

# Umlaut

## Texas Tech German Dancers

1984-1985 has been a year of building for the Texas Tech German Dancers. There have been many new friendships made and some old ones have been renewed. Going into the seventh year as a performing group, the German Dancers are now 30 members strong. Of the 35 performances this academic year, 7 were out-of-town trips. In-town performances have ranged from numerous University functions (Christmas caroling at Hedwig Hill Haus, University Day, the President's Breakfast), to entertaining at St. Mary's Rehabilitation Center, and during Senior Citizens' Day at the South Plains Fair.

Out-of-town performances included the Family Fair in Hobbs, New Mexico, and the Scurry County Fair in Snyder, TX. In Snyder the group was treated to a steak dinner and performed for a very attentive and appreciative audience right after the "Dog and Owner Costume Contest." October brought a trip to three German festivals in one weekend: Winedale, Brehnam, and Old Washington on the Brazos in south Texas. The dancers were lodged in La Grange at a grand, old farmhouse that had once been considered for designation as the Capitol of the Republic of Texas. In mid-October the group performed in Georgetown for the Williamson County Oktoberfest sponsored by the Main Street Project. Dancers were hosted by friends and family of Professor Meredith McClain, the group's sponsor.



Schwarzwald(?) or Lubbock(?)

It is now a tradition that two Texas Tech vans loaded with dancers and costumes and equipment head to the famous New Braunfels Wurstfest in November. The crowd was, as usual, the most enthusiastic of the year. The Tech group received a standing ovation at this, the largest German festival in the Southwest. In February the German Dancers were once again featured at the Wurstfest of St. Joseph's Parish in Slaton, Texas, one of the best examples of German heritage alive and well in Texas.

Presently you will find the group members hard at work every Saturday morning and Monday evening. There is a special sense of dedication at rehearsals these days since the Texas Tech German Dancers are planning to depart in May for another six-week tour throughout Germany — this time as Ambassadors of Goodwill representing the entire state and announcing the Texas 1986 Sesquicentennial.



Texas Sesquicentennial German Dancers