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Ten Years Ago (November 2006)

Science Complex Dedicated

An overflow crowd gathered in Room 2024 in the south building of the Ratliff Science and Engineering Complex to honor former Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff and to dedicate the building on November 2. President Mabry said it was appropriate to name the new complex after Ratliff because he had the original idea for the engineering program at the University. “He championed it all the way through. He found some funding to help the young college operate,” Mabry said. “He stayed the course throughout his tenure in Austin.” Ratliff first entered public service in 1988 as a Texas senator from district one in Mount Pleasant. In 2000, he was named Lieutenant Governor when Rick Perry became Governor after George Bush was elected President. In 2002 he withdrew from the elections to continue his tenure as state senator and retired from politics in 2004. Ratliff, a civil engineer and politician, said seeing the façade of the complex with his name on it was the greatest honor he had ever enjoyed. “I’m blown away by what’s going on. I’ve had two careers,” Ratliff said. “I’ve run an engineering consulting firm for 30 years and politics. I can’t think of anything finer than this recognition for something I had a good time at.” Ratliff honored his wife Sally for her partnership of 40 years. “I asked Sally to come up here because through 40 years of marriage, two careers…we’ve gone through all of that truly as a partnership,” he said. “She’s been the wind beneath my wings.” The University of Texas System representatives who were present included James Huffines, Chairman of the Board of Regents and Chancellor Mark G. Yudof.

Twenty Years Ago (November 1996)

UT Tyler Recruiting At The Longview Mall

The University of Texas at Tyler offered recruiting information at the Longview Mall, according to Martha Wheat, Director of Admissions and Student Records. Catalogs, admission applications, and schedules for the 1997 Spring Semester were available from 1-7PM Friday and Saturday, November 22 and 23, in the food court of the Longview Mall. Wheat provided counseling on degree requirements and evaluated transcripts. Those interested in transcript evaluation were required to furnish transcripts from all colleges or universities attended.

UT Tyler And TJC Sponsor Fall Concert

The combined wind ensembles of UT Tyler and Tyler Junior College, directed by Ronald Todd, presented a free fall concert at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 12 in Caldwell Auditorium. The Wind Ensemble and the Community Wind Ensemble performed selections by Wagner, Giannini, Benson, King, Arnold, Persichetti, Schuman and Boyer-Lake.
Thirty Years Ago (November 1986)

Munchie vetoed

Eating and drinking in classrooms was discouraged by Dr. Thomas L. Fernandez, Vice President for Academic Affairs. In a memorandum to all fulltime and part-time faculty, Fernandez asked the faculty to assist in reducing “the incidence of problems which are at once costly, unsightly and unsanitary. Please discourage the consumption of food and beverages in academic classrooms.” He cited examples of beverage spills damaging desks and carpets, and leftovers in “desk drawers and under classroom chairs” creating carpet stains, bad odors and increases in pest-control problems. Fernandez wrote that on occasions when food and beverages were appropriate, the faculty should insist that “any trash which might be generated is properly disposed of.”

Forty Years Ago (November 1976)

Part-time Students Come At Night For Better Jobs


“The cost of living is going up and many night students find they have to work as well as go to school. Most night students attend part-time, take less than 12 hours, and strive for better jobs or a new, better-paying profession. The average age of night students is about 32, compared to 30 for day students. Many night students are married and support families as well as attend school. ‘Based on data compiled by the admissions office,’ said Robert Marsh, dean of admissions and records, ‘the trend is toward more new students coming from surrounding junior colleges or other institutions to take graduate courses. Most of these students come to TEU immediately after attending the other schools and tend to be younger. This is evidenced by our high enrollment of juniors or others in their first semester at TEU.’ Contrary to some student belief, there are more night than day classes. However, total day class hours exceed night hours by 1,539. There are 136 day classes totaling 7,353 semester hours, while night classes number 141 and total 5,814 hours. Marsh said, ‘We try to keep classes as balanced as possible between day and night classes. This way all students have the classes they will need available, whether attending day or night school.’ ‘TEU has made a noticeable change this semester. We are enrolling more of the traditional college students this semester. These are generally younger and still living with parents,’ said Dennis Breeden, associate professor of economics. ‘A few years ago everyone in my night classes seemed married. On a comparative basis, night students are older, married, and work. As a result, they seem to be more fatigued, less attentive, and it is more difficult to get them to participate in class discussions or to ask questions than in my day classes.’

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