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An old postcard shows Emory Junior College (Little Emory), probably early 1930s after the dormitory was built. Big Emory was in Atlanta.

Students attended city's 'Little Emory'

When someone writes about Emory Junior College, formerly at Valdosta, they usually leave out the beginning of the story.

Left out is the fact that this branch of Emory University began as Woodrow Wilson College. The choice property of 43 acres was bought "dirt cheap" from A.S. Pendleton, with an agreement the land would always be used for educational purposes. The administration building was erected, local businesses and citizens donated money towards its success, however, not enough money was collected. This was the last dream of Pendleton for he died in April 1925.

The city took over and in 1928, offered the building, property and \$200,000 to the Emory University System, and Emory Junior College opened on Sept. 26, 1928, with 16 students who graduated in 1930. Tuition was \$50 a quarter. Dr. W. B. Stubbs was the first president and an excellent one.

We called the all-male school Little Emory. Many graduates studied later in Atlanta. In the beginning, there were no dorms and students sought rooms in town, in a private building near campus, even at the girl's college. The first dormitory was completed in 1931.

Emory Junior employed the talented Valdosta musician, James A. Dasher. At the museum we have programs of his musical activities with a Glee Club.

On April 9, 1937, James A. Dasher, director, presented the Emory Junior College, "Glee Club in its Ninth Annual Concert." Local soloists in the group were John Youmans and Joe Dukes. Mrs. C.C. Clark was

soloist and Dorothy Dixon was accompanist. Joe Dukes must have stopped the show with "Old Man River," and James Dasher sang solos. A skit was presented by The Emory Junior College Dramatic Club, which included local boy, Wibby McKey. Local members of the Glee Club were John Youmans, Bill Whitaker, James Rehberg, Vivien Prewitte, Harry Stump, Wibby McKey, Charles Barnes and Joe Dukes.

On Dec. 3, probably the same year, Emory Junior and Georgia State Womans College (Valdosta State University) joined forces, as usual, for comedy, "Adam and Eva." Two local boys in this play were John Youmans and Wibby McKey.

World War II and the draft began taking the young male students. Numbering only 61, Emory Junior decided to close for the duration. Georgia State Womans College decided to open her doors to their first coeds for the duration. I was a student that first year 1942-43. After the war, Emory opened again as Emory-at-Valdosta. The first enrollment in 1946 was 247 men, most of whom were on the G. I. Bill. I had my second year of college 1946-47. Dean Whisonant was president. A memorable man, he loved chapel and singing. You could be assured, if no one requested his favorite song, he would an-

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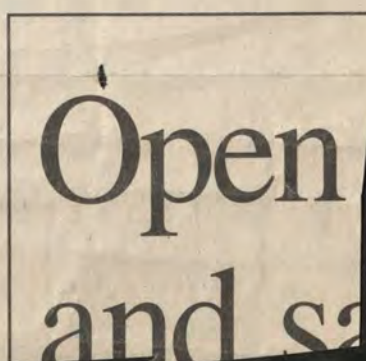
nounce it himself. That song was "Work For the Night is Coming." In 1948, the Emory-at-Valdosta Glee Club celebrated the "Season 1948, Sixteenth Annual Tour." James Dasher continued as director and there were many Valdosta singers. One soloist was Botie Chitty who played a rousing "Boogie Woogie" on the piano.

There was much activity at the Junior College as government surplus buildings were brought in from Moody as dorms.

Then came 1950, and GSWC, the girls school, decided to become full-time for men students, and opened wide her doors. And Little Emory closed for the last time in 1953. The area now called North Campus and Pound Hall were given to the University System of Georgia and became part of Valdosta State College, now VSU. Part of my information comes from "Emory Magazine," a recent issue.

As for my college career, I skipped from 1947 to 1974 when I entered VSC and graduated in 1977 with a degree in English at age 52.

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Streetcar offered cool ride to the fair

A cool ride is what some people used the streetcar system for in Valdosta and also when we had state fairs back-to-back, 1899-1900.

The street railway took people to and from the fair. Moore, Patterson, Park Avenue, and Williams Street bordered the fair grounds. The college students also used the waiting station; in fact, it was built for them when the college opened in 1913 to ride downtown or to their homes.

The waiting station at the corner of North Patterson and Brookwood Place is the last vestige of the old railway system. The small station came in handy again in the 1940s when Eddie Zant founded a citywide bus system. In the 1920s possibly, automobiles pushed the streetcars off the streets. Gone were the times of breaking down and greased and soaped rails due to pranksters. It survived for a while to get the drunks home before midnight, and then gone were the yelling and holler-

ing and drunken singing, almost as loud as the noisy street car. The last car ran Dec. 24, 1925. It had been fun as many a boy then can tell you.

On certain days, when the cars came to downtown full of girls from the college, the boys watched them descend and ascend the steps and possibly showing a little ankle. The school soon became a two-year college, then a four-year college. Here is the correct way to

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The former waiting station for the streetcar system is on Valdosta State University property, Patterson Street at Brookwood Place.

print the first name of the college, Georgia State Womans College. We have always shortened it to, G.S.W.C., but not to be confused with G.S.C.W., Georgia State College for Women at Milledgeville, Georgia.

It isn't as if the little station house is abandoned. People out for a walk and suddenly caught in the rain will be seen taking refuge in the little waiting station.

I remember years ago, as boys, we played on the college grounds, flew kites and even practiced our version of golf, that is, until we were asked to leave. I remember, too, the small amphitheater in the woods, backed up to the One-Mile Branch, where we listened to the visiting Moody band and watched the May Day festivities.

The waiting station has always been on the same spot and has not moved, though the fair grounds were moved. We found an old Valdosta Daily Times of

1918. In it was an article that said the fair grounds were being swept away. They were moved to Forrest Street. The street railway was then extended from downtown Patterson, out East Hill Avenue to Forrest Street.

There was Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey Circus every October or November, and big shows under big tents are happily remembered.

Miss Edwina Roberts, in her open-air limousine, would carry her nieces and nephews out early in the morning to watch the circus unload at the railroad tracks just out of town, a thrill never forgotten.

The Valdosta Street Railway ran its last car on Dec. 24, 1925. The tracks were not removed until 1942, some given and some sold to the World War II scrap drive.

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