

Looking back, the decade of the 1970's was one of great change for the nation as well as for our community.

On a large scale we saw our country live through Watergate and the resignation of a president, Vietnam, the energy crisis and inflation.

Back home in Colleton County, the major instrument of change was integration. Before 1970, the county had two high schools. One was Colleton High and the other was Walterboro High. Without warning, the law decreed that there be only one high school for all. At first there was a feeling of uneasiness, as sudden change forced people out of old attitudes and values. But out of this uneasiness came awareness and by the end of the decade, real progress.

Gone forever was the purple and gold Wolverines of Colleton High and the red and black Wildcats of Walterboro High. Progress meant more rights and privileges for all.

But the greatest achievement to come out of this era of change is better education for all. School has become a true learning place where people grow and experience life through a common desire to achieve common goals. In this way education brings about understanding and this in return helps us all as individuals to find answers in the changing world around us. Change was the word of the 70's and will continue to be through the 80's. Through change, we do not sit on our old values and ideas, and stagnate in the process, but climb out of the past and give hope to the future.