November 7, 2011

Countdown to Riverside City College's 100th Anniversary

This is Homecoming Week at Riverside City College. There will be numerous activities leading up to the 6 pm Football game at Wheelock Field on Saturday November 12th between the RCC Tigers and the Southwestern Jaguars. The football team will be attempting to finish the regular season with a perfect record of 10 wins and 0 losses. RCC's football team will also be attempting to extend its current winning streak to 18 games over the past two seasons. But what was Homecoming like in RCC's past, let's say 1954? A look at the 1955 “Tequesquite” yearbook reveals what was going on.

First of all, there were floats and a parade thru downtown Riverside. The floats were built by the college’s fraternities, sororities, clubs and organizations. The photo box below shows some of those constructions. For the best float, it was a tie for first place between the float on the upper left corner (a joint project of Kappa Upsilon and Gamma Nu) and the float on the upper right hand corner (built by the Junior Lions). The float in the middle won an honorable mention for Delta Chi Delta.

And a Homecoming without a Queen and her court is unthinkable. A Delta Chi Delta pledge, Nancy Rae, was elected 1954 Queen.
The College Band played during the game and at halftime, under the direction of Evan Vail (Music Faculty, Counseling and Administration 1950-1992). Vail is seen in the band photo with his left arm upraised. And to make it a perfect evening, the Tiger football team defeated the Santa Ana Dons 25 to 0. The Head Coach was Nate DeFrancisco (RCC Physical Education-Administration 1950-90). His Assistant Coaches were Dr. Paul Roby (Life Sciences-Administration 1951-1992) and Tony Steponovich (Physical Education 1939-71). The article from the November 10th 1954 “Tiger Times” reports the game results.
It is 4 years and 18 weeks until RCC’s 100th Anniversary on March 13, 2016.

The Riverside City College Instructional Media Center is bringing you this five year countdown to RCC’s 100th Anniversary. Our intention is to give everyone a weekly glance at the many people and events that have been a part of the college.

Our thanks go to the RCC Digital Library Archives and the District’s Office of Strategic Communications and Relations for allowing us to use their photo and newspaper collections. Thanks as well to all of the RCC students and Faculty Advisors that were a part of the yearbook and newspaper staffs. Thanks also to Tom Johnson and Gilbert Jimenez who wrote “the book” about RCC’s history. “Riverside City College 1916-1981- A 65 Year History” is available in the RCC Digital Library.

For copyright purposes, all images originating from Riverside City College publications and the District’s Office of Strategic Communications and Relations are the property of the Riverside Community College District.