



Photo by Nathan Woodruff

The premiere of the DVD "80 Years of Woodrow" took place at the Lakewood Theater.

Woodrow Documentary Premieres

Posted October 5, 2009, 9:17 a.m. by Nathan Woodruff

If ever there were a high school rich in tradition, pride, and honor, Woodrow Wilson High School stands as the epitome of what it should be.

This past April marked the 80-year anniversary of Woodrow and was celebrated with a parade, barbecue, and battle of the bands. As the day unfolded, members of the class of '67 knew they couldn't simply let this wealth of historical information, memories, and incredible people go unrecorded.

Kathy Kilmer Moak, Mike Barnes, and the class of '67 set out to make a documentary of the past eight decades worthy of all the people who have made Woodrow an exceptional place to learn, socialize, and prepare for life after high school. Their efforts resulted in two DVDs — "80 Years of Woodrow" and "80th Celebration."

The unveiling of this documentary took place Sept. 24 at the historic Lakewood Theater, less than half a mile from Woodrow. Graduates from every decade showed up in support of their alma mater. Even current students showed up out of respect for the tradition in which they are now involved.

Students of all ages reminisced, enjoyed cocktails, and purchased their own copies of the DVD before shuffling into the theater to relive a part of their past.

Among the stars of the show were Louise Sellers who graduated in 1930. Sellers is the oldest known graduate from Woodrow at 97 years old.

John McCrambley, class of 1971, became the first African-American football star for Woodrow and went on to have a successful career with the Buffalo Bills of the NFL. Theo "Cotton" Miles was in attendance as well. He was the rough-and-tough football coach of the '60s and '70s but was also so well respected by all his players and staff ... and still is.

Other notable products of Woodrow who went on to have successful careers include Steve Miller of the Steve Miller Band; and Tim Brown, a Heisman Trophy winner and winner of the NFL Rookie of the Year. Trammell Crow, founder of the Trammell Crow Co. also was a Woodrow Wildcat.

Thanks to the support and passion of members of the class of 1967, Woodrow Wilson High School students, young and old, contemporary and future, now have an extraordinary piece of history, not only to remember but also to inspire others to continue the excellence that is Woodrow. ■



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Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Wayne McNatt, '64, John Skinner, '64, and Jim Cannon, '63, enjoy cocktails before the start of the premiere.



Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Kelly Geary Burks, '67, Michelle Barnes, and Nicole Barnes make name tags and distribute DVDs to Woodrow alums.



Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Kyle Reins, '76, interviews for the camera while holding his copy of the DVD.



Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Phil Johnson, '43, talks with producer Mark Walsh before the show. Johnson, a longtime professional dancer, helped launch Woodrow's tradition of annual musicals.





Photo by Nathan Woodruff
John McCrambley, class of '71, was the first African-American football star for Woodrow.



Photo by Nathan Woodruff
The premiere was well-attended by alums and supporters of Woodrow Wilson High School.



Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Former students of Woodrow Wilson High School arrive at the Lakewood Theater for the DVD release.





Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Woodrow alums crowd around the DVD booth to buy their copies.



Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Dave McAdoo, '58, sits on the patio in anticipation of viewing "80 years of Woodrow."



Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Perry Tongate, '85, Carrie Wilson Rimey, '85, and J.L. Long Principal Danielle Petters, '85



Photo by Nathan Woodruff
Woodrow alumni pack the house at Lakewood Theater to see the DVD made by the class of '67.





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Louise Sellers, class of 1930, is the oldest known living Woodrow graduate; with her is her granddaughter, Louise Sellers Woerner.



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Paul Dalton, class of '67, gives an introduction before the start of the DVD.



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The crowd cheers and applauds as Coach Cotton Miles is recognized before the start of the movie.

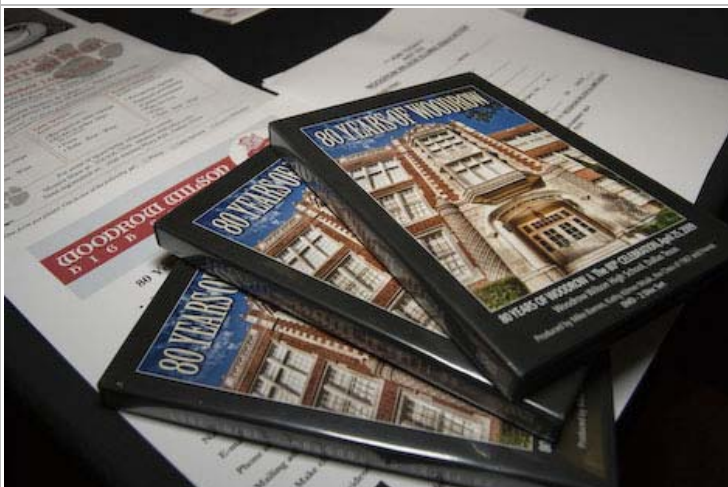


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The "80 Years of Woodrow" DVD was a hot commodity.

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