Summer 2014

University Archives and Special Collections Department

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Ten Years Ago (Summer 2004)

Construction Projects Underway on Campus

The UT Tyler campus saw a flurry of activity over the summer of 2004. Incoming Patriots enjoyed several new amenities, including expanded parking areas, an on-campus apartment complex, an NCAA regulation soccer field, and a campus health clinic. Additional projects included the baseball/softball complex and a new Engineering, Sciences and Technology Building.

CBS Correspondent Bob Schieffer Speaks

The University of Texas at Tyler opened its 2004-05 Distinguished Lecture Series with Bob Schieffer on Friday, August 20 at the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center. The special event was jointly presented by UT Tyler and CBS 19 at no charge to the public. Schieffer, who served as CBS News’ chief Washington correspondent and principal anchor since 1973, was honored as “broadcast journalism’s most experienced Washington reporter.” He spoke with students, faculty, and members of the public about what he had learned in 30 years of covering Washington, D.C.

Twenty Years Ago (Summer 1994)

European Program Headlines Summer Session

The University hosted a new Central European Studies Program, featuring distinguished scholars and students from Bulgaria, Hungary, and Poland. Visiting scholars included Dr. Julia Stefanova of Bulgaria and Dr. Huba Bruckner of Hungary. Dr. Stefanova, Executive Director of the Bulgarian-American Fulbright Commission and former Vice-Dean of Academic Affairs at Sofia University, taught a course in Bulgarian literature and culture. Dr. Bruckner, Director of the Fulbright Commission in Budapest presented a series of guest lectures and seminars on “technological applications of higher education.” Dr. Stephen Lefevre, Dean of the School of Liberal Arts, also taught a course in “American Political Thought” for visiting students. As part of the program’s public lecture series, Dr. Marcus Stadelmann, Assistant Professor of Political Science, presented on “Reunification and the Rise of the Right in German Politics.”

Regents Authorize Preliminary Plans For Fine Arts Complex

In a June meeting the UT System Board of Regents authorized preparation of final plans for a new $19.95 million Liberal Arts Complex at UT Tyler. The complex, later renamed the R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center, was created to support and enrich academic programs at UT Tyler while enhancing the quality of life throughout the East Texas region.
Thirty Years Ago (Summer 1984)

Victories For Patriot Tennis

After its inaugural season under the direction of Jason Morton and Russell Seymour, the Patriot tennis team battled its way to seventh-place in the NAIA National Tennis Tournament. Later that weekend, Coach Jason Morton and his doubles partner Hugh Stewart won the 55 and over division in the World Seniors Championships. The tournament took place in Cervia, Italy.

Five UT Tyler Travel-Study Groups Set For Metz

In the first week of June 1984, five travel-study groups departed from the University for Tyler’s sister city of Metz, France. The group included 230 students enrolled in French, Criminal Justice, History, Early Childhood Education, and Curriculum and Instruction courses. The trip was coordinated by Dr. Patricia Gajda of UT Tyler’s Office of International Programs. Students predominantly stayed in the homes of French host families, with a full schedule of lectures, seminars, and site visits. In July, representatives of the University attended the 24th Annual Sister Cities International Conference, where the Tyler-Metz Sister Cities program was awarded three international awards.

UT Regents Accept $110,000 To Set Up Professorship

On June 15, 1984, the University of Texas System Regents agreed to accept a gift of $110,000 to establish the George W. and Robert S. Pirtle Distinguished Professorship in Free Enterprise. The endowment allowed the university to seek matching funds from the Texas Eminent Scholars Program. The Regents also authorized the creation of an endowed presidential scholarship in honor of Dr. Tom G. Turns, former Dean of Student Services at the University.

Forty Years Ago (Summer 1974)

TSC Softball Team Gets Campus Sports Rolling

Under the direction of Dr. Bill Turney, Tyler State College’s summer softball team won the school’s first championship trophy in a local intramural tournament. Members of the winning team included Gary Cooper, Mike Saylors, Larry Hanson, Cecil Fambrrough, Dr. Noel H. McCoy, Danny Burgess, Glenn Phillips, Dr. Gerald L. Morris, David Davenport, Jerry Warren, Dr. Robert H. Chanfred, Mark Loftin, and Ossie Outlaw. The summer softball team was the first athletic organization at Tyler State College.

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.