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WESTVIEW'S TV EXCURSION

Oklahoma State University Educational Television spent an entire action-packed day, on August 18, 1981, filming a 30-minute historical documentary concerning Western Oklahoma. The primary goal of the film aimed at projecting the importance of area history and culture in relation to the booming progress so prevalent today. Westview, A Journal of Western Oklahoma was heralded as a launching pad for correlating the area's past and present.

OSU's blue and white TV equipment van led an impressive cortege of at least ten cars, station wagons, and pickup trucks filled with technicians, speakers, and guests as they traveled to various points of interest. Every excited participant quickly maneuvered to each of the four locations selected for filming Southwestern Oklahoma State University's premier production concerning regional culture.

First, the OSU television van joined the gleaming blue and silver machinery of Parker Drilling Company at No. 1 Duncan just outside Elk City's city limits. Here they make introductory shots showing ultra-modern drilling for gas in the famous Deep Anadarko Basin. Next, the truck, the technicians, and the rest of the entourage lumbered northwestward through the dazzling early morning sunshine to Cheyenne's Battle of the Washita National Memorial site. At this scene Dr. Robin Montgomery and Prof. Wayne Ellinger from SWOSU Departments of Political Science and History presented background information relating to the famous battle.

Leaving the memorial site, the convoy moved off the beaten path to the Muhlbacker ruins nestled in a red sandstone hill where rock boulders jutted from lush summer grasses. Donita Shields, an area farmer-rancher-writer,

gave a brief overview of the early-day farming and conservation practices. Joseph Muhlbacker a/ka State Representative Rollin Reimer joined her with additional historical facts concerning Muhlbacker and his early endeavors. At the conclusion of this shooting, technicians, guests, and spectators again stowed away equipment in preparation on moving to the next location.

All participants speeded northward over miles of smooth highway until they were directed onto a dusty country trail which led them to Metcalfe Ranch in the Washita River lowlands. As if by magic, the lovely ladies of Cheyenne who traveled with the group produced a picnic lunch of fried chicken with all the trimmings and iced lemonade punch. The famished, thirsty crowd relished the cool luxury beneath huge trees in Howard and Helen Metcalfe's back yard. Jiggs Krober, Lois Harmon, Neva Little, Bess Bullard, and Mary Green, all clad in colorful pioneer attire, received lavish thank-you's for their delightful meal.

Since the show must always go on, the TV crew returned to its task at hand. Howard Metcalfe hooked up his trophy-winning ox team to their antique wagon, and the TV cameras rolled again. After minor difficulties with mechanical breakdowns and with two fat longhorn steers having a prime motive of returning to their favorite shade



tree, the scene eventually reached its finale. All humans returned to the cool of the Metcalfe Museum where Augusta's paintings were filmed for posterity. Pat Lazelle, art director for Westview and instructor at SWOSU, discussed many unusual aspects of the paintings. Howard gave additional information concerning his mother's art work.

Once again, the TV crew packed equipment back in to their faithful but dusty van. The show was over except for those returning to SWOSU campus for curtain call. However, just before parting at Metcalfe Ranch, delicious cold watermelons materialized from somewhere for the cortege's final Western Oklahoma repeat beneath the mighty Metcalfe trees.



Through the efficiency of Otis Sanders, Director of Public Relations at SWOSU, Marshall Allen, TV director from OSU, Carter Bradley, filming producer of Oklahoma City, and John Crump, master of ceremonies from OCW at Chickasha, the filming of a colorful portion of western Oklahoma's culture and history was a tremendous success and a gala occasion. All concerned anticipated the end results in October when the film was to be aired on Channel 4, Channel 13, and other regional TV stations. ■



ANNOUNCING WESTVIEW'S "SONG WRITING" CONTEST AND NEXT ISSUE

Featured sections in the next issue — in addition to some of those in the Premiere Edition — will be CUISINE, CHRISTMAS MEMORIES, and INDIANS.

In correlation with the January issue, since its theme is WESTERN OKLAHOMA-AMERICANA, there will also be a song-writing contest. We are inviting entries of original songs about Western Oklahoma. The best song, as judged by a panel of musicians, will be featured in the January issue, copied and be published as well as recorded by the Media Center of SWOSU's Center for Regional Studies.

The Editorial Board will also seek to have the song played over various radio stations in the area.

The Grand Winner of the contest will receive a \$100.00 prize. The contest entry fee is \$10.00. Songs of all varieties from country to classic will be considered. Questions regarding the contest and entries are to be sent to Dr. Ed Williams, SWOSU School of Music, Weatherford, OK 73096. ■

**CONTEST DEADLINE
FOR ENTRIES:
NOVEMBER 20, 1981**