Texas. The earliest instructors, Mr. John E. Pritchett (Latin) and Miss Helen Hornsby, expected their students to master the subject matter even though their classes were "electives." In 1917 George B. Marsh became the first Spanish teacher, and Mary S. Eskridge taught French in 1918. When Dr. Alfred H. Nolle joined the faculty in 1919, he became the spokesman for the traditional liberal arts commitment to quality and excellence. Nolle had earned his Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania in 1915. At SWT he taught German and served as Dean of the College (1922-59). In 1926 the students dedicated the Pedagog to Nolle "in appreciation of his influence upon the development of the High Standards of Southwest Texas State Teachers College and of his superior scholarship and unfailing counsel." More recently, the Modern Languages Department benefitted from the exemplary leadership of Dr. J. Lloyd Read. His immediate superior, former Dean of Liberal Arts Dr. Ralph Houston, remembers him as an educational innovator and a man who put "education" above any discipline. Although Dr. Read has retired, the Nolle-Read tradition lives on in the teaching of Dona Reeves, Luba Laws and Robert Galvan, who is another of SWT's Minnie Stevens Piper Distinguished Teachers.

For the first thirty years the English Department was dominated by Gates Thomas and Leonard N. Wright. Their love of humanity and devotion to their discipline made them continual favorites. Leonard Wright "wrote some of the most interesting light verse ever generated on this campus," according to his long time friend and colleague Ralph Houston. Dr. Leland E. Derrick was another member of the English faculty, who distinguished himself in administration as well as in the classroom. Dr. Derrick is a former Dean of the Graduate School, the first Vice President for University Affairs and twice acting President of SWT.

The modern heir to the traditions of teaching, scholarship and academic administration associated with Thomas, Wright and Derrick is most certainly Dr. Ralph H. Houston. He came to the campus in 1937 and knew each of the old timers. Except for a brief interlude during World War II, he has served SWT from that time to the present. At various times he served as chairman of the English Department and Dean of Liberal Arts. In 1978 he retired, but continues to teach on an irregular basis. In January, 1979, he was named SWT's first professor emeritus. His friends and former students will be delighted to learn that he is now writing a history of the English Department.

One of the most distinguished figures ever to teach at Southwest Texas is Dr. Rudolph Kirk, formerly of Rutgers and a noted scholar of American Letters. Dr. Kirk and his wife joined the University community when they left Rutgers, bringing their unique charm and compassion to San Marcos. In this seventy-fifth anniversary year, SWT students and faculty await the arrival of another distinguished professor of American literature, Dr. Arlin Turner. Dr. Turner comes to Southwest Texas from Duke University where he is James B. Duke Professor of English. He will become the first faculty member at SWT ever to hold an endowed chair, the Therese Kayser Lindsey Chair of Literature.

The English Department has had numerous fine teachers and scholars. Noted faculty, active and retired, include: Sue Taylor, Mary Louise Hightower, Ione D. Young, Elizabeth Hayes, Vernon E. Lynch, Norman C. Peterson, Joe Max Braffett, Benjamin F. "Ben" Archer, Thomas L. Brasher (Piper Professor) and Robert W. Walls. They have made the English Department one of the most respected departments on this campus.

One of the fastest growing Schools in the 1970's is Business, which includes the departments of Accounting and Computer Science, Finance and Economics, General Business, and Marketing and Management. When organized in 1919 the Department of Commerce had two faculty members, C.E. Chamberlain and Anne Kerchner. Professor
Chamberlain remained for years the one element of stability in the Faculty Men’s Club which he served as secretary-treasurer until his retirement in 1949. When his thirty years of service ended, the appreciative club members presented him with a set of golf clubs, but only after they jokingly presented him a $1.75 watch, the bill for which, like their dues, had not been paid. Chamberlain’s detailed minutes of the club meetings record the annual social activities and professional programs from 1935 until 1949. In the Business Department Chamberlain was later joined by Tom W. Nichols, who was first secretary to and later biographer of President Cecil Eugene Evans. Nichols’ book, Rugged Summit, remains the definitive work on the career of Evans.

Later, Drs. Jesse B. Johnson and Alvin W. Musgrave joined the faculty and led that curriculum into an era of growth and prosperity. In recent years the various departments have benefitted from the skilled teaching and academic leadership of Catherine H. Finch, W. Leland Wilson, Arlene W. Lann, Laura Hastedt, and Otis G. Reese. In 1976-79 the School of Business is undergoing continuing transition as its leaders confront the challenges and responsibilities of being one of the largest of the schools.

The School of Creative Arts includes the departments of Music, Speech and Drama, and Art. Like the business curriculum, the fine arts have expanded in the last several decades. While the development of the Bobcat Band and its directors has been discussed, the individual faculty members have improved both the music program and the cultural life of the University. In addition to Maurice M. Callahan and Anthony Bek, individuals such as Ira R. Bowles, John M. Belisle, Harry C. Wayne, Robert J. Whalin and Byron A. Wolverton have directed operas, symphonic concerts, choral performances, and instrumental and vocal soloists. In Speech and Drama Elton Abernathy has coached debate, served as departmental chairman and taught courses in public speaking for more than thirty years. In the Art Department William D. Kolbe, Phyllis O. Sawyers and Charles J. Suckle have followed the traditions established by Verna L. Deckert and Georgia Lazenby, dominant figures of the earlier era. These artists and humanists have broadened the education of SWT alumni and continue to use their unique sensitivity to capture students’ emotions and intellects.

Every educational institution depends ultimately upon its library. SWT’s first librarians were Lucy Burleson and Blanche L. Hawks. Initially the library was located in Old Main and later was housed in Lueders Hall. Ernest B. Jackson became the first professional librarian and deserves special citation for his supervision of a library in transition. As the library grew and moved to the old Flowers Hall complex, Jackson kept the operation running smoothly. His skillful management made subsequent readjustments to the Library of Congress cataloguing system and the transfer to the J.C. Kellam Building much easier for his successors, Dr. Louis Moloney, librarian; Betty Phillips, former assistant librarian; and Ruth H. Mooney, acquisitions librarian.

Recent expansion, especially in the areas of Health Professions, Public Administration, Urban Planning, Criminal Justice and Business, has brought rapid enrollment in-
creases and correspondingly larger faculties, in areas that less than a decade ago were mere adjuncts to an essentially educationally oriented State College. These new programs and departments, in part, explain why enrollment has jumped from 8,406 students in the fall of 1968 to 15,060 in the fall of 1978. The changes of the past decade have brought more new faculty to campus than at any time since the creation of Southwest Texas. The result is that while SWT's history is closely linked to faculty in the traditional arts and sciences and education, the future will show increasing influence for the professional and pre-professional faculty members. Yet for seventy-five years the distinctive characteristic of SWT and its faculty has remained the same. In 1903 Principal Harris hired men and women with the ability to teach; in 1978 President Lee H. Smith reiterated the importance of that same concept when he said, "This is the most student-oriented institution that I know about anywhere and it is because we have faculty and staff members ... who are interested in dealing with students one on one." In an era of recurrent educational changes this dedication is the common accomplishment of the faculty themselves, the six presidential administrations and the general policies of the Board of Regents.
From its inception Southwest Texas State has benefitted from the continued support of the regents, first represented by the Local Board of Directors operating under the State Board of Education. The original Local Board included Judge W.D. Wood, president, S.V. Daniel, and Ed J.L. Green, all San Marcans. The Local Board continued to administer the general policies of the Normal until the Thirty-Second Legislature replaced them with a board of Normal School Regents who were given control over all of the Texas Normal Schools in 1911. Initially the enabling legislation authorized the Governor to appoint "four persons of good education, and of high moral character," who joined the State Superintendent of Public Instruction as the State Normal School Board of Regents for the State Normal Schools for White Teachers. Members of the board were appointed to two-year terms and were required to visit each school once during the year. The Regents were given the authority "to erect, equip, and repair buildings; to purchase libraries, furniture, apparatus, fuel and other necessary supplies; to employ and discharge presidents or principals, teachers, treasurers and other employees; and to fix the salaries of the persons so employed."

Since 1911, the board, headquartered in Austin, has gone through a series of name changes, reflecting the changing status of the institutions under its jurisdiction. The normal school phase was followed by State Teachers College and State Senior College designations before the governing body acquired its present title, Board of Regents, Texas State University System, in June, 1975. Although the Regents have also administered North Texas, East Texas, Sam Houston, West Texas, Sul Ross and Stephen F. Austin, the present Texas State University System Regents govern Southwest Texas State University, Angelo State University, Sam Houston State University and Sul Ross State University. In 1929 the Forty-First Legislature set the number of regents at nine and authorized their appointment for three years instead of two. At the present time regents are appointed by the governor with the approval of the Senate for six-year terms; three regents normally are appointed each biennial period.

Over the past seventy-five years Southwest Texas has maintained good relations with its administrative board. The regents exercise broad general powers over the activities of SWT, and they have often done their job at great personal sacrifice. Every president of SWT has commended the regents for their support of Southwest Texas and higher education in general. In the early years the regents defended the normals against the combined opposition of private colleges, other state colleges and universities, and the supporters of tax reductions. For example, in 1916 the Regents authorized the expansion of the normal schools into four-year colleges. In 1921 they reaffirmed their commitment to the institutional changes by directing the normal college presidents to "proceed at once to meet the requirements of the University of Texas looking towards early recognition of their respective schools as colleges of the first rank." During the 1920's individual regents like A.C. Goeth, A.B. Mayhew and M.O. Flow-
Mrs. J. K. (Sallie) Beretta became the second woman to be elected to the Texas Board of Regents in 1933.

Distinguished alumnus J. C. Kellam served on the Board of Regents from 1961 until his death in 1977.

ers lent their support to the college presidents by appearing with them when the administrators were called for testimony before legislators or state agencies. More recently they have delegated important supervisory responsibilities to the Texas State University System presidents.

While space does not permit an extensive description of each regent’s contributions, two will be singled out on the basis of their special significance to Southwest Texas. In 1933 Governor Miriam “Ma” Ferguson appointed Mrs. J.K. (Sallie) Beretta of San Antonio to the State Board of Regents for the Teachers Colleges of Texas. Mrs. Beretta had attained national prominence during World War I when President Woodrow Wilson appointed her director of the Housewives League, an organization designed to combat household inflation. During World War II she again assisted the war effort by supervising bond sales in a five-county region of Texas. She was also active in the campaign to preserve Texas wildflowers, especially bluebonnets, for which she earned the title — “the Bluebonnet Lady of Texas.” She was an active civic and humanitarian leader who joined her husband in establishing a girl’s camp near Comfort. When Mrs. Beretta became a regent, she was only the second woman to hold that position.

She began her service in the depths of the Great Depression when many Texans questioned the wisdom of maintaining the expensive teachers colleges since the State already possessed two excellent state institutions, the University of Texas in Austin and Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College in College Station. Mrs. Beretta unalteringly supported the effort to preserve the teachers colleges, institutions of unquestioned promise. Before she resigned from the board in 1951, she served eighteen years and took a special interest in Southwest Texas. During the 1930’s one of the women’s literary societies honored her by adopting her name, and subsequently one of the women’s residence halls was designated Beretta Hall.

In addition to her services as a regent, Sallie Beretta gave the College her 125-acre ranch on the Blanco River near Wimberley. This property is now designated the University Camp and has served post World War II students, faculty and friends of the college as an outdoor classroom and recreational facility. Now the two lodges and six picnic areas serve the educational and recreational needs of the entire university community.

The second Regent who had a special relationship with SWT was its own alumnus Jesse C. Kellam. He and his brother Claud had been stars on the early 1920’s Bobcat football teams coached by Oscar Strahan. When Jesse graduated in 1923, he took a job as coach and athletic director of Lufkin High School, where he remained for ten years. In 1933 he became Deputy State School Superintendent and then State Director of Rural Aid in the State Department of Education. In 1935 Jesse Kellam’s boyhood friend Lyndon B. Johnson became director of the National Youth Administration (NYA) for the state of Texas. Johnson hired his old friend as an assistant, and Kellam later became director in his own right when LBJ ran for Congress in 1937. During World War II Jesse Kellam utilized his administrative and
educational experiences as Assistant Director of Training at Naval District Headquarters in Philadelphia.

After the war he returned to Austin and joined the LBJ Company in Austin as vice president and general manager of KTBC radio. In 1956 he became president of the LBJ Company. In 1961 he was appointed to the Board of Regents on which he served until his death in 1977. During these years Jesse Kellam distinguished himself as a loyal son of SWT and a strong supporter of public higher education in Texas. In 1965, he was honored as the third Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. For Jesse Kellam this was merely the beginning of a period of renewed association with and service to his alma mater. In 1978 the Board of Regents authorized Southwest Texas to rename the Library Administration Building in honor of this distinguished alumnus and regent.

The following listing of the members of the old Board of Normal Trustees and their successors, the State Board of Regents for the Teachers Colleges of Texas and the current Regents of the Texas State University System is but a symbolic recognition of the service and sacrifice that each regent has contributed to Southwest Texas and the cause of higher education in Texas.

SAN MARCOS BOARD OF NORMAL TRUSTEES (1903-1912)

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<td>Will G. Barber</td>
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MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF REGENTS (1912-1978)

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SECRETARIES AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

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This large sculpture entitled "The Fight of the Stallions" is the work of noted sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington. A popular landmark on the SWT Campus, the stallion sculpture was donated to the University by Mr. and Mrs. Archer Huntington in October of 1951.
PRESIDENTS OF SWT

During the past seventy-five years the original faculty of 17 and the student body of 303 has grown to more than 1000 faculty and staff and 15,000 students. Statistics merely hint at the profound changes that transformed the school on the hill into a major Texas university. For the first fifty-six years of its existence SWT remained a single purpose institution dedicated, as Thomas G. Harris explained, to preparing "worthy teachers for the schools of Texas." The shift away from the emphasis upon teacher education lacked strong administrative support until James H. McCrocklin became president in 1964. Now as Southwest Texas State University prepares to enter the final two decades of the twentieth century, the transition has been made. The institution is attempting to refine its purpose in order to better serve a dynamic state and its students. This change is both the story of the Normal, College and University, and the legacy of its six presidents.

THOMAS GREEN HARRIS (1903-1911)

In September, 1903, Thomas Green Harris assumed control of the new Southwest Texas State Normal School in San Marcos. Born on May 27, 1854, T.G. Harris grew to manhood in the era of the Civil War and Reconstruction. He received his formal education in Tennessee at Carson-Newman College, which granted both his B.A. and M.A. degrees. Before coming to San Marcos, Principal Harris had taught public school in Elajay, Georgia, and had administered Texas schools in Weatherford, Mansfield and Plano (1881-87); Dallas (1887-92); Houston (1892-95); and Austin (1895-03). While in Austin, he had been superintendent of the Austin public schools, establishing an enviable record as a good schoolman and a strict disciplinarian. At SWT Thomas G. Harris presided over an embryonic normal school that was more like a high school than like the college and university that it would become.

Harris was a forceful man who stamped his personality upon the school and its students. Under Harris' administration the school aimed to "fit young men and women for the profession of teaching." Furthermore, the Announcement of 1903 stated that "it is a Normal School. It will therefore not hope or endeavor to give its students a university or college education." Principal Harris expected that Normal students were dedicated individuals aspiring to become public school teachers and thus willing to project an upstanding moral image. Therefore, whatever else the Normal School might be, it was clearly not intended to serve as a vehicle for courting.

While he administered SWT, Thomas Harris organized the school, chose the faculty, planned the courses, drew up the academic schedule, wrote the catalog and summer school announcements, and acted as general trouble shooter in matters of maintenance and custodial care. Harris sought idealistic students "who welcome hard work and whose
SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE

FOLIO

OLD MAIN LOOKED LIKE AN ISOLATED CASTLE WHEN THE NORMAL SCHOOL WAS FIRST ESTABLISHED, BUT GROWTH IN ENROLLMENT AND SCOPE BROUGHT BUILDING AFTER BUILDING. THE SCHOOL’S FIRST BUILDING IS NOW PART OF A LARGE COMPLEX OF STRUCTURES THAT HOUSE A MULTI-PURPOSE UNIVERSITY.
There was a time when there was no space problem on the SWT campus. Normal students tilled a vegetable garden to help produce their own food. Today, the campus has expanded to include property near the Gary Job Corps Center, which houses this modern horticulture center, as well as a traffic safety center and driving course. The military has had a long-standing tradition at SWT, from the SWTN military drill team early in the century to the education of air force cadets in the 1970s.
THE LYNDON B. JOHNSON MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER IS A LARGE, MODERN STRUCTURE AT THE VERY HEART OF THE CAMPUS. IT IS NAMED FOR SWT'S MOST FAMOUS ALUMNUS, A MAN WHO NEVER FORGOT HIS ALMA MATER.
A HANDFUL OF CARS HAD NO PARKING PROBLEM AT ONE OF THE INSTITUTION’S EARLY FOOTBALL GAMES. IN THE 1970S EVANS FIELD WAS OFTEN PACKED TO OVERFLOWING — AMPLE EVIDENCE OF THE NEED FOR A NEW STADIUM, A PROJECT THAT IS ON THE DRAWING BOARDS. THE UNIVERSITY’S ATHLETIC PROGRAM HAS GROWN IN TERMS OF SUPPORT AND VARIATION OF SPORTS.
THE SWT CAMPUS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PLACE OF BEAUTY. WHETHER IT'S THE RUGGED, TREE-COVERED HILLS OR THE SERENE SAN MARCOS RIVER OR THE VARIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL STYLES THAT HAVE ACCUMULATED OVER THE YEARS, IT IS A PLACE THAT WILL ALWAYS LIVE IN THE MEMORIES OF SWTEXANS.
THE SWT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HAS GROWN ALONG WITH THE INSTITUTION. IN 1979, MELANIE ANGEL WAS CHOSEN AS RECIPIENT OF THE LBJ OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD; EMORY BELLARD AND KELLY FRELS JOINED THE RANKS OF DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI; AND SHELTON PADGETT TURNED OVER THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENCY TO SYLVESTER WALLERCK; PAT POHL WAS FIRST VICE PRESIDENT; AND OLIVER DIEKE, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT.
THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOCAL POINTS INCLUDED HOMECOMING, WHEN SUSAN ANGEL WAS CROWNED AS HOMECOMING QUEEN; SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY ART WAS EMBOSSED ON DIPLOMAS; AN ACADEMIC CONVOCATION LECTURE SERIES FEATURED, AMONG OTHERS, FORMER U.S. REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT KRUEGER; AND CAMPUS VISITS FROM A NUMBER OF ALUMNI SUCH AS MRS. IDA ROUSE WEBB OF THE CLASS OF '07.
THE TIMES HAVE CHANGED CONSIDERABLY OVER THE LAST THREE-QUARTERS OF A CENTURY, AND WITH THOSE CHANGES CAME NEW FASHIONS AND NEW LIFESTYLES. AT THE HEART OF IT ALL, HOWEVER, IS ONE ENDURING PURPOSE OF THE UNIVERSITY—PROVIDING AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH LEARNING CAN TAKE PLACE.
One of the highlights of the 75th anniversary year was the culmination of four years of negotiations in the purchase of the San Marcos Baptist Academy property. It was a solution to some of the cramped conditions on the campus and a vote of confidence in the future of SWT.
Cecil Eugene Evans led SWT from 1911-42, and under his administration SWT became a four-year Normal College (1918-1919) and then a Teachers College (1922-1923).

course is ever onward and upward." Former students remember that he was a stickler for spelling which he taught during the Chapel period. When students botched their proper diacritical markings, they met with Mr. Harris after school to review their errors. Besides his fanatical interest in good spelling, Harris was a strict disciplinarian who was rigid in his enforcement of the Normal rules. According to Ethel M. O'Banion, Principal Harris taught this same philosophy to the prospective teachers enrolled in his courses on school management. "Students must first learn to obey. Once the child has mastered the ability to be obedient then the teacher can proceed to the teaching of reading, writing and arithmetic."

In addition to his emphasis upon discipline, Thomas G. Harris was a devout Baptist, and later served as president of the San Marcos Baptist Academy. As a Christian in the classroom, Principal Harris believed that education, even when state-supported, properly included moral training. For the students this meant daily attendance at the religious exercises called Chapel. Harris was a statewide temperance reformer as well as a distinguished Texas educator. He used his position as principal of the Normal to endorse local option laws and state prohibition legislation. His opposition to alcoholic beverages and his suspicions of Oscar B. Colquitt's support of public education explain his endorsement of Colquitt's opponent in the gubernatorial election of 1910. When Colquitt won the election, he requested and received Thomas G. Harris' resignation as principal of SWT. Thus in 1911 the State Board of Education replaced Principal Harris with the second president of SWT.

CECIL EUGENE EVANS (1911-1942)

C.E. Evans, "Prexy" as the faculty and students called him, was born in Bowden, Georgia, January 21, 1871. The Evans family had moved to Alabama before young Cecil was four. In 1888 Evans earned his B.A. degree from Oxford College in Alabama. After graduation, he began his long career as an educator, teaching four years in Alabama and then teaching in and administering Texas public schools from 1893 until 1908. Between 1896 and 1902 he was superintendent of schools in Anson. He then took a similar position at Merkel and remained there until 1906. In 1906 he became the superintendent of the Abilene public schools and won many friends in west Texas. In 1908 he became general agent and campaign worker for the Conference for Education in Texas (CET). The CET was an organization of concerned educators who were trying to improve the general level of public elementary and secondary education in Texas, then ranked thirty-eighth among the forty-six states. As its general agent C.E. Evans earned a state-wide reputation as a friend of public education, a skilled lobbyist and a competent administrator. He helped secure the adoption of three new constitutional amendments that permitted increases in school taxes, authorized county-line school dis-
tricts and validated outstanding school bonds. In the meantime he completed his formal education when he received his M.A. from the University of Texas in 1906. In 1923 Southwest Texas University in Georgetown conferred upon him the honorary degree of L.L.D.

When Evans assumed control of SWT in 1911, there were two more permanent buildings, the old Science Building and the Library, now Leuders Hall. Roger F. French reports that the enrollment totalled 619 students for the entire academic year 1911-12. Like his predecessor, Prexy Evans initially supervised every aspect of school life. His daughter Bernice Evans Soyars remembers that his duties as president included approving every student's request to leave campus or to have weekend dates. These burdensome duties were later given to the first Dean of Women, Miss Lillie Shaver, and to Dean of Students, Henry E. Speck. Although Dr. Evans appointed first A.W. Birdwell and then Dr. Alfred H. Nolle as deans of the college, he continued to handle the major decisions such as faculty recruitment. For example, Drs. Nolle, Retta Murphy, Robert Tampke, Leland Derrick and J. Lloyd Rogers were all interviewed and hired by C.E. Evans. He handled promotions in a similar way. Leland Derrick recounted that Evans explained his promotion to full professor by stopping him on campus and saying: "Oh, Derrick, you're now a full professor! When a man's salary reaches $3600, he's a professor." According to Dr. Murphy, Prexy Evans accosted students and faculty alike "out on the quadrange there or in teachers' meetings or wherever groups of people were present." His reprimands were public denunciations, but he also apologized when he was wrong.

Prexy Evans, or "Shep" as old friends and fellow Rotarians called him, was interested in the SWT students. He used his remarkable memory and his famous little Redbooks to note something about every student that he met. Years later he could greet former students or their families and recall something about their special relationship with SWT. Evans liked to think of SWT as a "poor man's school" and used every opportunity to stress his optimism and faith in education that was characteristic of early twentieth-century progressives. In the introduction to the 1937 Pedagog he stated this ideal clearly. "The gate of college opportunity narrows when the rugged individualism of selfish interests dominates, but broadens when ambition for the common welfare is paramount. College spirit, manifested in rallies for teams, in the maintenance of a worthy college record, makes college life abound in joy and usefulness." This philosophy, often inhibited by students, became especially significant when Lyndon Baines Johnson, alumnus and thirty-sixth President, translated it into legislation as part of his Great Society program. Like his predecessor, C.E. Evans used the regular Chapels and later General Assemblies to transmit both his moral values and ideals to the student body.

C.E. Evans had plenty of problems during his presidency, but the school survived World War I and the Great Depression. Prexy had weathered the 1920's when his brother Hiram Wesley Evans became Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan. Not only did President Evans maintain his distance from his brother, but he also encouraged students like Yancy Yarbrough and Lyndon B. Johnson to fight the Klan's influence through the columns of the College Star. During 1925 Evans concurred in the Board of Regents' decision not to rehire Bertram Harry, a professor of Education, who had supported the Klan's candidate for governor Felix D. Robertson. If there was one lesson to be learned from T.G. Harris' presidency, it was that the College and its president had to stand above partisan politics. C.E. Evans was a masterful politician when it came to obtaining support for SWT and the other teachers colleges, but he would do nothing to jeopardize SWT. For example, President Evans alertly added the name of James E. "Farmer Jim" Ferguson to the cornerstone of the Education Building when Ferguson's wife Miriam was elected governor in 1924. Jim Ferguson had signed the original appropriation, but his name had been omitted after his impeachment.

C.E. Evans led SWT for thirty-one years. During his presidency the school changed from a Normal School into a four-year Normal College (1918-19), and then to a Teachers College (1922-23). In 1935 the State Board of Teachers College Regents approved a master of arts degree program for SWT. Meanwhile President Evans had obtained certification from the State Department of Education, the Association of Texas Colleges, and the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Southern States (Southern Association). All of these were important milestones in the history of SWT because they indicated the changing status and quality of both the institution and the education that it offered. Under his determined leadership SWT gained control of the entire San Marcos public school system. The Auditorium Building (now Evans Academic Center) was built with federal assistance and used as an elementary school for San Marcos children. President Evans had carried the laboratory school concept to its logical conclusion. Educational theory, however, had already begun to endorse practice teaching experiences in the regular public schools. Thus Evans retained an approach that was elsewhere discarded.

Similarly, the physical character of the school changed under Dr. Evans watchful supervision. When Prexy retired in 1942, the original eleven-acre campus had more than doubled. Of the three classroom structures that he had inherited, two remained; thirteen new classroom and administrative buildings had been added, as had eight dormitories and co-op houses, a forty-acre farm, and the riverside swimming pool and recreational park. Enrollment had peaked at 1,441 students during the fall semester of 1940 and was still over 1,000 in the spring of 1942 after World War II had begun.

When Cecil Eugene Evans retired in 1942, he turned the College over to an alumnus, Dr. John Garland Flowers. Prexy Evans continued to live in San Marcos and appeared on campus almost daily until his death in 1959. These final years gave Dr. Evans the time to write his own history of education in Texas, The Story of Texas Schools, published in 1955. These were good years for President Evans, especially since he watched with interest the growth of SWT and the rising political career of his former errand boy, Lyndon B. Johnson.
JOHN GARLAND FLOWERS (1942-1964)

When John Garland Flowers replaced C.E. Evans, an important era in SWT history closed, but a new and exciting phase began. President Flowers was the first native Texan to administer the College. He had been born and reared in south Texas near Pearsall, which is south and slightly west of San Antonio. Not only was John G. Flowers a Texan, but he was also an alumnus of Southwest Texas State Normal School. He obtained his teaching certificate during 1912-13 and then continued his formal education at East Texas where he obtained his B.A. in 1924. Flowers continued his studies at Columbia University and earned his M.A. in 1925 and his Ph.D. in 1932. Thus President Flowers came in direct contact with John Dewey, the exponent of “instrumentalism” and the leading American educational philosopher of the twentieth century. When he accepted the presidency of Southwest Texas, Dr. Flowers was a noted educator and carried his alma mater into the forefront of American teachers colleges.

While he attended SWT, John G. Flowers renewed his acquaintance with Lora Hogan, a childhood friend. In those days John was a member of the Chautauqua Literary Society and sang bass in the Mendelssohn Club, but he apparently spent considerable time courting Lora. Theirs was one of the many romances spawned at the foot of the hill. They picnicked at the infamous Fish Hatchery, rowed about on the San Marcos River, and “kodaked” on Sunday afternoons. Appropriately, the Hogans owned a boarding house that sat near the present site of Flowers Hall. On Christmas Eve, 1916, John G. Flowers and Lora Hogan married, and then promptly moved to Premont, Texas, where the groom was teaching in the public schools. John and Lora Flowers’ courtship was the kind that worried Presidents Harris and Evans, but like most of the others, it proved a lasting legacy to SWT.

With the exception of a brief interlude during World War I, John Flowers worked continuously in the schools of Texas from 1912 until 1924. He began as a teacher and had become a principal when war broke out in 1917. Between 1919 and 1921 J.G. Flowers was principal of the public schools in Cooper; in 1921 he began his association with higher education when he became principal of the East Texas State demonstration school. After he received his M.A., he became director of training at East Texas. In 1928 he left Texas to join the faculty of New Jersey State Teachers College, Montclair (now Montclair State). Dr. Flowers left Montclair in 1937 and assumed the presidency of State Teachers College, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania (now Lock Haven State College). Thus when John Flowers came home to SWT in 1942, he had obtained extensive experience as a public school and college teacher, and administrator. Lora Flowers, a typical modern wife, taught alongside her husband in both the public schools and the colleges until Dr. Flowers went to Lock Haven. She was also the devoted mother of two energetic children, John Garland and Mary.

When Flowers became president in the fall of 1942, enrollment plummetted to 876 students, mostly female. The war created the greatest dislocation that SWT ever experienced. In the spring of 1944 there were only 434 full time students, the lowest number since 1906-07. Meanwhile SWT had become an Air Corps training center on March 1, 1943, and the 500 cadets of the 94th College Training Detachment rotated through the College at 5-month intervals until June, 1944. After the 94th disbanded, hard times continued until the fall semester of 1946 when the enrollment of 1,421 nearly equalled the pre-World War II and post Depression high of 1,441. The GI Bill of Rights fueled expansion through the late 1940’s, but enrollment fell again during the Korean War. Not until the fall of 1952 did the 2,157 students top the old 1927-28 record of 2,136.

Under President Flowers’ able leadership Southwest Texas obtained additional buildings, showed a basically stable, though gradually expanding, enrollment pattern, and initiated a program of planned institutional development. During the last year of Dr. Flowers’ presidency the student enrollment had reached 3,852 and the faculty had increased to 188. The administration had assumed responsibility for projecting the future needs and anticipated growth of SWT. As early as 1943 Dr. Flowers and his colleagues drew up the first master plan designed to identify buildings needing rehabilitation as well as to predict the growth of the campus. Between 1942 and 1963 SWT acquired 55 new pieces of property and expected to acquire an additional 63 as a part of an urban renewal program in San Marcos.
Most of the property acquisitions were residential lots that bordered on the campus; however, three of the parcels of land were substantial: the 400-acre college farm, the 18-acre tract for married student housing, and the Sallie Beretta ranch. During these same years the approximate value of the SWT physical plant increased from slightly less than $2 million to approximately $15 million. Ten new instructional buildings, seven additions to existing class buildings, twenty-three dormitory and apartment buildings, and six additions to existing residence halls had been completed or were under construction in the spring of 1964. Dr. Flowers was particularly proud of these buildings and their Spanish-colonial style of architecture. Occasionally, as in the old Fine Arts Building, the question of aesthetics produced a building which never entirely met the needs of the students and faculty who used it, but in most cases the buildings have performed admirably. The Spanish-colonial style has been abandoned, but the Flowers-era buildings continue to serve the University community in the seventies.

Dr. Leland Derrick remembered John Garland Flowers as a kind and considerate man who had “a very peaceful administration.” Both Drs. Derrick and Retta Murphy noted that “people liked him.” In comparing Flowers with his predecessor, Derrick explained that “Dr. Flowers was more a dyed-in-the-wool teacher educator I think than Dr. Evans, but with the passing of time we broadened our curriculum.” When he came to SWT, Dr. Flowers brought new respectability to the College. Dr. Evans had become an educator of state and regional significance, but John Garland Flowers built a national reputation as a teachers college administrator. He was president of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, and developed the teacher certification criteria adopted by the Texas Education Agency.

Gradually he discarded Dr. Evans’ commitment to a college laboratory school and replaced it with the present system of student teaching in which the education majors spend part of a semester in a regular public school classroom. Dr. Flowers also sponsored the first foreign exchange program at SWT. During the early 1950’s this interest and his participation in the American educational commission that studied German educational needs for the American Military Government (1949) brought several groups of German educators to SWT. Here they studied American education first hand.

By the time that John Garland Flowers decided to end his twenty-two year leadership of SWT, the College had celebrated its fiftieth anniversary (1951), had experienced a decade of a steady growth, had established a tradition for long-range planning, and had changed from a teachers college to a multi-purpose regional college, a status embodied in the name change of 1959. When Dr. Flowers elected to resign in the summer of 1964, he did so in part because of ill health that had plagued him and his wife during his last years at SWT. In discussing his retirement he explained that SWT needed “a younger, more vigorous person to guide it during this critical period of growth, expansion, and development.”

In 1964 the regents selected James H. McCrocklin, professor and chairman in the Government Department at Texas A&I, as well as mayor of Kingsville, to succeed President Flowers.

**JAMES HENRY McCROCKLIN (1964-1969)**

Born in nearby Boerne, Texas, on May 3, 1923, James H. McCrocklin was the son of Andrew Jackson and Nancy (McElroy). His mother had attended SWT (1909-11) and the family always lived in central Texas so that young Jim was familiar with SWT from an early age. In a recent interview former President McCrocklin explained that his parents had always stressed the importance of education. He completed all of his collegiate and graduate education at the University of Texas between 1943 and 1954. Meanwhile, he was a Marine Corps officer in both World War II and the Korean conflict. In 1946 he had married Harriett Elizabeth Stroud. Their two sons James T. and John H. are both alumni of SWT.

Just as his predecessors had built upon the legacies of earlier administrations, James McCrocklin took charge of an institution prepared for “take-off.” For the better part of its sixty-year history Southwest Texas had expanded gradually, but suddenly during the 1960’s it surged forward with its enrollment increasing by almost 2000 every second year between 1964 and 1971. There is no clear explanation for this unprecedented pattern of growth, although the post World War II baby boom undoubtedly contributed to it. In addition, a higher percentage of high school graduates were attending college than in any previous era. SWT also became widely known as th alma mater of President Lyndon B. Johnson. All of these factors contributed to the rapid changes which challenged President McCrocklin and his colleagues.

During their half century of leadership at SWT, Presidents Evans and Flowers had created new administrative positions as necessary, but they continued to perform many administrative functions personally. President James McCrocklin subdivided responsibilities that had been handled by his predecessors and Dean Nolle, who had retired in 1959. McCrocklin created three new vice presidencies to which he appointed Joe Wilson (academic affairs), Leland Derrick (college affairs) and Jack Cates (finance). According to former President McCrocklin the changes were more descriptive than substantive. Each man had been performing duties that carried with them the title of vice president at other colleges and universities. He also reorganized the College into a five-school liberal arts college. For the first time in its history, SWT had a special School of Education rather than an entire institution devoted to teacher preparation. Thus President McCrocklin completed the transition from a single-purpose teachers college to a multi-purpose regional college.

President McCrocklin and newly appointed registrar Alton G. Brieger initiated the transition to computer assisted registration. Curiously neither the computer nor any of SWT’s six presidents has been able to eliminate the seemingly inevitable delays and frustrations that plague each new registration, because the problem stems from too many students trying to do the same thing at the same time. In addition to
modern registration procedures, President McCrocklin relaxed some of the most stringent restrictions on the students, especially in matters relating to housing and free speech. One temporary innovation that attracted notice was his decision to close all the administrative offices thirty minutes before the end of the working day so that each employee could clear his desk and leave by 5 p.m.

James McCrocklin feels that he contributed to improved relations between the College and the community, and helped bridge the rift between SWT and Lyndon Johnson that followed President Flowers’ refusal to allow Johnson to end the 1960 campaign on the College campus. From his inauguration as president of SWT, James McCrocklin sought and obtained the support of our most famous alumnus. President Johnson delivered the address when McCrocklin was installed as president, and also authorized the transfer of the federal fish hatchery property to the College. This new property gave the College control of all the land between Old Main and Evans Stadium. Here the College has built the J.C. Kellam Building (formerly the Library-Administration Building) and the circular Speech-Drama Building. While President of SWT James H. McCrocklin received a number of special national appointments that he believes were part of President Johnson’s effort “to bring Southwest Texas out.”

One of the special memories of the McCrocklin years was the so-called “battle of the bands” crisis that developed in 1965. The SWT marching band and Strutters appeared in the Presidential inaugural parades of 1961 and 1965. During the fall and winter of 1964 President McCrocklin and the SWT band organization canvassed friends and alumni to raise the approximately $38,000 that it cost to transport the students and their faculty supervisors to the inauguration exercises. President Johnson had asked SWT to send its student musicians and drill team to lead the Inaugural Parade. President McCrocklin complimented San Marcans for their extraordinary support during the fund raising campaign during which “some offered as much as $5000.”

The crisis developed when the UT band and its leaders attempted to replace SWT as the parade leader. In what both President McCrocklin and then band director Maurice Callahan remember as a flurry of political controversy, the two Texas schools tried to establish their right to lead the parade. Professor Callahan explained that he always felt that McCrocklin’s affected gruff military bearing had contributed to SWT’s victory over its neighbor to the north, but the former president explained that LBJ’s wishes would be honored so he merely had to untangle the politics and red tape. Eventually the military organizers placed SWT first, and the Washington Post bore the banner headlines: “SWT BAND OUT FRONT!” Although President Johnson once assured McCrocklin that “I have the biggest shears on red tape in Washington,” McCrocklin and other College officials “bent over backwards to avoid any taint of influence that might have embarrassed the President.”

One other significant development during the McCrocklin era was the establishment of the Experimental Honors Program in 1967. According to Honors Program Director Emmie Craddock, this special curriculum for the superior students received support from Vice President for Academic Affairs Joe Wilson. Initially designed to provide improved instruction and more independence for exceptional students, the General Honors Program has developed into a special curriculum. Students in the program must complete twelve hours of honors courses, including the special honors thesis. The Honors courses ordinarily are taught in seminars of ten to fifteen students. Students who complete the requirements are given special recognition at the commencement exercises. A list of all the alumni of the Honors Program can be found at the end of this history.

When James H. McCrocklin resigned as president of SWT in the spring of 1969, he had strengthened the school’s commitment to a broader purpose, had overseen the planning and construction of two important additions to the physical plant, and had represented the College during Lyndon Johnson’s administration. Professor Leland Derrick assumed the responsibilities of acting president of SWT until the fifth president Billy Mac Jones took control on September 1, 1969.
Billy Mac Jones was born in Abilene, Texas, on April 5, 1925. He obtained his B.A. from Vanderbilt University in 1950, his M.A. from George Peabody Teachers College in 1952, and his Ph.D. from Texas Technological College in 1963. Like his predecessors Harris, Evans and Flowers, Dr. Jones had taught in the public schools (1950-54) before joining the faculty of Middle Tennessee State University in 1954. He left Tennessee in 1958 to become assistant coach of the Texas Aggies. Interested in continuing his academic career, Billy Mac Jones left A&M in 1959 and became chairman of the social science department at San Angelo Junior College. He left San Angelo briefly between 1961 and 1963 to complete his doctoral work at Texas Tech, and then returned as head of the social science department (1963-69), as well as acting Dean of Student Life (1963-66) and an assistant to the president (1966-67). Professor Jones’ academic training had been in history, especially the history of the American West. In 1967 he had been awarded one of the Minnie Stevens Piper awards for excellence in teaching.

President Billy Jones brought an interest in developing new professional curricula at SWT. Specifically, he encouraged the creation of the new departments of Criminal Justice and Allied Health Sciences. These additions to existing departments prompted another reorganization of the University; Dr. McCrocklin’s five-school liberal arts college was replaced by a three-school university — College of Arts and Sciences, College of Professional Schools and the Graduate School. Although this scheme has been altered, the current academic structure bears the mark of Dr. Jones’ earlier plans.

Dr. Jones left Southwest Texas in 1973 to assume the presidency of Memphis State University. His brief stay with the University limited his influence, but he did initiate the planning for two new buildings, the LBJ Student Center and the ill-fated “mini-dome” athletic and convocational center. By the late 1960’s SWT clearly needed a new student center. Rapid growth in enrollment had strained the older facility, and the expansion also necessitated an enlargement of the SWT Bookstore. Dr. Jones decided to build a new student center, an enlarged art building and a new education building in one interconnected complex running down the Hill from Old Main. The resultant Art Building, LBJ Student Center and New Education Building have provided needed space for both academic and recreational activities. The all-purpose, mini-domed athletic and convocation center was still in its planning stage when Dr. Jones left SWT. After a careful analysis of the project and its anticipated cost-effectiveness, Interim President Jerome C. (Jack) Cates (1973-74) decided that the project was too expensive for SWT’s limited resources. Instead, SWT plans to add a new basketball arena as phase II of the Jowers Center facility and hopes to build a new football stadium to replace antiquated Evans Field.
The late 1960's and early 1970's were years of continued growth for SWT. In the fall of 1967, 7491 students had enrolled at the College; in the fall of 1973 the number had soared to 12,142. This rapid growth strained the facilities of an institution that in 1964 had projected its 1973 enrollment as about 8000 students. Both the University and the community of San Marcos began to experience serious overcrowding. In addition, the latter 1960's and early 1970's were years of turmoil for both the University and the society at large. Administrators and faculty discovered that students rejected traditional mores and challenged the old concept of in loco parentis. Lunelle Anderson, the last Dean of Women, discovered that her job was markedly different from that of her predecessors. As she explains it, she became by choice and of necessity a counselor; her predecessors had established and enforced policies that had changed little in sixty-six years. Suddenly Dean Anderson found herself embroiled in disputes over women’s hours, pets in the dormitories (“the Goldfish Imbroglio”), and new problems related to alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs. Lunelle explained that she was caught between parents who expected the University to protect their children, and students who resented meddling administrators.

Like most other American colleges and universities, SWT had its conflicts over the Vietnam War and the Cambodian Invasion. Also during the spring of 1974 campuses across the country experienced premature spring, and the gross fad of “streaking” temporarily seized otherwise sensible students. Once again SWT had its own version of the national excitement as naked students dashed through the “free streaking zone” along Edward Gary Street between the dormitories. The fun lasted for about a week as Interim President Cates calmly allowed the escapades to continue, and then warned all students that the activities would cease after spring break. To paraphrase the Bob Dylan lyrics, “the times, they were a-changin’!” It was against this background that the Regents selected Dr. Lee H. Smith as SWT’s sixth president in 1974.

LEE HERMAN SMITH (1974- )

In 1974 Lee H. Smith became the sixth president of Southwest Texas State University. Born in Ector, Texas, on January 7, 1935, President Smith became the fourth consecutive native Texan to administer SWT. Lee and his family moved from Ector to Gober and then to Dallas. In high school Smith played basketball and tennis, and obtained a basketball scholarship to Texas A&M. He retains his interest in athletics, especially tennis, and believes that participation in athletics builds character as well as promotes general physical health. Lee Smith’s college preparation differed from that of his predecessors, who had studied either education or the liberal arts. At Texas A&M he majored in mathematics. After graduation in 1957 he worked in industry and continued his education at Southern Methodist University where he obtained an M.S. in Engineering Administration.

Between 1961 and 1964 he studied statistics with Professor H.O. Hartley, first at Iowa State and then at Texas A&M. When he earned his Ph.D. in statistics in 1964, Dr. Smith was the only member of his class to return to business. Until 1965 the future president had spent a large portion of his life in higher education, but had no plans to pursue a career in it. In 1965 his entire life changed when, dissatisfied with business, he contacted Dr. Wallace B. Nelson, then Dean of Business at Arlington State College (The University of Texas, Arlington). As he remembers his first meeting with Larry Nelson, it was an exciting session in which Nelson explained the changing nature of business education which was abandoning its trade school origins and integrating the behavioral sciences, statistics, computer science, and the liberal arts into its curriculum. When Dean Nelson offered him a job at Arlington, Lee Smith accepted it and initiated the transition that led from business to administrative posts in higher education. As Dr. Smith explains it, “That was the turning point in my life, everything I have touched since then has turned to gold.”

Lee Smith rose rapidly from an Assistant Professor of Business to an associate dean in 1967. In 1969 he left UT Arlington and became chairman and professor in the Department of Quantitative Management Science at the University of Houston. He returned to the UT system in 1971 when he became Dean of the Faculties at the Dallas campus, and by the spring of 1974 he was Vice President for Academic Affairs.

When he was appointed president to replace Dr. Jones, it
Heading the four university divisions under the Smith administration during the 75th anniversary year were Dr. Pence Dacus, vice president for institutional advancement; Dr. W. E. Norris, Jr., vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Eugene E. Payne, vice president for finance and management; and Dr. B. Allan Watson, vice president for university affairs.

was a goal attained, a dream fulfilled. Lee Smith was thirty-nine when he brought his family, wife Eva and daughter Diette, to SWT. Like most Texans, Lee Smith knew SWT as Lyndon B. Johnson's alma mater, as a teachers college, and as a progressive university where exciting things were happening in career education.

When President Smith assumed the responsibilities of chief administrator, he found a university that was seventy years old, possessed of a fine teaching faculty, and seemingly in need of direction. As he sees himself, Lee Smith is a compulsive organizer, and he promptly set about developing plans and systems for SWT. As he perceives organizations, they are all plagued by ambiguities of expectations; as president, he is committed to the elimination of these ambiguities through the use of job descriptions, clarification of responsibilities, and careful long-range planning. In an interview with Mrs. Pat Murdock, President Smith explained his commitment to planning and analysis. "As problems arose, we would solve those problems immediately, but, in so doing, we would always develop the process for the solution of that problem so that the next time it or one very much like it occurred, we'd have the solution process."

This approach has brought important internal and external changes to SWT. In the areas of policy formulation and departmental spending, the Smith administration has introduced the "operating letter" (OL) system, which is designed to codify and collect administrative policy for easy reference. "Zero-base budgeting," which allocates finances annually after departments have reviewed and justified their fiscal needs, is another change. SWT under President Smith has developed a new ten-year master plan which projects a new building program that will encompass $90,000,000 in new buildings, and a rehabilitation and renovation schedule that predicts necessary repairs to existing structures for the next two decades.

The future expansion of the University campus was virtually assured when the Board of Regents, Texas State University System, agreed to purchase the 78.5-acre San Marcos Baptist Academy property. The Regents authorized the $11.25 million expenditure for the grounds and 18 buildings subject to the approval of the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, and the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. The SWT master plan projects locating the residential campus on the newly acquired property and converting the existing residence halls to classroom buildings. This addition to the existing campus should accommodate the anticipated needs of the University for the next twenty years.

The improvement of existing facilities and the acquisition of new ones is merely one aspect of Dr. Smith's commitment to growth and development at Southwest Texas. He has also emphasized the opportunities for alumni and institutional support with the creation of a new division of Institutional Advancement headed by Vice President and SWT alumnus Pence Dacus. Dr. Dacus and his staff are attempting to increase contributions to SWT by private donors, alumni, fac-
Alumnus Therese Kayser Lindsey was honored by her daughter, Mrs. Louise Lindsey Merrick of Tyler, with the establishment of the Therese Kayser Lindsey Chair of Literature in 1978. Perhaps their most spectacular accomplishment to date has been the establishment of SWT's first endowed chair, the Therese Kayser Lindsey Chair of Literature, made possible by the donation of $500,000 by Mrs. Louise Lindsey Merrick of Tyler. Other innovations in this area include the formation of the SWT Student Foundation, the Pacesetter Program, the Parents' Club, and the Faculty-Staff Support Program.

These changes and new directions reflect a University which is still undergoing profound changes. Currently, President Smith has inaugurated procedures for faculty and staff evaluations and a trial system of management by objective so that a larger and more diverse institution can retain its commitment to academic and teaching excellence. As Dr. Smith understands these new programs, they too are designed to address the ambiguities of expectations that he believes plague organizations. Also, they facilitate "participatory management," whereby all interested parties may contribute to policy formulation. At the present it is impossible to assess the long-range significance of these policies. As Dr. Smith himself anticipated, the short term effects have been both confusing and disruptive, but he expects that eventually faculty and staff will endorse the procedures which clarify policies and institutional expectations for each individual.

Like each of his predecessors, Lee H. Smith is concerned with the students who attend SWT. "Every single decision that I have made has been made in my mind for the benefit of the next 60,000 students." He hopes that SWT can "instill in the student an excitement about learning. We are teach-
ing them some way to be excited enough about learning to develop their own philosophies and moral values so that they can judge themselves against their own standards." President Smith expects SWT to retain its traditional strengths in the arts, liberal arts and sciences, while creating new professional curricula and experimenting with computer-assisted instruction. He wants SWT graduates to be well educated in the traditional disciplines, as well as very adaptable in the changing world of the twenty-first century.

Reflecting his interest in students and academic excellence, President Lee H. Smith is especially proud of Southwest Texas State's scholarships for selected superior students. Begun and funded by authority of a student election in 1972, the University Scholars Program provides one scholarship to each of the seven undergraduate schools (Applied Arts, Business, Creative Arts, Education, Health Professions, Liberal Arts, and Science). Incoming freshmen and transfer students are eligible for the annual scholarships of $1000 renewable for four years. In 1978 President Smith established the Presidential Upper Level Scholarships. Students designated Presidential Scholars are juniors or seniors who have demonstrated outstanding academic and leadership potential. Presidential Scholars receive a one-time award of $1200. These scholarship programs help the University to attract and retain superior students.

Dr. Smith believes that academic excellence proceeds from the interaction of students and faculty. Because President Smith is concerned with improving educational opportunities for students and their teachers, he has taken definite steps to formally recognize faculty accomplishments. In 1978 he instituted the Presidential Seminars where the "outstanding scholarly or creative work" of a faculty member is presented to the university community. One seminar is scheduled for each of the two regular academic semesters. The Presidential Seminar Committee, composed of faculty members, nominates the individual who discusses his activities and is honored at a reception afterwards. Drs. Arnold Leder (Political Science) and Harvey J. Ginsburg (Psychology) presented the first two seminars.

Closely related to the recognition given individuals in Presidential Seminars, the "Steeples of Excellence" concept is designed to identify and fund a "very few long-range programs which would ultimately become the finest of their types in the state, region, or nation." The "Steeples" grants of $75,000 to $100,000 annually for up to five years were established to promote academic excellence at the departmental and interdisciplinary levels. During 1978 proposals were developed, ranked and eventually awarded to the Mathematics and Education Departments for the creation of the Center for the Study of Basic Skills, and to the Biology Department for the development of an Aquatic Research Center. The special support available from the Steeples grants holds great promise for the establishment of innovative programs at SWT.

One of Smith's most interesting experiences while president of SWT was his trip to the Republic of China in 1975. Under the auspices of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Smith and twenty other presidents spent twenty-one days on the Chinese mainland. He describes this trip as one of those events which leave a lasting impression. Among other things he was impressed with the absence of crime, prostitution, and alcoholism in China, but "the people of China have no freedom whatsoever as we know freedom in the United States."

If a person can't find happiness in the United States under our system, even though it has flaws, then I predict that that person is looking for a utopia which doesn't exist. I encourage our people always simply to operate within the rules and framework that we have for change.

For Lee H. Smith the goal of American higher education seems to be the reaffirmation of those beliefs and attitudes which characterize America's unique civilization. This has been the aspiration of each of SWT's six presidents, and the record of the alumni attest to the strength of the vision.

**THE ALUMNI OF THE HILL**

During the past seventy-five years well over 200,000 students have attended classes on the hill. This history is a partial chronicle of their collegiate activities, but their contributions and influence extend far beyond the school. The range of their post graduate activities encompasses the entire spectrum of human endeavors in these United States. They have become teachers, preachers, coaches, professors, physicians, veterinarians, principals, scientists, housewives, insurance agents, businessmen, tradesmen, soldiers, and even a President of the United States. Certainly the majority of SWT's exes have prepared themselves as educators, and their influence both in the classrooms and in their communities has done much to redress the deficiencies in Texas' educational system that prompted the creation of SWT.

The recipients of the SWT Distinguished Alumni Awards provide an indication of the accomplishments of seventy-five classes of students. President Flowers and the Alumni Association instituted the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1959 when then Senator Lyndon B. Johnson was honored. Graduating from SWT in 1930, Lyndon taught public school in Houston for two years. In 1932 he began his career as a distinguished public servant and statesman when he was offered a job on the staff of U.S. Representative Richard Kleberg. From that inauspicious beginning Lyndon Johnson rose to become thirty-sixth President of the United States.

Prior to his nomination and election as Vice President in 1960, Johnson served as director of the NYA in Texas (1935-37), U.S. Representative from Texas (1937-49), and U.S. Senator (1949-61). During the 1950's Lyndon joined U.S. Representative Sam Rayburn of Bonham, Texas, as the Democratic Party leaders in Congress.

The assassination of John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963, resulted in Lyndon Johnson's elevation to the presidency. As President, Lyndon supported a broad program of social reform that he designated "the Great Society."
Friends and alumni of SWT like to believe that President Johnson's concern with education and equal opportunity for all Americans reflected the formative influence of his college days and his association with C.E. Evans and "Prof" Greene. During his presidency, LBJ supported his alma mater and regularly found time to return to the campus for casual visits and formal occasions, including a special visit to sign the Higher Education Act of 1965.

When Lyndon retired from public life in 1969, he retained an interest in SWT and even maintained an office in the Kellam Building. Lyndon Johnson died on January 22, 1973. Since his death his wife Lady Bird and daughters Lynda Bird and Luci Baines continue to maintain cordial relations with SWT. Luci Nugent is especially interested in the University's Special Education program. SWT has paid tribute to Lyndon Johnson by naming the LBJ Student Center in his honor.

SWT's second Distinguished Alumni Award went to Miss Mamie Brown, a native of Grapevine, Texas, and the first graduate of SWT's collegiate program (1919). She spent most of her professional career as an instructor of elementary education at Texas A&I College. Almost all of the Distinguished Alumni have spent some time in the field of education, but a number of others have followed this career throughout their lives. Dr. Robert H. Montgomery concluded an active career as public servant, as an economist with Brookings Institute in Washington and a distinguished professor of economics at UT, Austin. Raymond M. Cavness coached and taught in the Texas public schools before becoming an administrator and college president. Former President John G. Flowers and Bryan Wildenthal, successively president of Angelo State and Sul Ross, received posthumous recognition as distinguished alumni and educators. Drs. John T. Dailey and Henry A. Pochman established national reputations among scholars in Educational Psychology and American Literature. Dr. Pochman spent most of his academic career at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.
was an authority on Washington Irving and chairman of the American Literature Group of the Modern Language Association in 1966. Dr. Dailey now works for the Federal Aviation Administration as Chief of the Analytic Branch. He taught at both the University of Pittsburgh and at George Washington University, and is perhaps most famous for developing aptitude and achievement tests used by the Air Force and Navy, and for establishing a behavioral profile for air pirates used by the FAA. Dr. Bertha V. Leifeste, second woman recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, spent more than three decades teaching in the colleges and universities of five states. From 1948 until her retirement in 1966, she was both professor of education and supervisor of student teaching at the National College of Education, Evanston, Illinois. During these years she earned a national reputation as an expert in teacher education.

In Texas public education, SWT can be justly proud of the contributions of Claud H. Kellam, brother of Jesse, and Dr. Leslie C. McDonald. Both served their state as public school administrators and have assisted SWT in its teacher placement in such metropolitan areas as San Antonio and Houston. Claud Kellam, like Jesse, was also a successful high school coach. Milton Jowers and Henry G. Shands have also been honored as successful coaches and educators. In 1978 one of the Distinguished Alumni recipients is another coach, Emory D. Bellard. Bellard directed successful high school football teams in Ingelside, Breckenridge and San Angelo before moving to the University of Texas as backfield coordinator in 1967. While at UT, Emory Bellard developed the so-called “wishbone formation” which is regarded as one of the major innovations of the contemporary era. From 1971 until 1978 he served as head football coach and ath-
As educator, public official, military officer, and successful businessman, Jesse C. Kellam has a career which spanned the range of activities in which other alumni have distinguished themselves. Debs B. Hensley served in various capacities with the federal government. He spent the last twenty years of his federal service as a personnel and labor relations specialist with the Air Force and the U.S. Post Office. Sidney C. Hughes began his career with National Youth Administration. During World War II he served with the Army Reserves and then worked with the Veterans Administration. More recently he has worked with the Civil Service Commission and as area manager of the General Service Administration. Among other responsibilities, he and his staff maintained President Johnson’s residence in the 1960’s.

Two Distinguished Alumni have been career military officers: Farley Peebles and C.E. “Curley” Doyle. Colonel Doyle entered the old Army Air Corps in 1941 and rose from the rank of private. Since his retirement he has served as president and chairman of Lary Robinson Incorporated, a photographic firm with studios in seven states. Colonel Peebles entered the old Army Air Corps during World War II. He served in both the Korean and Vietnam conflicts and later became Commander of Bergstrom Air Force Base. These men, like the alumni who entered the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I, have served their country in times of crisis and have brought distinction to their alma mater.

Frederick Ward Adams and J.R. “Bob” Thornton are successful Texas businessmen, as was the late Roy J. Beard. Frederick Adams helped establish the old Normal Star and is the successful head of the Adams Extract Company. In addition to his accomplishments in business, Mr. Adams is an
active supporter of education and a Texas philanthropist. Bob Thornton is chairman of the board and president of San Marcos' State Bank and Trust Company. He is active in community affairs and has served in various capacities with the Texas Educational Foundation, Inc., and the Gary Job Corps. Roy Beard, president and founder of Star Engraving Company of Houston, made substantial contributions of art work to SWT during his lifetime, and the Roy J. Beard Educational Art Foundation has provided scholarships to SWT to award-winning high school artists. Paintings from the Beard Collection are prominently displayed at SWT today.

Three of the Distinguished Alumni have been successful insurance men. Carr P. Collin$ was founder and chairman of the board of the Fidelity Union Life Insurance Company. Harper H. Bass became the General Agent for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company and became the president of the Texas Association of Life Underwriters. His death in 1962 deprived SWT and south Texas of a loyal citizen and community leader. Most recently SWT awarded Jerry L. Moore, Sr., its Distinguished Alumnus Award. Before becoming an agent for Southwestern Life Insurance Company, Jerry taught and administered public schools in Texas.

Other Distinguished Alumni Award recipients have been members of the legal and medical professions. Willard Deason, Interstate Commerce Commissioner; Walter Richter, State Senator of Texas 19th District and Director of Government Relations for the Texas Electric Cooperatives, Inc.; Joe Frazier Brown, former Bexar County Judge and attorney; and Kelly Frels, a nationally prominent school attorney, all obtained training in the law. They are prominent civic lead-
ers and continue to support SWT and higher education in the United States. Dentists Jack Edwards and W. Lewis Gilcrease have become successful professionals and continue to support their alma mater. Joseph T. Roberts, who held both doctor of medicine and doctor of philosophy degrees, retired from a lengthy U.S. Army Reserve Medical Corps career to become chief of the cardiology section of a Veterans Administration Hospital in Buffalo, New York.

The accomplishments of these Distinguished Alumni Award recipients represent a sample of the attainments of seventy-five classes of students who have attended SWT. The University has prepared these alumni to take responsible positions in American society. The SWT family, administrators, faculty, students and alumni remain committed to educating men and women for the challenges and responsibilities of life in the last quarter of the twentieth century. SWT will celebrate their attainments in the years ahead.
1. SWT Gaillardians
2. Alma Mater
3. Enrollment statistics (partial)
4. Minnie Stevens Piper Professors
5. Honors Program Graduates
6. Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients.

1927—Clau-Devery, Lena Belle Barber, Alfred "Boody" Johnson, Lawrence Lowman, Mary Louise Ivey, May Erskine, Elizabeth Berry, Douglas Uzzell, Myrtle Tyson, Jack DeViney, Harold Brantley, Matilda Quinn.

1928—Lucille B. Brinker, Alberta Cartwright, Barbara Collier, Helen Hofheinz, Mattie Belle McInirve, Belye Tejkv, Dolores Elsner.

1929—Laura Mae Langham, Helen Joiner, Lorna Raby, Fannie Sudduth, Ella SoRelle, Evelyn SoRelle, Frances Scrubin.

1930—Hazel Gibson, On Hawks, Dorothy Kurt, Ruby McCord, Agnes McClain, Eleanor Parke, Verge Payne.

1931—Priscilla Alar, Mary Doyle, Bonnie Posey, Marjorie Pearson, Frances Smith, Lexie Gunn.

1932—Johnbel Johnson.

1937—Grace Baker, Laurie Dell.

1942—Ramona Cavness, Charles.

1944—Rosemary.

1947—Claire.

1948—Ramona Cavness, Charles.

1951—Tommy Hollon, Rita Curry.

1952—Sallie Berry, Jo Beth.


1964—Sherrie Pendergrass.


1956—Qan Hilliard, Gina Shifflett, Jim McCollom, Bonnie Nance, Chet Hunt, Gay Aouelian, Bobby Graham, Fritz Champion, Jerry Freer, Bobo Green, Tommy Buckner, Marylene Blake.


1959—Carole Brand, Debs Cofer, Jane Lawrence, Don Forester, Marilyn Olson, Hank Patton, Joan Krenke, James Josey, Sue Wilson, Richard Williams, Marsha Thompson, Roy Rogers.


1961—Nancy Denard, Al Bishop, Veleda Deschner, Johny Smolik, Kita Hyatt, Bob Jackson, Joanne Patterson, Tommy Mangum, Jeanne Parsley, Van Tulip, Patsy Strood, Rickey Pask.

1962—Bobbi Henson, Elaine Baugh, David Cook, Laura Hupson, Sherry Duncan, Joann West, Harold Jobes, Judy Shady, Rod Bagly, Cathy Hino, Franklin Wight, Marilyn Pascenk.


1965—Kelly Freels, James Snavely, Billy Lynam, Jo Ann Shriver, Donna Doyle, Ronnie Mudd, Carol Ann Heine, Jim Wright, Wallace Dickey, Carol Conway, Dottie St. Clair, Jerry Cole.

1966—Linda Gregg, Jesse Perkins, Nelda Milt, Bill Haines, Rita Smith, Steve Bradley, Dede Middleton, Alan Reeves, Penney Owen, Wilbur Aylor, Becky Snow, Rick Zimmerman.

1967—Patti Prather, Tom Jones, Jo Anne Ables, Homer Budua, Karen Buckner, David Morrison, Christie Posey, Eddie Vogel, Homer Martin, Pat Kowalke, Sally Jackson, Buzz Fruitt.

1968—Vicki Lang, Richard Clifford, Cheryl Sanders, David Bosworth, Pam Elton, Mac Saulis, Evelyn Ng, Paul Jennings, Paula Mullen, Gary Mullen, Paula Mace, Bob Covet.


1972—Sally Moeller, Dennis Calwin, Sheila Martin, Dave Horton, Bobby Juel, Ralph Ruz de Velasco, Patsy Staskus, Mary Hanley, Randy Ebeling, Beth Dunn, Jim Stienke.


1974—Mary Jane De La Rosa, Paul Castro, Elizabeth Marrow, David Barr, Evv Thurman, Jim LeMeelkeur, Karen Harmon, Randy Abernathy, Lynda Light, Scott Fischer, T.J. Gabbert, Scott Emerson.


1977—Jerry King, Joyce Smith, David Guerra, Kay Fink, Dale Chatlin, Joy Jeannine, Joe Sheffley, Sally Haendt, Ken Wise, Sherry Blankenship, Steve Farrall, Kathy Frost.

1978—Karen Woods, Rocky Burke, Linda Fankhanel, Mike McCrum, Kenneth Perry, Roder Keller, Tim Hurst, Mary Rose Calenback, Jeff Jones, Beth Green, Leroy Hardy, Debbie Whittle.

ALMA MATER
by Jessie Sayers

O, Alma Mater, set upon the green hills,
With the turrets pointing upward to the sky,
We yield to thee our love and our devotion;
Mother of hopes and aspirations high.

Thy feet are laved by pure and limpid waters,
Fair river flowing gently to the sea;
Thy hills are crowned with ancient oak and laurel
Fit emblems they of strength and victory.

Thy wall can tell of struggles and temptations,
Hard honest toil, and eager rest less strife;
Hopes, smiles and tears, and radiant youthful friendships,
And all that makes for brave and earnest life.

Dear mother, ours, should effort be successful,
Ambitions crowned with glory or renown,
We turn to thee with reverence and affection,
Thine is the conquest, thine the victor’s crown.

Thy spirit urges us to deeds of valor,
Reading the fallen, cheering the oppressed;
Thy call will echo clearly down the ages,
Dear Alma Mater, mother, loved and blessed
FALL SEMESTER ENROLLMENT 1903-1978
AT FIVE YEAR INTERVALS

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MINNIE STEVENS PIPER PROFESSORS
1963 Emmie Craddock, Professor of History
1968 Robert A. Galvan, Professor of Spanish
1971 Thomas L. Brasher, Professor of English
1975 Daniel E. Farlow, Associate Professor of Political Science
1976 Clarence C. Schultz, Professor of Sociology
1979 Henrietta H. Avent, Professor of Health and Physical Education

HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATES

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born on April 25, 1945, in Brownwood, Texas, Ronald C. Brown grew up in rural northern Indiana. He received his academic training in the Midwest (A.B., 1967 from Wabash College, A.M., 1968 and Ph.D., 1975 from the University of Illinois). He is an American historian with a special interest in the Old West. He joined the SWT faculty in 1975 and is an assistant professor in the History Department. In 1979 he was also appointed SWT’s University Archivist. In addition to this work he has written Hard-Rock Miners: The Intermountain West, 1860-1920 (Texas A&M University Press, 1979).