



The Rangerettes Today

From the Kilgore Rangerette Audition Information Brochure published by Kilgore College

The Kilgore College Rangerettes are a distinctive American phenomenon. The pride of each individual in wearing that "red, white and blue," the fresh look of 65 young freshman and sophomore students, talented dancing ability of each individual, and the blending of this into one precision unit make up just some of the characteristics of the nation's best-known collegiate drill team.

The first group of its kind in the world, the Rangerettes brought "show business" to the football gridiron. From their first appearance in 1940, the Rangerettes have pioneered the field of such groups now seen across the nation. In 80 years the organization has had only three directors. Originated by Miss Gussie Nell Davis, the Rangerettes still adhere to her hallmark perfection - in precision of movement and in their "personalized" performance they present for each engagement. Miss Davis retired in 1979 and Mrs. Deana Bolton Covin assumed command without missing a step or performance opportunity. In 1993, Mrs. Dana Blair became the third director and continues to lead the group today.



The world-famous beauties have traveled coast-to-coast and border-to-border in the United States and on four world tours. In 1972 they performed five days in Venezuela, South America; in 1975, they were the star attraction at the 15-day American Fortnight in Hong Kong, Macao and Korea in the Far East; in 1977, they toured for 15 days behind the Iron Curtain in Romania, Eastern Europe; and in 1985 and 1995, they performed in Nice, Paris and Cannes, France. In 1993, the Rangerettes also traveled to and performed in Tokyo and Chiba City, Japan. Traveling to Singapore in February of 1997 was the last adventure celebrating the Chinese Lunar New Year.

Rangerettes have appeared in major football bowls across the nation and have traditionally performed at the New Year's Cotton Bowl classic in Dallas each year since 1951. They provided the halftime entertainment for three East-West Shrine bowl games in Palo Alto, California in the 1980's, the only organization ever to be invited to a return engagement in the 60-plus year history of the all-star game.



Cover girls on hundreds of publications including Life, Esquire, and Saturday Evening Post, the Rangerettes have also been the subject for articles in most of the major American magazines. They were featured in the Cinerama movie, "Seven Wonders of the World," and have appeared on many major national television programs.