This Month in UT Tyler History

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December 2014

University Archives and Special Collections Department

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This Month in UT Tyler History

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Featured Exhibits (December 2014)

First Ladies in Campaigns
featuring artifacts about the First Ladies, from Frances Cleveland to Michelle Obama.

WW II: Snapshots of Tyler
featuring materials from the Steger papers, Tim Anthony Jackson Collection, and the UASC.

On Display at the Library

Meet the Staff

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Ten Years Ago (December 2004)

Slinging mud

A ceremonial groundbreaking for the University’s new residence hall was held December 1 at the building’s construction site behind the University Center. The student residence hall was scheduled to open in the fall of 2006. The 79,968 square foot building was designed to hold 268 students, and include 62 double occupancy rooms, 48 three-bedroom suites, 24-hour front desk assistance, card access locks to suites, a theater, a study, full-time residence life staff on site, and a staff of resident assistants. The total project cost of the residence hall was $16.8 million.

Student cost to rise in fall

University officials proposed increasing designated tuition to a possible 5 to 9 percent to offset a loss of state funds and to maintain services for a growing student body. The University held two town hall style meetings on the Tyler campus, as well as one each on the Longview and Palestine campuses to inform students on why the increases are needed and how the money would be spent. Dr. Jim Ferguson, Vice President for Business Affairs, spoke at the meetings, where about 50 students gathered at the Tyler campus to become informed on the issue and to ask questions. “No one wants a tuition fee increase, but because of certain things we’re facing… it may be necessary,” he said.

University radio club to receive recognition

Members of the University’s amateur radio club was scheduled to receive a charter of affiliation with the National Association for Amateur Radio, also known as the American Relay Radio League. President of the Patriot Amateur Radio Club Steve Wilt said “this is a big step, please come and be a part of this distinguished event,” in an address to students. The club’s Federal Communication Commission issued radio call sign, which is an issued identification number for each amateur radio group or individual, is W5UTT.

Twenty Years Ago (December 1994)

Regents approve final plans for Liberal Arts Complex

The UT System Board of Regents approved final plans and gave authorization to seek bids for construction of a new Liberal Arts Complex on the UT Tyler campus. The $19.9 million Liberal Arts Complex was designed to meet critical academic needs for multipurpose institutional use; specialized academic programs in theatre, music, and art; university convocations, lecture series, and student events. Plans for the complex included an auditorium and performance center, recital hall, drama theatre and laboratory, band and concert rehearsal space, art history and opera appreciation lecture hall, and supporting service area.

Theatre production advances to regional festival

UT Tyler’s theatre production of Oleanna was selected December 4 by the regional committee of the Kennedy Center and American College Theatre Festival to advance to the regional festival at the Walton Arts Center in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Oleanna was performed at the regional festival February 17 and viewed by a national committee for possible production at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in the spring. Of nearly 150 productions entered in the four-state competition, 25 had advanced from state festivals. Of those 25, Oleanna was one of seven chosen to be showcased. The production was directed by Dr. James Hatfield, Associate Professor in Theatre and Director of the Theatre Program.
Thirty Years Ago (December 1984)

Seminar explains transfusions

A “Talented Youth” seminar was held November 27 in the University Center, to educate high school students on the procedures involved in emergency blood transfusions. “Seventeen students, from five high schools including Robert E. Lee, White Oak, Sabine, Quitman and John Tyler, were present,” said Suzanne Pundt, Assistant Director of Medical Technology. The four major blood types were explained and students had the opportunity to hold and examine blood samples from Tyler’s Stewart Blood Center.

Forty Years Ago (December 1974)

TSC’s first convocation is scheduled for December 13

Tyler State College conducted its first convocation in the TSC auditorium. Forty-seven students were honored at the ceremony held Friday at 4pm. Commenting on this historic event, President Stewart said, “this first convocation will be an opportunity for Tyler State to honor and recognize those students who have completed degree requirements since May 14, 1974.” Following the convocation ceremony a reception was held in the TSC College Center.

University Archives and Special Collections

The University Archives and Special Collections Department (UASC), located on the ground floor of the Robert R. Muntz Library, retains materials of archival and/or historical interest to the University of Texas at Tyler and the surrounding community.

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OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm
and by appointment