In celebration of Washburn’s 150 years of scholarly learning and the Mulvane Art Museum’s 90th birthday, the museum has a collection on exhibit called “Cabinet of Curiosities: 150 Years of Washburn History.” It is modeled after the idea created in the 16th and 17th centuries when aristocrats in Europe collected artifacts and works of art and displayed them in rooms, calling them “cabinets of curiosities.”

“The exhibition is a real opportunity to find out some quirky things about Washburn history,” said curator Julie Myers. “We have everything from the ridiculous to the sublime.”

The exhibit displays artifacts from before and after the tornado that ravaged the campus on June 8, 1966, destroying most of the buildings, trees and other vegetation that made up what was once a lush park-like setting for the university. The artifacts are from both Washburn and the Mulvane Museum and most are from the university archives at Mabee Library.

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Some of the objects are from the university archives at Mabee Library. “It’s wonderful to be able to see these things from Washburn history,” said Jason Hannah, a junior art and English major. “It’s great seeing so much pride for our school,” said Michaela Lazzo, a senior art major. “It’s great hearing people say ‘Once a Ichabod, always an Ichabod.’”

Washburn celebrates its 150th birthday in 2015. What will the next 150 bring? Mulvane Art Museum commemorates 150 years of Washburn history.