COLLEGE...TODAY AND WAY BACK WHEN

By Lee Stetson
Dispatch Accent Reporter

The seasons pass
That years will call

The weeks of The Ohio State University alma mater will ring true for a number of families who gather during the holidays. College students will talk about life on campus. Their parents and grandparents will interject with how things were when they went to the same school 30 or 60 years ago.

Local college life has changed drastically over the years.

Three generations of the Fenske family have observed these changes at Capital University just as three generations of the Leland McCullough family have lived through the changes at OSU.

McCullough, a local artist, attended OSU in 1932 and 1933, before transferring to the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts.

His daughter, Sue, of Stanwood, graduated from OSU in 1962 with a degree in Spanish. Her son, Charles Fenske, is an OSU senior majoring in English.

McCullough, 87, recalled that the campus had 10,000 to 12,000 students in his day. Attendance at an OSU football game was about 9,000, and excursions trains brought fans to the stadium area.

"Tickets were $3 a quarter, and we thought that was a lot of money in those Depression days," Professors addressed the students as "Mr." or "Mrs.," he said.

"The classes were formal. There weren't any watercooler between the students and professors. You stood in line and that was it. We always wore coats and ties. Some of the girls would come to class dressed like they were going to a fashion show."

In those days, McCullough said, all men took ROTC, fraternities were "real big" but alcohol abuse wasn't.

"There were still prohibition days," said McCullough, a member of Phi Delta Theta.

Please see COLLEGE page 2H
However, it was possible to get a quart of beer for 25 cents from a bootlegger, he said, "and it was high-powered stuff."

Crime wasn't a problem, either, mainly because of campus policeman Bill North. "He used to walk around the campus on foot," McClelland said. "You could walk up and down High Street any time without feeling threatened."

Minor Lake wasn't as pretty as it is today, he said, but it was a popular place for guys to take their girlfriends. The lake also was the site of an annual tug of war between the freshman and sophomore classes.

Mrs. Ruth attended Bowling Green State University in 1938 and transferred to OSU in 1959.

Crime was still not a problem, but professors were strict, she said. "I wasn't afraid of them," she said, "but I never considered challenging them or having a conversation with one after class."

"Skipping class was a big deal to me. I did it, but not regularly."

In her day, coeds wore skirts and sweaters with tennis shoes and white bobby socks — even in the snow.

"Going Greek was important (she pledged Pi Beta Phi), and when men asked for dates, they usually called a week ahead of time or were 'considered rude.'"

"We went to High Street bars and fraternity parties and concerts by the Kingston Trio and Four Freshmen. A lot of us 'townies' would hang out at the student union," she said.

She has one other vivid memory — standing in long lines to register for classes.

"Her son doesn't do that. "We schedule by phone (via computer) now," Charles said.

For Charles' generation, cutting classes is still the norm, as is changing majors.

Although male students once wore shirts and ties, today some professors wear "jeans, shorts and even T-shirts," he said.

In his freshman year, Charles shared a four-room dormitory suite with 15 men.

"Each of the four small rooms had phones, a couple of stereos and a couple of TVs. There usually was a cable hookup out in the living room of the suite. The space was ridiculous. It was laughable. It was part of the fun. You got to meet a wide range of people, whether you wanted to or not."

He said common dates involve a group of guys meeting at one place and going to meet a group of girls somewhere else. Campus bars are the prime meeting spots.

"Drinking is pretty crazy now," he said. "There's always recreational drinking, and people are on a mission occasionally to destroy themselves."

Safety is now a major concern, especially for women, he said. He didn't join a fraternity. "The Greek system will always be there. But you don't feel left out if you're not part of it."
BOARD ADOPTS CRITERIA FOR STUDENT TRUSTEES, RENAMES HEALTH CENTER

In other matters, trustees voted to:

- Change the name of the University Health Service to the Student Health Service, the name the department had when it was created in 1915. The department is located in the John W. Wilce Student Health Center on Milliken Road.