

Dale Patrick McNallen

Dale Patrick McNallen

1924-1984

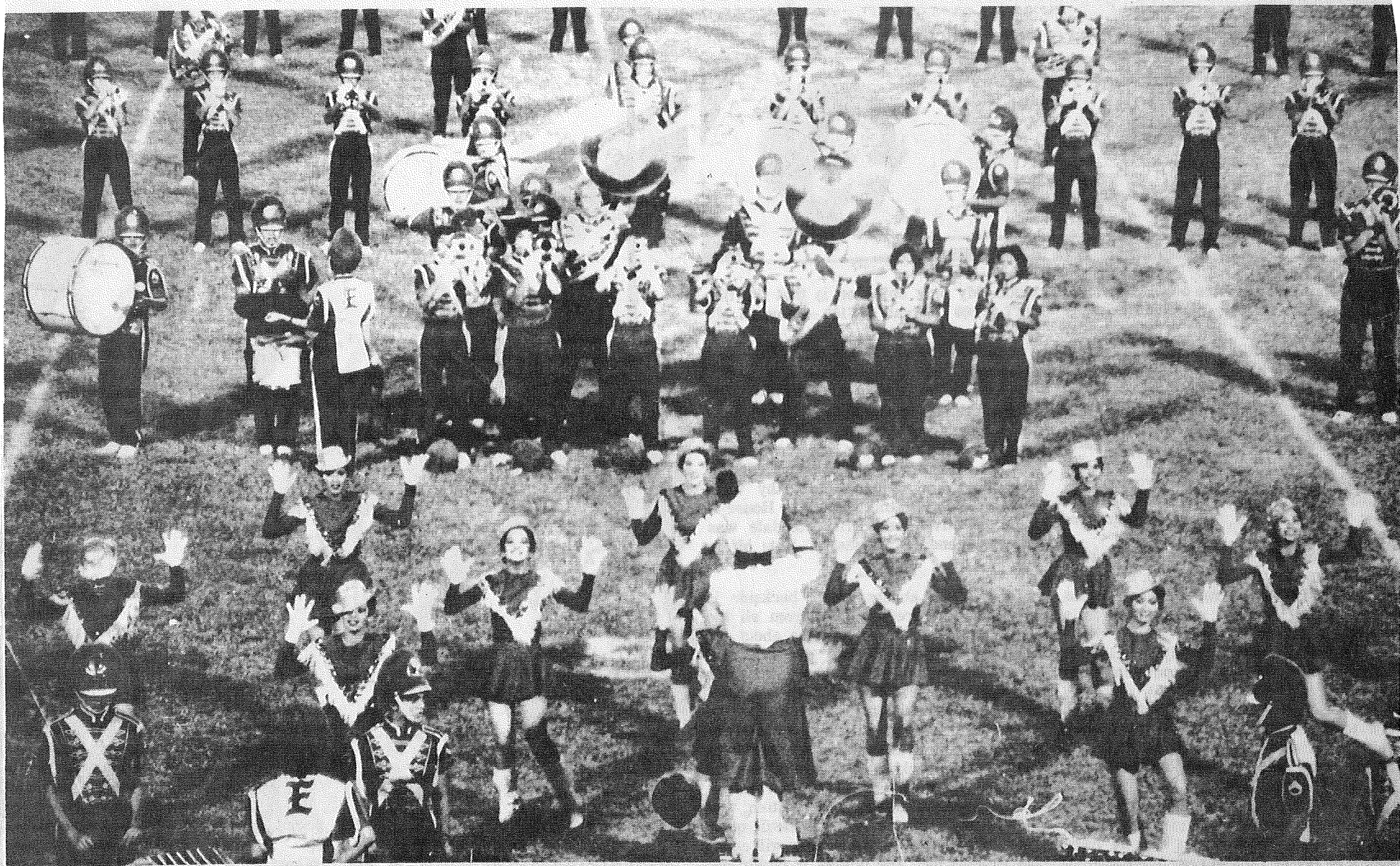
Pat McNallen was born in Logan, Ohio on December 2, 1924. His parents are Willard A. and Beatrice E. McNallen. His family moved to Breckenridge, Texas when he was 11 years old. He completed high school there and then entered college at Southwestern University in Georgetown, but enlisted in the service during World War II and was honorably discharged in 1946. He returned to Southwestern and completed his music degree there in 1949. He continued his studies at the University of Oklahoma and earned his Master of Music degree there in 1951.

He began his career in music as Director of Bands in Cross Plains, Texas. It was there he met his wife, Ann. They were married June 6, 1952. His next job was in Childress, Texas where he was the director of the Childress Marching Bands and Choirs. It was also in Childress that the two daughters, Pam and Karen were born.

In 1957, Pat moved his family to Mission to become Director of Bands there. He was a loved and respected teacher there for 11 years. Pat and Ann's twin sons, Dean and Dale were born in Mission.

Pat became Band Director in Edinburg in 1968. Later, he was named director of Instrumental Music and finally Director of Music for the Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District.

Pat is survived by his wife, Ann; his two daughters, Pam & Karen; two sons, Dale and Dean; one grandson, Matthew Allen Albrecht; and his parents, Willard A. and Beatrice E. McNallen.



EDINBURG HALFTIME EXTRAVAGANZA BEST IN THE VALLEY

rg
adors

By
RENE RODRIGUEZ
Review Staff

There is an Edinburg, Texas, and although it may not be a household word throughout the United States, Edinburg was pretty popular this past weekend in Phoenix, Arizona.

The reason for that was the Edinburg High School Band and Sergeanettes, members of which travelled to Phoenix to compete in pre-Fiesta Bowl activities—including a 2½ mile long parade.

Ruben Carrera, high school principal, was one of many chaperones who accompanied the group on the eventful trip.

"The group represented Edinburg in the true tradition of Bobcat Pride," Carrera said. "People found out that there is an Edinburg, Texas, and more important, the group of fine boys and girls left quite an impression in Phoenix."

The impression left by the many young men and women was left not only on the stage where the band performed, but on the parade route, at Patriots Plaza where the band played, and on the disco dance floor--and maybe most important, on the way home where the occupants of one of the buses gave aid to a young couple and their baby after they had been involved in a car accident.

Although the group had fun, it was not without hard work, and the hard work paid off when the band was named as one of the top three in the nation. There were some 31 bands from throughout the nation at the festivities.

What some of the sponsors lauded the most was the adaptability of the band members and Sergeanettes. The plans called for the group to perform a march and music drill, but heavy rains cancelled those plans and the group was asked to do a stage show.

"We practiced on that for about 10 minutes," said Pat McNallen, band director. "And after our performance the judges were buzzing that

it appeared we had been practicing that stage show for two weeks. The judges were really very high on our kids."

The band and drill team received the Gold Award of the Fiesta Bowl. Only Austin LBJ and West Covina, California topped the Edinburg band, and McNallen thinks the local band could have rated higher had they not been first to perform on stage, or if they had performed their march as the plans called for.

"Some of the judges said that affected our band," McNallen said, "They don't usually like to give a high rating to the first band in case there are better bands performing later."

The weather was almost perfect for the parade Saturday. "Almost," said Carrera, "because it was a little warm (72 degrees) and marching for 2½ miles makes it a little warmer."

Nevertheless, the band received many rounds of applause from the onlookers on the parade route. "The band carried Edinburg, Texas banners and all along the route, people shouted 'Yea, Texas'. I heard many good comments about the band and the group as a whole," Carrera added.

The group was treated to a staged gunfight by the Mavericks, a Jaycee group in Scotsdale.

The band also played in Patriots Plaza at noon time

where people sat and listened instead of going to lunch. They said the band had "good variety" and lauded it as being a "good band." They received several ovations.

"One attorney," Carrera said, "told me he'd rather stay and listen to the good sounds than go eat."

Many people apparently felt that way--even one Maverick who strolled into the plaza with his gun still in his holster. Security people at the plaza immediately took him for a nut and frisked him, according to one observer. They let him go only after realizing who he was and his role in the festivities.

There were no incidents on

the trip, but chaperones were fearful that some members of the group might come down with the flu.

"A California band had 30 members down with the flu," Carrera said, "but apparently they contracted it at home where they had been having problems with it. We were sure lucky our members came through without a sniffle."

The band had some heavy competition in Phoenix. Some of the bands had already experienced performances such as the Rose Bowl Parade, the Presidential Inaugural festivities in Washington, D.C. and performances at

(See BAND, Page 11)

Band

(Continued from Page 1)

odger Stadium.

"This was one of the most beautiful trips I have ever taken," McNallen said, "and expensive."

McNallen, however, was quick to point out that "the kids just worked themselves to death to make it possible. So did their parents and members of the booster club."

"I'm just so pleased...even of their behavior. They did themselves proud by winning the Gold Award."

"The most beautiful of all things was at the Grand Canyon. You should have seen some of the kids go wild. It started snowing while we were there...it was snowing every place," McNallen said, hinting that he did not stay without having a merry time himself.

"With all the snow coming down we could only see three, four or five feet. The kids were having so much fun in that snow building snowmen and having snowball fights."

McNallen was speaking of the band, but he added that the Sergeanettes also "had a blast" on the trip to and stay at Phoenix and the delay at the Grand Canyon."

Going back to their Sunday performance, McNallen said he was asked by the judges to do the stage show when the outside activities were cancelled. He said he had held a short conference with the group and had told them "We have come too far not to do it."

The rest of the group apparently felt the same way, but not all bands did as Edinburg did.

"Ten bands pulled out," McNallen said.

The Sergeanettes did their popular clown routine. That raised some eyes and the show was taped by a network. The band was also taped during the parade and members of the Edinburg group were told that there was a possibility it would be shown on national television just prior to the Fiesta Bowl game on Christmas Day.

The clown routine was implemented by Rosie Guerra, Sergeanettes' sponsor, during the football season on Oct. 27. The routine was presented again later in the season due to popular demand. Even fans in Weslaco gave the clowns a standing ovation when they performed in Weslaco during the Edinburg-

Weslaco game.

Mrs. Ann McNallen, wife of the band director and one of the chaperones, also had some high praise for the kids.

"We set a record they will never exceed," Mrs. McNallen said of a Phoenix cafeteria. "We moved 250 kids through the line in less than 45 minutes."

"A caterer also complimented our group," she added. "The caterer was asked to feed the group some 15 gallons of orange juice, ten gallons of coffee and 500 donuts. He was astonished that none of the kids took more than their share of the donuts (two donuts) and some only took one."

On the way back to Edinburg and still in New Mexico, occupants of the last bus in the caravan witnessed an accident in which a young couple lost control of their late model car and fell into a gulley, according to Gallegos.

"We stopped and we helped them. They had an eight month old baby with them. Fortunately, there

were no injuries although the woman complained of back pains. She was also apparently in shock," he said.

"We were really impressed with the youngsters," Carrera added. "They were well-behaved and well-organized. Even the bus drivers were pleased with the kids. They were good ambassadors from Edinburg and Edinburg High School."

Asked if the group had seen some of the flooding which inundated parts of Arizona, Carrera said, "No. The dam that broke was near Flagstaff and it broke while we were in Flagstaff, but the flood waters were moving west and we were heading south."

"It was fun, but it was tiresome and it feels so good to be back," said Art Gorena, a band student contacted at home.

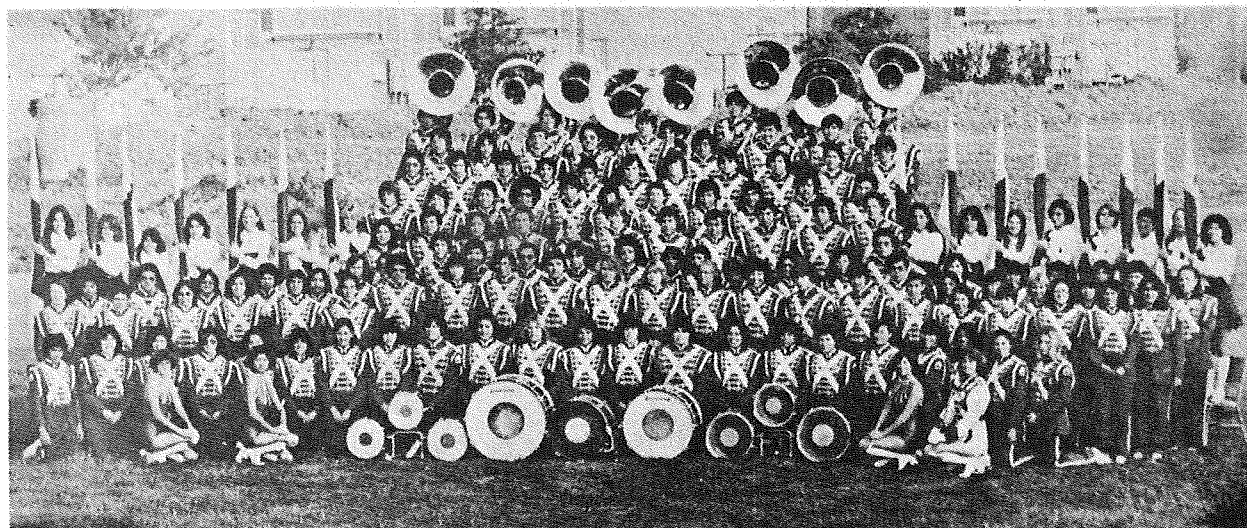
Residents of Phoenix were not the only ones impressed. Edinburg's ambassadors also commended Phoenix residents for their "friendliness and courtesy."

KGBT TV 4

SALUTES

THE

Edinburg High School Band

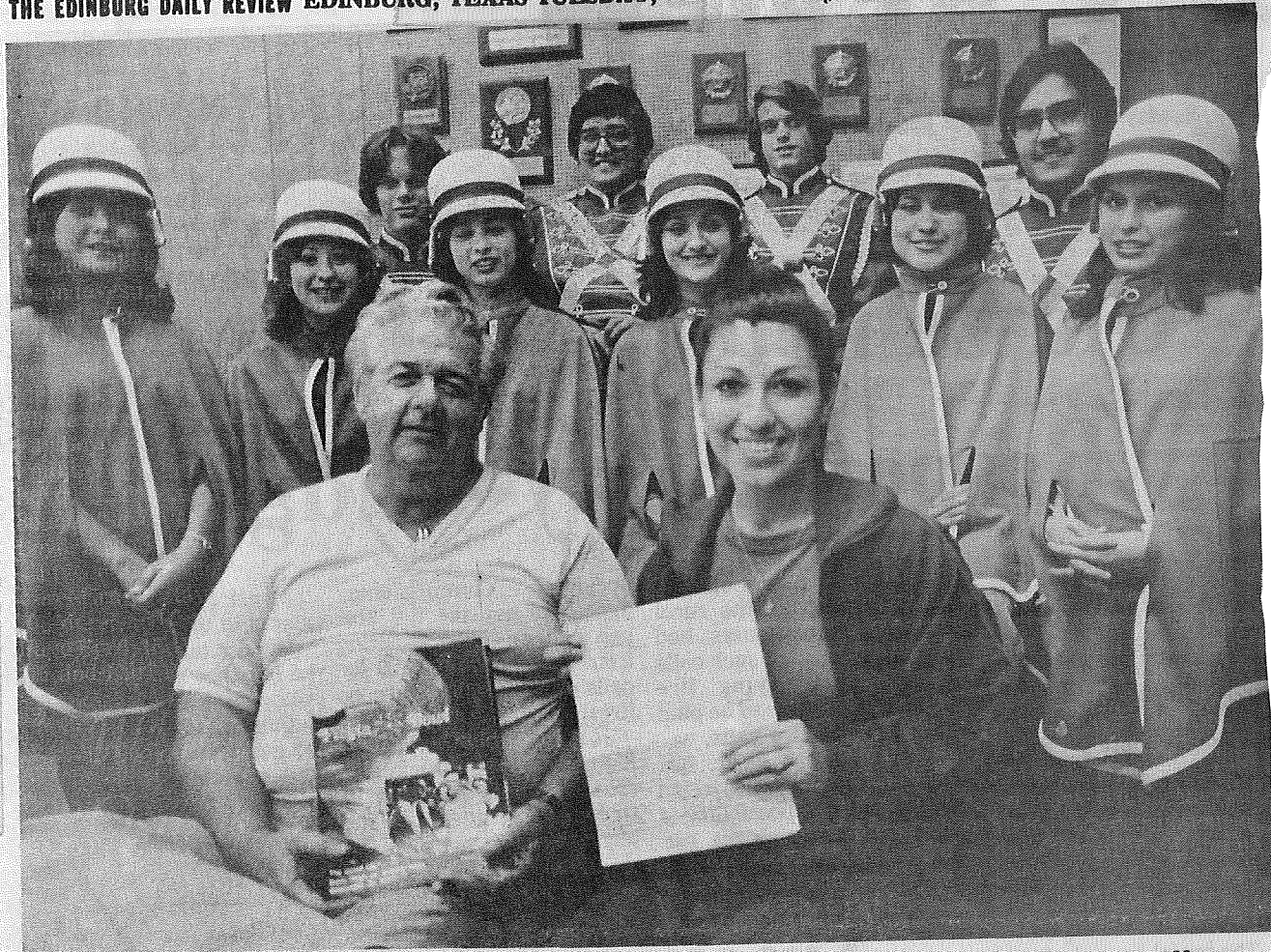


KGBT TV is proud of the student of the Edinburg High School Band for their participation in the 1978 Fiesta Bowl Parade.

TODAY at 4 P.M. KGBT TV 4 will present exclusive highlights of this annual parade in Phoenix, Arizona.

KGBT-TV salutes one of the Valley's Outstanding High School Bands!

**THE
PEOPLE'S
CHOICE**



FIESTA BOWL BOUND - Shown above making plans to go to the Fiesta Bowl pre-game ceremonies are Edinburg High School band members. In the front row are D.P. McNallen, band director, and Rosie Guerra, drill team sponsor. Standing left to right are

Melissa Barrera, Terri Alfaro, Yvette Peralez, Norma Hinojosa, Sylvia Villarreal and Elda Salinas. Also shown are Dean McNallen, Rene Diaz, Dale McNallen and Ruben Diaz. (Review Photo)

EHS Band, Sergeanettes To Perform At Fiesta Bowl

In Memory of Dale Patrick McNallen; "Mr. Mac"

He made us laugh; he made us cry; he made us believe that
we were the best,
He even went as far as putting us to the test
By proving that we could be ranked one of the top bands in the state,
And when the time came, he could say nothing less than GREAT!

His leadership, his guidance, his famous story-telling,
His ranting and raving, and musn't we forget his yelling.
These were the character traits that made up "Mr. Mac,"
Not even an ounce of courage did this man lack.

He taught us the true meaning of "BOBCAT PRIDE,"
And not once did we ever believe that he had lied,
About what it meant to work together as a team,
And through all our cooperation, we became a reality, instead
of a dream.

There were days when we sounded worse than the "pits,"
But not once did "Mr. Mac" ever call it "quits."
He worked us, he inspired us, he showed us our hidden talents,
And it was through his dedication that our band achieved a
musical balance.

Next to his own family, his Band was number one!
There wasn't anything in the world that he wouldn't have done
To make us sound better or believe that we were the best,
And when it came down to pride and unity, our Band outshined
the rest.

We'll always love him and remember his own "cliches,"
And we'll surely never forget his stubborn ways.
The memories he left behind will be shared by everyone,
And his presence will always be felt, like the rising morning sun.

His absence sometimes brings back heartaches and sorrow,
But in a way it also lightens up our tomorrows,
Because we now realize how close we have all grown,
And through this we know that "We'll never walk alone."

Belinda Gonzalez



**THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN DEDICATED
IN MEMORIAM OF E.H.S. BAND DIRECTOR
DALE PATRICK McNALLEN**



BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02154

11-18-75

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
RESIDENCE LIFE

617 - 647-2160

Dear Mr. McNallen:

I hope you remember "Freddy Galan", who used to play B^b clarinet for the Mission Eagle Band from '67-'70 while you brought the Eagle Band to lofty heights in 16-AAA then! Well, I am now working on a PhD in Social Welfare Rehabilitation in Boston, Mass, and am working and studying at the same time. I am associated with the university, but I still have time to pursue coursework and research.

The reason I write is to congratulate you for being you, the great band director I always knew. My parents relayed to me the news that you guided EHS to another I Division rating at Pigskin, extending that "superior" streak further. I couldn't help but write to tell you how proud we still are of you. My younger sister, Sally, is a Junior at EHS with the Serganettes as Head Sergeant, and she tells me that you led the EHS band to a great season this fall w/ the football team. You still make those who once were under you as high school musicians proud, and I, for one, will never forget the impact you had on my life as a teacher and great

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02154

II

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
RESIDENCE LIFE

617 - 647-2160

person! Great luck this spring and
continued success!

With every best wish,
Fernando Galan



Great Southern
CHAPTER 141 EDWARDS
Spring Fling
Orlando, Florida