

Georgia Southern University

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

The George-Anne

Student Media

4-2-1969

The George-Anne

Georgia Southern University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/george-anne>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "The George-Anne" (1969). *The George-Anne*. 525.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/george-anne/525>

This newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Media at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in The George-Anne by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.

GSC INAUGURATES EIDSON AS PRESIDENT THURSDAY



LIBRARY

APR 1 1969

The George - Anne

SPECIAL
INAUGURATION
EDITION

Published by Students of Georgia Southern College

Volume 49

Statesboro, Ga. 30458, Tuesday, April 2, 1969

Number 24

Dedication of Hanner Gym Begins New Athletic Era



Dr. John Olin Eidson, seventh president of the college 1968-.

Meet Dr. Eidson

Dr. John O. Eidson will be officially inaugurated as president of the college. See feature and photos on pages 4 and 5.

History of Leaders

The college has grown from 15 students in 1908 to more than 4500 now. This growth and change is reflected under the administrations of seven presidents. See story on page 2

Sports Will Expand

1.5 million dollar addition to Hanner Gym facilities will broaden the college's athletic perspective, both intercollegiate and intramural.

J.I. Clements, Athletic Director, describes the new building. Story and photos on pages 6, 7, and 8.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN COLLEGE FOUNDED 1908

**A FOUR YEAR CO-EDUCATIONAL
UNIT OF UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
TAX SUPPORTED**

Signs at both entrances welcome visitors to the "Sweetheart Campus." The name officially became Georgia Southern College in 1959 during the administration of Dr. Zach S. Henderson.

Sen. Russell, Gov. Maddox Head Platform Guest List

President John Olin Edison will be the guest of honor on the seventh inauguration platform here April 4, 1969. The President will be flanked by Dr. Zach S. Henderson, President Emeritus, and Richard B. Russell, senior United States Senator from Georgia.

Senator Russell will be the main speaker at the inauguration ceremonies. Dr. George L.



Simpson



Russell

Simpson, Jr., Chancellor of the University System of Georgia, will preside.



Smith

The distinguished guests will greet President Edison on behalf of the state of Georgia, the Board of Regents, the delegates, the faculty, the alumni and the students.

GREETINGS

Governor Lester G. Maddox will bring greetings and congratulations from the people of Georgia. John W. Langdale,



Maddox



Langdale

Chairman of the Georgia Board of Regents, will speak on behalf of the Regents. Spokesman for the delegates will be Dr. Walter Martin, President of Valdosta State College. Dr. Fielding D. Russell, Chairman of the Division of Languages, will greet the President on behalf of the faculty. James L. Sharpe, President of the Alumni Association will represent the alumni on the platform. Miss Sandra Hartness, President of the Student Association of Governing Councils, will extend congratulations to President Edison from the students. W.A. Bowen, Mayor of Statesboro, will also be seated on the platform.

'WE'VE COME A LONG WAY BABY'

By SILVA FUERNISS

With the inauguration of our seventh president, we should pause a moment and give thought to the accomplishments of the past administrators who have brought the college from an agricultural and mechanical school to a modern institution of higher education.

We should think back as far as Feb. 5, 1908, the first day that fifteen students attended what was then called the First District Agricultural and Mechanical School. J. Walter Hendricks was its first principal.

dormitories and one academic building. However, following his campaign, the fall quarter attendance in 1909 increased so much that the Board of Trustees approved the building of an additional girls dormitory and a dining Hall. An extra appropriation of \$7,500 was made in 1910 for the construction work. The work was done chiefly by the boys attending the school, but several masons were also employed.

After nine years of service, E.J.C. Dickens resigned and was succeeded by F. M. Rowan.

Following the outbreak of WW I in 1917, a military department was established at the school; rifles were furnished by the government and khaki uniforms were worn all week except Sunday. But the A. and M. School was not only militarily and agriculturally oriented. During Rowan's administration, the school won the Literary Banner twice, the Agricultural High School Meets in Athens and also won the Daughters of the Confederacy's Essay Contest twice. Imagination was not lacking among the students who attended the school.

The Rowan administration ended in 1920 and Ernest V. Hollis was elected principal and was made president when the



J. WALTER HENDRICKS

He had been the head of the schools at Douglas, Ga., but after the Board of Trustees elected him principal in 1907, he devoted his efforts to teaching English and physics and to providing advancement for the new school and its students.

The first years were decisive and were not very easy ones for Hendricks and his staff. But the steady growth of the A. and M. School is proof of the enduring character of Walter Hendricks, which is evident in his words: "The first faculty had many hard problems to face and many serious difficulties to overcome, but they stood loyally together and laid the foundations upon which others have been able to build more nobly."

Walter Hendricks resigned in 1909 and E.J.C. Dickens, also a notable contributor to the progress of the A. and M. School, succeeded him.

Immediately after becoming principal in 1909, Dickens started an advertising campaign in the district for prospective students. At the time of his arrival, Dickens was in charge of only three large buildings, two



ERNEST V. HOLLIS

school was changed to Georgia Normal school June 1, 1926.

The change from the A. and M. School to the Georgia Normal School was the school's first step towards becoming a "teacher training" center. A normal school curriculum was established to prepare teachers for public school teaching. The Georgia Normal School had several unique features, among them were such things as girls taking calisthenics in middy

GEORGIA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

Inauguration of John Olin Edison as President

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April 2

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. | REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES
Foy Fine Arts Building |
| 4:00 p.m. | BUILDING DEDICATION
W.S. Hanner Gymnasium |
| 8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. | PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION
President's Home
(Dress optional) |

April 3

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. | REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES
Foy Fine Arts Building |
| 10:15 a.m. | ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES and
ACADEMIC PROCESSION
Foy Fine Arts Building |
| 11:00 a.m. | INAUGURAL CONVOCATION
W.S. Hanner Gymnasium |
| 1:00 p.m. | INAUGURAL LUNCHEON
Landrum Center |

THE George-Anne

Editor Bill Blankinship
Associate Editor Randy Harber
Staff: Alan Bond, Silva Fuerniss and Mike Smith
Photographer Emory Moody

1908-1969 — 61

YEARS OF CHANGE

blouses and gym bloomers and walking to town in well rating as a four year teachers college.



GUY H. WELLS

chaperoned hordes, four abreast.

A very able and active president who did much for the growth of the Georgia Normal School was Guy H. Wells who was in office from 1926 until 1934.

Born at Tempel, Ga. in 1892, Guy Wells entered Mercer University in the fall of 1911 and received his A.B. degree in the spring of 1915. In 1925 he received his Master's degree from Columbia. Wells did some graduate work at Peabody College for Teachers.

President Wells also served as Superintendent of Schools at Lumpkin, Ga. from 1915-1918 at Richland, Ga. 1918-1922 and at Eastman, Ga. from 1922-1926. In 1926 he was elected president of Georgia Normal School and May 4, 1927, Zach S. Henderson was appointed dean of the school.

During his term of office, President Wells organized the State School Superintendent's Association, served as Director of the Georgia PTA and contributed to the Georgia Education Journal.

Two bills which came before the 1927 State Legislature were of particular importance to Georgia Normal School. The bills recommended appropriations of \$45,000 to pay off a debt on the newly built auditorium and \$75,000 for a heating plant, a new dorm and renovation of the old dorms.

This legislation was passed, and another bill concerning the school came up in 1929. The name of the school was changed to South Georgia Teachers College and the school was given the right to grant degrees. In

1931, the college was given a B rating as a four year teachers college. Additions in construction and changes in curriculum were notable accomplishments of President Guy H. Wells. At the time Georgia Normal School was converted to South Georgia Teachers College, the campus consisted of only seven buildings; two new rooms were added to the administration building in 1933 and plans for a training school whereby 150 could be accommodated. Also, courses in business, library science, physical education and industrial arts were added to the curriculum of the new South Georgia Teachers College.

During the administration of President Wells, various new clubs were organized and there was a great surge in extra-curricular activities. Such clubs as the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., a cooking club for boys, the Oglethorpe Literary Society and the Stephens Literary Society were established. The college annual was enlarged to include photographs and other illustrations of the students and the campus, and the school newspaper, "George-Anne," made its debut.



MARVIN S. PITTMAN

Sports were not forgotten in this new span of activities. The college had both a high school and college basketball team, an amphitheater and a nine-hole golf course constructed.

(Dr. Marvin S. Pittman, who succeeded President Wells in 1934) received his A.B. degree from Millsaps College in 1905, his M.A. from the University of Oregon in 1917 and his Ph.D. from Columbia in 1921. His goal



Mule and wagon provided transportation for the 15 students attending the First District A & M School in 1908.

was modernization and his accomplishments during his



ALBERT M. GATES

administration support this statement most notably.

A new plan for student government, providing for the election of dorm presidents, was suggested and approved November 5, 1934. The purpose of the plan was to "vest the students with authority to guide." Students legislation came again when the students voted 360-38 in favor of one Saturday off each month. Such a plan was suggested to "furnish an incentive for students to voluntarily decrease absences, especially on weekends," as stated by the dean at that time, Dr. Fielding Russell.

Various changes in the college included the inauguration of today's Jr.-Sr. Day, the offering of two summer courses of credit instead of 1½, the allocation of funds to employ a faculty member to serve as a rural supervisor, a Rosenwald fund of \$30,000 to facilitate rural education, the expansion of the library on the second floor of the administration building and the reorganizing of the student bank and the college bookstore

to be handled by the business office. These changes were all necessary and important, but the most memorable transformation occurred when the college altered its name again on September 1, 1939, to Georgia Teachers College.

On the summer of 1941, Dr. Pittman was dismissed by the Board of Regents and Dr. A.M. Gates was elected president of Georgia Teachers College. In 1942, the college then began to work in the war effort under President Gates administration. Special courses were offered in math, physics, physical education, adult education, High School Victory Corps, and drafting.

In the early term of 1943, Dr. Pittman was recalled to the institution as president, and remained in office until his retirement in 1947. Judson C. Ward served one year following



JUDSON C. WARD

Pittman's retirement, and Paul S. Carroll was appointed dean.

In 1948, the Board of Regents named Zach S. Henderson president of the college to succeed Judson Ward. President Henderson received

the Bachelor of Science (chemistry) degree from Piedmont College and the Master of Arts degree from Columbia University. Honorary degrees granted him are the LLD from Piedmont College and LLD from LaGrange College.



ZACH S. HENDERSON

Dr. Henderson became president after serving as dean for twenty one years. At that time, Georgia Teachers College had one degree program, 724 students and 12 buildings. At his retirement on June 30, 1968, Georgia Southern College offered 10 degrees in 37 areas of study, its campus included 32 buildings and swelled with an enrollment of more than 4,500 students.

Because nine ambitious men, zealous educators and undaunted optimists have devoted 61 years in striving for the common goal, education, this college had matured from the infantile school of 1908 to its present status as a leading institution of the South. Now another academic leader will take the oath to strive for that same goal, and his name too shall never be forgotten, Dr. John Olin Eidson.



This group photo taken in 1929 includes the entire student body. Enrollment has increased from 15 in 1908 to more than 4500 in 1969.

Dr. John O. Eidson: Pot



President and Mrs. Eidson represent the college at the many official social functions held throughout the year.



Dr. Eidson at Wofford



Dr. Eidson relaxes in a favorite "easy chair" after spending a day in his office. Newspapers offer him no escape from ever-present problems.

By Bill Blankinship

Dr. John Olin Eidson, seventh president of the college, is a former editor of the "Georgia Review" literary magazine; he served as a Fulbright Professor of American Literature and the University of Freiburg, Germany and he currently holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army Reserve. Dr. Eidson's keen awareness and insight into the problems and social changes in today's colleges and universities characterize the able administrator.

Organizations

Dr. Eidson is a member of and has held office in numerous learned and honor societies; among them are Phi Beta Kappa, Delta Phi Alpha honorary German fraternity, the English Association of London and the Newcomen Society of North America. He is the author of three books on prominent literary figures and more than 50 articles written for professional and research journals on the subjects of language and literature.

Degrees and Honors

The Johnston, South Carolina native received his A.B. degree from Wofford College. The Master of Arts (M.A.) was earned at Vanderbilt University. The requirements for the Ph. D. were met at Duke University. In 1950 Dr. Eidson was presented the MICHAEL AWARD, an annual honor received by a University of Georgia faculty member for outstanding research. Wofford College bestowed the honorary degree, Doctor of Letters, to Dr. Eidson at special ceremonies in 1954.

Dr. Eidson has been actively involved with young adults as an educator for more than 30 years. He was a member of the University of Georgia faculty from 1937 until he became president here; during this time, he served as professor of English and as Dean of the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, as well as being on numerous faculty committees. Dr. Eidson was absent from the University for four years while serving in the United States Army Infantry in WW II.

Views Students

Dr. Eidson's liberal philosophy concerning education will certainly be inherent in the expansion program begun by the administration of Dr. Zach S. Henderson, President Emeritus. "College students today are much older and more aware of the problems which will face them when they leave college than students were, say, 20 years ago," Dr. Eidson said when asked about noticeable changes in college students. This, no doubt, is a result of the constant exposure to the mass media and educational processes from an early age all through adult life.

Curriculum Changes

The most marked expansion in the college's curriculum will be at the graduate level, with a few junior and senior division programs being modified; there will be almost no change in the freshman and sophomore level instruction, Dr. Eidson stated. The



Dr. Eidson



The President confers with many administrative members of the college.



Dr. Eidson in a foxhole at Fort Bragg, N.C. while on an Inspection Tour of the University of Georgia R.O.T.C. unit in 1967.



Dr. Eidson's home in Johnston, S.C.

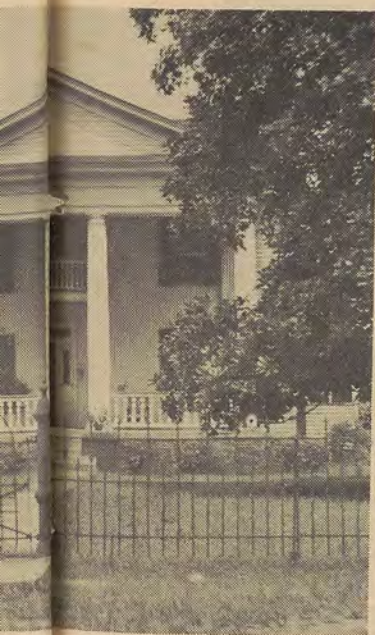
Portrait of the President



Dr. Eidson



ers wope A. Duncan Vice-president on
ve mr. Duncan is the college's first



boyle in Johnston, S.C.

creation of a Graduate School, a School of Education and a School of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Eidson believes, is a definite step towards attaining the status of a university. The final decision, he remarked, lies with the Board of Regents and its current interpretation of the expansion program.

Football??

Dr. Eidson, who participated in track, cross-country and tennis in undergraduate and graduate school, said that at the present time funds and facilities prohibited the establishment of a football team here. Perhaps the rapid increase in student body enrollment and the enlarging of the athletic department will enable the college to participate intercollegiately in this sport.

Enrichment

Dr. Eidson is personal friend of many actors and literary personalities, among them are actor Charles Coburn and Sir Charles Tennyson, grandson of the poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson about whom Dr. Eidson had written a book. Dr. Eidson's closeness to the arts causes him to hope there will be an immediate upsurge in cultural activities on campus; more and better guest lecturers and additional outside cultural entertainment will be sought. This, of course, involves the expenditure of additional funds. When asked about this aspect of the cultural expansion program, Dr. Eidson said, "We are looking into this and we hope the Enrichment Program can be increased without further escalation of the Student Activity fee. It will be best if we can get the money elsewhere."

Another program to broaden the cultural realm of the college will concern the growth of the "study abroad" plan. The system presently used by the University System allows students to do only summer work abroad. There are three foreign institutions cooperating, one in Spain, one in France and another in Germany; Dr. Eidson's hopes are that the entire program can be changed to facilitate study abroad during the regular term. Since the University System in participating in a plan already, we should use it to its maximum and modify it from there, Dr. Eidson added.

Student Unrest

Student unrest and civil disobedience, areas of prime interest and concern to every college, are, in too many instances, provoked by outside agitators and others whose interests are ulterior to education and the constructive changing of educational processes, Dr. Eidson believes. All too often, these groups have no intention of improving the matters which they discuss and protest. Dr. Eidson stated that he did not feel problems such as these would present themselves at this campus any time soon.

Dr. John O. Eidson's plans for constant, but not radical, change should function properly; he is a man with an ideal and a means of achieving it.



Dr. Eidson and Mrs. Virginia Boger, dean of women, discuss plans for progress during Homecoming weekend lunch.



Dr. S. Walter Martin presenting Dr. Eidson with the Michael Award for research in 1950. This award is given each year to an outstanding faculty member at the University of Georgia.



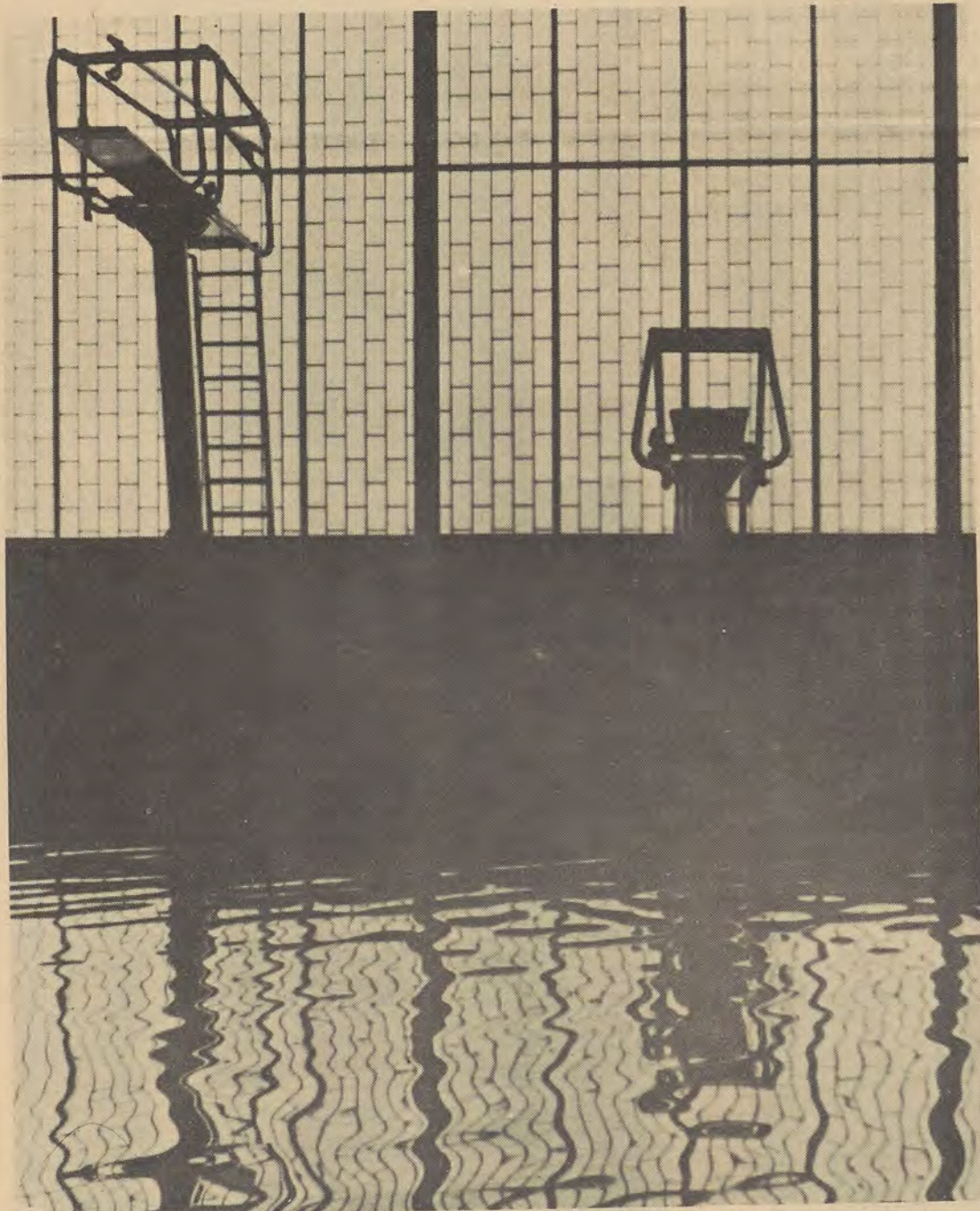
The President at graduate school at Vanderbilt University.



President Eidson with Sir Charles Tennyson, grandson of the poet, Lord Alfred Tennyson. Dr. Eidson has done research and published a book on Lord Tennyson.



Swimming Pool Highlights New Hanner Gym Annex



NEW POOL READY FOR USE THIS QUARTER

The Olympic-size swimming pool will be the first feature of the new gym to be used by students. Life-saving and swimming classes are being taught this quarter.

For 25 years W.S. Hanner was the faculty athletic chairman of the college. During this time he worked to create and improve the school's athletic programs. The dedication today of a gym complex which bears his name will enlarge and expand the physical education and athletic programs on campus.

Cost

The new gymnasium, built at an initial cost of \$1,500,000, will have the seating capacity of 5,500. The upper seating levels boast permanent wooden seats. The center section, for those who have season tickets, will feature seats with wooden backs similar to the seats used in major league baseball parks.

On the lower seating level, movable wooden seats will be used; however, they will provide greater room than those used in the old gym.

Special Floor

The new gym will also have the new "Tartan" floor. Poured on the base of the gym floor and allowed to harden, the "Tartan" floor provides more spring for the player than the conventional wooden floor. Other than the gymnasium at the University of Tennessee, the Hanner gym will have the only "Tartan" floor in the southeast.

The new complex is more than just a basketball court for included in the building are three classrooms where physical education and health classes will be held. Also included are two complete suites of offices. One for the Athletic Director and his staff and the other to accommodate the physical education staff.

An auxiliary basketball court and gymnastics room has been added in the basement. This will allow for expansion of the physical education program and brings the number of available courts to three. This court will also be equipped with a "Tartan" floor.

A new Olympic swimming pool is one of the most outstanding features of the new Hanner Complex. Equipped with eight lanes, the pool is the regulation size for inter-collegiate swimming competition. According to Athletic Director J.I. Clements, a swimming program is planned within the next five years.

Many of the new facilities included in the new gymnasium are a separate varsity dressing room with 60 lockers, a first aid room, new concession facilities, and separate faculty dressing rooms that will be used as auxiliary dressing rooms during tournaments. The physical education student has also been provided for in the new gymnasium. Approximately 4,000 lockers await students taking physical education courses.

A wrestling room has also been added in the basement. Featuring a "Tartan" floor, this room will be ready when wrestling is added to the physical education program.

All the facilities of the complex will be in use during the day and for most of the evening hours. Physical education classes will be held in both the old and new parts of the building until 3:30 p.m. each day. Then the new building will be turned over to varsity teams for practice. Intermural games will be scheduled in both parts of the building.

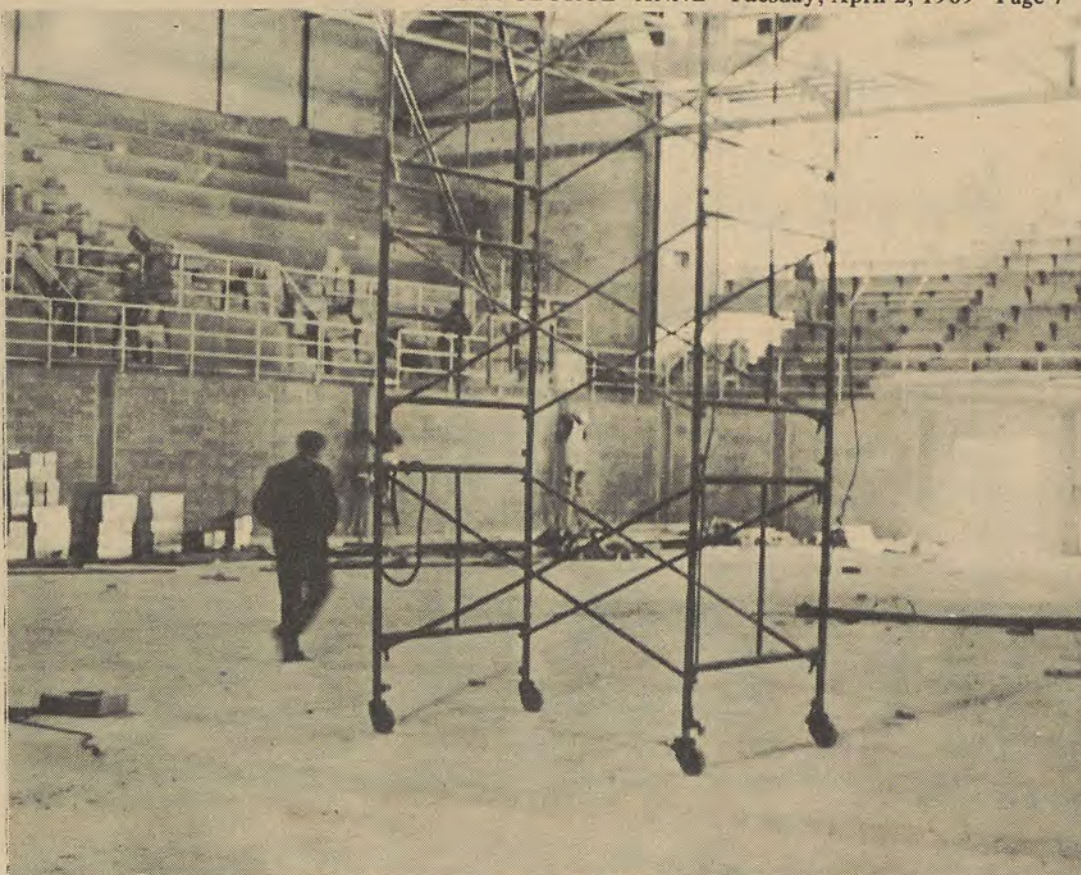
One of the main advantages in the new building, according to

(Continued to page 7)

Clements, is the school will now be able to bring in better teams from more of the major schools. From the standpoint of the physical education department, the new gymnasium will settle many scheduling problems. For an example, volleyball games usually held outside can be moved to the auxiliary basketball court during bad weather days. With all the facilities now available more classes can be held each quarter.

"We are thankful and appreciative of the new gym," stated Athletic Director Clements, "it will give us the opportunity to do more with our program."

The decision to build the Hanner Gym Complex shows an interest by the Board of Regents and administrators of the school in continuing the athletic traditions founded by W. S. Hanner.



NEW PROCESS AIDS EAGLE CAGERS

Workmen put final touches on basketball court before "Tartan" floor is poured. Eagles will move in for 1969-70 season.

G — A Feature
by
Randy Harber



AN END TO THEFT, PERHAPS..

4,000 new lockers stand ready for use by students enrolled in P.E. courses.

The facilities shown here are just a small portion of the new complex. Although the swimming pool is ready for use this quarter, the other areas of the gym will not be fully completed until July 1, 1969

Photos by
Emory Moody



WILL IT BE READY BY FALL QUARTER?

Piles of trash and rubbish abound to let everyone know that construction is still going on in the Hanner Gym.

Reviewing The Old. . . .



Dr. Eidson stands before the W. S. Hanner building, center of athletic activities on campus.

BUILDING DEDICATION

W.S. Hanner Gymnasium Annex

GEORGIA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

Inauguration of John Olin Eidson as President

April 2, 1969

4 O'clock p.m.

PROGRAM

Musical Presentation - Georgia Southern College Department of Music

Presiding - Dr. Pope A. Duncan, Vice President Georgia Southern College

Greetings from The Governor's Office - Representative W. Jones Lane
District 44

Building Presentation - Dr. George L. Simpson, Jr., Chancellor University
System of Georgia

Building Acceptance - Dr. John Olin Eidson, President Georgia Southern
College

Response - Mr. David Westerfield, Captain, Basketball Team Georgia
Southern College

Dr. Douglas Leavitt, Chairman, Division of Health, Physical
Education, and Recreation

Mr. J. I. Clements, Director of Athletics Georgia Southern
College

Musical Presentation - Georgia Southern College Department of Music

(Guided tours will be conducted after the dedication.)



Dr. Eidson views construction of new gym annex as expansion programs gets into full swing.

Previewing The New