

Milligan College

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The Stampede

Oh, the Humanities!

Cafeteria food, convo and everything students love to complain about ... but the greatest of these is Humanities.

By Melissa Hancock
Co-Editor

As Dr. Robert Wetzel entered the dean's office, he knew that the future of Milligan College's new-born Humanities program didn't look bright.

After all, the faculty had only endorsed it with a cliffhanger vote of approval after a two-year test period.

Dean Guy Oakes looked the future academic dean in the eyes, and asked Wetzel if he thought the program would really work.

"If I had wavered at all, we may or may not have gone with it," said Wetzel, who is now president of Emmanuel School of Religion. "Without blinking, I said 'definitely'."

And so, the Humanities program was born. In 1968, it officially became a part of the Milligan tradition, and 27 years later, it helps define the school.

The program drastically changed the school curriculum, integrating history, composition, philosophy, literature and the fine arts into one program. The program was a huge undertaking, especially for the faculty who were not used to teaching out of their field in such a wide range of subjects.

"We didn't have sense enough to be afraid of what we were undertaking," said

Wetzel.

There were faculty members, predominantly the professors who taught in the old curriculum for so many years, who were opposed.

"There were mixed reviews," said Wetzel. "It took a few retirements to bring that satisfaction about."

Other professors believed that the Humanities program was essential to a liberal arts education.

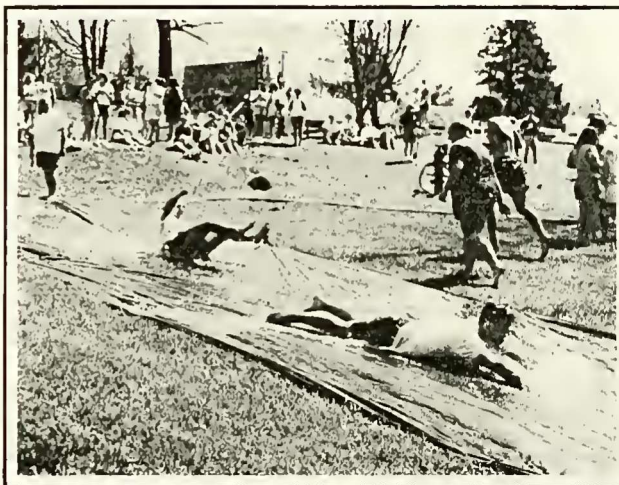
"If you buy into a liberal arts education, then there must be an integration of all knowledge ... faith with that knowledge is the philosophy," said Carolyn Nipper who taught composition for the Humanities program for over 20 years.

Wetzel credits the idea of an integrated program to Dean E. Walker, who was president of the college during the pilot years of the program. Walker wrote the statement of purpose which appears in the school catalogue and emphasized an integrative approach to learning.

The very years Milligan was adopting an integrated approach to learning were the years of many student revolts against standardized curricula.

"The basic moves in education were to move away from required subjects, and to do away with historically based courses," said Wetzel.

Continued on Page 5



Marvelous Monday

Above. The slip and slide on Pardee Lawn was one of the many activities that Milligan students enjoyed on Marvelous Monday. Photo by Mark Amstutz.

Left. The tug of war competition took place at the creek where the losers risked a quick dip. Photo by Mark Amstutz.

AIDS awareness at Milligan

By Shannon Tolson
Reporter

It's time for Milligan College to face the

Rhonda Blankenship, another AIDS educator speaking at the meeting. A person would then die from an "opportunistic infection" as a result of a weakened immune system, she said.

Inside

