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Interview with Rosa Elmore Bootle

Rosa Elmore Bootle

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**LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

**Interview #007
BOOTLE, Rosa**

BOOTLE, Rosa
Class of 1934

Interviewed: July 3, 1974

Interviewer: Ann Yarborough Evans

Index by: Michelle Dubert-Bellrichard

Length: 00:20:10

Abstract: In her July 3, 1974 interview with Ann Yarborough Evans, Rosa Bootle remembers her time as a Winthrop student and the various traditions she partook in. This interview was conducted for inclusion into the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections Oral History Program.

Keywords: dorm life, rules and regulations, daisy chain, blue line, Breazeale, flower garden, Baptist Student Union, rat week

Interview Session (July 3, 1974): Digital File

Time	Keywords
00:00:00	<i>Question:</i> Why Winthrop? <i>Answer:</i> RB always wanted to be a teacher – Winthrop had the best program.
00:00:15	<i>Question:</i> What was Winthrop’s reputation? <i>Answer:</i> Originally from Lawrence County. Anyone who wanted to be a teacher felt they could get a good education at Winthrop.
00:01:05	<i>Question:</i> Dorm? <i>Answer:</i> Stayed in Breazeale. First put in Margaret Nance with a senior – not a good arrangement. Met a sophomore who didn’t have a roommate and stayed with her for four years. Had closed study hall from 7pm-10pm. At 10:20pm, chimes rang and students had to get home.
00:02:28	<i>Question:</i> Dating? <i>Answer:</i> Not much interested at the time. Could have a date on Sunday afternoon in the parlor. Girls not allowed to campus with any man other than family members.
00:03:08	<i>Question:</i> Go to town? <i>Answer:</i> Only church people could take the girls to town. Girls not allowed to accept rides along the street. Students had to sign out to go to town.

Had to back home no later than 5:30.

- 00:03:38 *Question:* Class rules? *Answer:* Students not allowed to cut class unless there was an illness, emergency, or if family visited.
- 00:04:40 *Question:* Exams? *Answer:* They were scheduled so students had two a day. They were comprehensive exams.
- 00:05:20 *Question:* Any classes or professors who stand out? *Answer:* Recalls business professor. Mr. Bratcher head of department RB's junior year. Mrs. Potter in biology. Mrs. Grant, math teacher, had a rule that girls were not allowed to laugh at each other.
- 00:07:20 *Question:* Classes? *Answer:* RB talks about sub-French class – informal.
- 00:08:28 *Question:* Clubs? *Answer:* Beta Alpha – business education club. South Carolina Club. Member of the Student Government and YWCA. Had a library scholarship – worked three hours every day.
- 00:09:30 *Question:* Favorite activities? *Answer:* Movie in the auditorium. Loved to read. Saturday nights, RB would have visitors or visit someone else. Went to First Baptist Church.
- 00:10:24 *Question:* Church activities? *Answer:* BSU Director worked with Baptist Students. Church service on Sunday nights – students went every other Sunday.
- 00:11:35 *Question:* Uniforms? *Answer:* Freshmen didn't have uniforms for the first six weeks – uniforms had to be made for the students. Navy blue silk with white collars and cuffs. There was a navy blue, wool suit. Coats were navy blue. Students required to wear black shoes and a black hat. RB was on a limited budget, so she didn't object to uniforms.
- 00:13:00 *Question:* Traditions? *Answer:* Blue Line. Marched from the campus to church. Lined up according to the distant you were headed. First Sunday.
- 00:14:12 *Question:* Rat week? *Answer:* Didn't last very long. RB talks about the "punishments."
- 00:15:08 *Question:* Daisy Chain? *Answer:* RB describes.
- 00:15:28 **[no question]** Founder's Day ceremony. Everyone put a sprig of ivy on DB Johnson's grave. Recalls Mrs. DB Johnson and Mrs. Dacus.
- 00:16:30 *Question:* Mrs. Dacus had a flower garden? *Answer:* Yes. It was by the library.

- 00:17:00 *Question:* College farm? *Answer:* Flowers sent to classes from the farm. The horticulture professor had flower beds around Kinard Hall. On Mother's Day, students were allowed to pick roses. Students would go to the farm – got ice cream. During senior week there was a party at the Shack.
- 00:18:39 *Question:* Dining Hall? *Answer:* Special place to sit, but it was not according to class. The senior's had a table and they could invite their friends. If you were not invited, then the dining room chairman would place students.
- 00:19:29 *Question:* Special experiences? *Answer:* RB enjoyed Winthrop. Valuable experience.
- 00:20:10 *End of interview*