

Southeast History Moment

We have been reminded recently about national events that occurred 50 years ago this year. During the summer of 1963, news stories covered Governor George Wallace's actions to physically block the doors of the University of Alabama to black students, President John Kennedy's Civil Rights speech that evening, and the assassination of Medgar Evers a few hours later. Last month, crowds again gathered in Washington to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech. In November of 1963, the country mourned the loss of President John Kennedy.

1963 was also an important year in Southeast history. These highlights are from the 1963 Crusader.

- The senior class of 1963 was the 25th graduating class from Southeast.
- The 25th Anniversary edition of the Crusader was published with a silver cover, dedicated to the first quarter century of Southeast's history.
- The Knightlites production had a 25th Anniversary theme and was directed by Eleanor Brown. Each act represented the theme of one of the twenty-four previous Knightlites.
- Eighth grade students no longer attended Southeast High School. In 1963, both seventh and eighth grade classes were moved to the newly opened Southeast Junior.
- Both the varsity football team, coached by Cecil Patterson, and the varsity basketball team, coached by Nate Roitman, were Interscholastic League Champions.

Principal Harry R. McMillan received a copy of the 1963 Crusader with his name printed on the front, and he signed his name inside the front cover. Your Alumni Association is delighted to have Principal Harry R. McMillan's personal 25th Anniversary Crusader as part of its collection.

