

The Commitment

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Ground broken for Sebo Athletic Center

Ground was broken on a chilly December 2 afternoon for the new Sebo Athletic Center at Bowling Green State University's Doyt Perry Stadium.

Bob and Karen Sebo of Salem, Ohio, for whom the structure is named, contributed \$3.5 million toward a goal of \$7 million being raised to support construction of the facility. They, along with BGSU President Sidney Ribeau and Athletic Director Paul Krebs, took part in the groundbreaking ceremonies at the north end of Doyt Perry Stadium.

Also lifting shovels were Sharon Cook of Upper Arlington, chair of the BGSU Board of Trustees, and Falcon football linebacker Teddy Piepkow of Clark Lake, Mich., a senior marketing major and president of the BGSU Student-Athlete Advisory Council.

The unique, three-story structure will become the new "front door" of Perry Stadium. With approximately 42,500 square feet, the center will provide modern sports medicine-rehabilitation and strength-training facilities; a balcony overlooking the playing field; offices for the football coaches; teaching space for coaches and players; a video editing room; team meeting rooms, and a coaches' conference room.

"There are few events in a lifetime where you can look back and say, 'Boy, I remember that day,'" said Krebs, addressing the more than 100 onlookers who gathered for the groundbreaking. "For the BGSU athletic department, Friday was one such day," he said.

"This is an extremely important element of a vision we have for intercollegiate athletics," added Ribeau. "The University aims to field competitive teams in every sport, and this facility will give us an opportunity to do that," he said.

BGSU offers 18 varsity sports and is one of only 14 schools in the nation with NCAA Division I football, hockey, and men's and women's basketball. The center will benefit all varsity sports programs and more than 430 student athletes.



(left to right) Dr. Sidney Ribeau, Bob Sebo, Karen Sebo, Paul Krebs, Sharon Cook and Teddy Piepkow

Sebo, a 1958 graduate of Bowling Green, is a member of the University's Board of Trustees and a staunch supporter of Falcon athletics.

"A good athletic program benefits the entire University," Sebo said. "Winning teams generate a really positive attitude on campus, and those good feelings stay with students as they become alumni who support academic, as well as athletic, programs," he explained.

"In Division I, you really have to be strong and well-conditioned to compete," he noted, expressing his hope that the center will contribute to the health of student-athletes and to successful recruiting and teams. "I love BGSU, and the only thing I can say is, 'Go Falcons,'" Sebo added.

Construction of the Sebo Athletic Center is scheduled for completion in 2007.

Additional gifts are being sought for naming opportunities within the building. Contact Dick Waring at 419.372.7675.

Dear alumni and friends



A Letter from Ron Whitehouse
Co-chair
Building Dreams Campaign

Less than three years left in the Building Dreams Campaign and look how far we've come. I'm so proud to be a part of this campaign and our wonderful group of BGSU supporters. More than ninety-one million dollars has been raised toward our \$120 million goal, ground was recently broken for the Sebo Athletic Center and construction is underway, and more than 300 new scholarships have been created. What a way to keep this campaign moving full speed ahead!

During the past year, University dignitaries have visited ten cities across the country to officially kick off the campaign in those areas. From California to Washington, D.C., generous supporters have hosted us in their cities and homes in order to share with others what exciting things are going on at BGSU. Five more cities are yet to come. We hope to see you at one of these events, or other University events soon.

Speaking of events, the date for Homecoming 2006 has just been announced. Mark your calendars for October 14!

In Falcon Spirit,


RON WHITEHOUSE

Educator shares life-long passion

Pauline Henschen has enjoyed big dreams throughout her life and today she is assisting others in building dreams for their lifetimes.

Throughout her career, which began with teaching in a one-room schoolhouse, Pauline fully understood the sacrifices her family had made to allow her to achieve her success. She realized how lucky she was to be able to share in and encourage the education of so many students she has come in contact with over the years.

**"Her life is about teaching,
whether in the classroom or
outside of it, everyone that
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learns from her."**

"Pauline has a passion and conviction for educating youth within a rural community. This passion has fed her desire to ensure that education students are well-rounded and will continue her dreams of educating others," acknowledges BGSU assistant director of gift planning, Jim Beaverson. "The development of the Pauline and Delbert Henschen Outstanding Educator Scholarship is a life-long dream for Pauline."

It is not surprising that Pauline Henschen, a 1932 certificate graduate from BGSU and a life-long teacher in the rural district of Eastwood at Webster Elementary, decided to fund an Outstanding Educator Scholarship. Glenn Abke, nephew and former student, commented, "Pauline is a very special person. Her life is about teaching, whether in the classroom or outside of it, everyone that she comes in contact with learns from her."

Pauline is an active participant in her church, family and community. Because of her varied involvement, the future recipients of this scholarship will be those who understand the importance of all aspects of a student in the success of their education. She believes that both educator and student must draw upon the vast knowledge of life, especially the community in which they live, to fully understand and reach their potential. Pauline's scholarship will help educate our future educators for many years to come.

Stiffers give to vision of library's future

Dr. Paul '65, '67 and Marty Slaughter Stiffler share a strong passion for ensuring that students are engaged in a high quality educational experience.

The Stiffers have recently materialized that passion by adding Bowling Green State University to their estate plans, establishing the Stiffler-Slaughter Writing Center Fund/University Libraries to honor their parents.

Both Paul and Marty believe strongly in the power and importance of good writing skills. They have both written professionally and have come from families where the ability to write has been very important. In order to further enhance the University Libraries, Paul joined the University Libraries Advocates Board when asked by Dr. Lorraine Haricombe, Dean of the University Libraries. He then chose to be on the Development Committee on this board and was joined by Marty whose profession is in development.

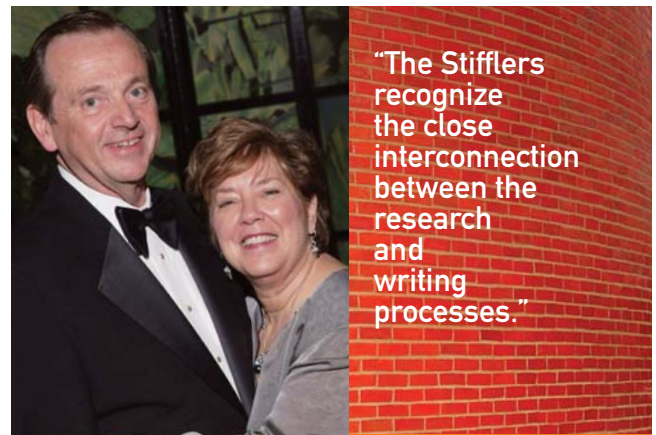
"By attending these meetings, the library became a new focus of interest for us," stated Paul.

Paul remembers studying at the library as an undergraduate and graduate student, and what it meant to him to have a facility conducive to learning readily available.

"Today, we are especially impressed with Dr. Lorraine Haricombe's vision for the library and how it is becoming a reality," stated Paul. "Clearly, she and her staff are committed to contemporary library services for students."

"The Stiffler's generous gift will make a purposeful difference in the lives and dreams of BGSU students," said Dr. Haricombe. "Because the Stiffers recognize the close interconnection between the research and writing processes, they made a significant planned gift that will help the University Libraries advance its vision."

This vision Dr. Haricombe speaks of includes redesigning the first floor of the library to make it more learner-friendly. The University Libraries vision is to provide a central,



user-focused center where the library's print and electronic information resources will be colocated with other academic support services for the convenience of our users.

In this model, the traditional library is transformed to become a portal through which users will access information resources and incorporate information into their work, as well as benefit from expert assistance from librarians, technologists, and writing staff.

A transformed library will positively impact students, faculty and staff, as well as other patrons who use the library's resources and services. It will be a physical structure that will truly help to build expanded community. As importantly, it will be an exciting facility where learning will take place, life-long skills will be developed and scholarly research will be implemented. It will have imperative impact on all.

Paul and Marty sum up the importance of writing skills in today's university and work environments by stating, "From correspondence in various fields to e-mails to grant proposals to a dissertation, we have seen how critical it is to write well. We also see, in our business lives, how this ability is being lost among many in the workforce. We do not want to see this happen for the graduates of as prestigious a university as Bowling Green."

BGSU music student sings at Carnegie Hall

Bowling Green State University vocal student Kisma Jordan of Detroit was recently invited to perform in a master class at Carnegie Hall on January 24 with famed American mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne.

The goal of the Marilyn Horne Foundation is to promote and preserve beautiful voices. Ms. Horne identified Kisma Jordan, a second-year graduate student at the University who has been studying voice for 13 years, as having one of those voices.

The BGSU student met Horne last fall when Horne was the inaugural artist of the Helen McMaster Endowed Professorship in Vocal and Choral Studies at the University and presented master classes on campus. After hearing Jordan sing, Horne was so impressed that she wanted to help her begin her career, and so she gave Jordan an invitation to sing in New York City.

Joined by singers from some of the most prestigious music schools, Jordan performed pieces by Franz Schubert and Johannes Brahms that Horne herself has sung many times.

"This is something that doesn't happen very often. Usually you have to make it on your own for a while before people start helping you, but Ms. Horne was very impressed [with Jordan]," Myra Merritt, Jordan's vocal teacher at the University, said. "Marilyn Horne is not just a star, but a superstar. She has a wealth of knowledge."

For Jordan, the real opportunity here is to gain feedback from top musicians. At the event, which was well attended by music critics and other music professionals, one critic said of Jordan, "She has a shimmering, soprano voice."

"In a business where sopranos are a dime a dozen, [Jordan] has an amazing ability to captivate the audience. The color [of her voice] is so distinctive, it's immediately identifiable," Joscelin Lockhart, second-year graduate and friend to Jordan, said.

For Jordan, singing has always been a passion, but it was only six years ago that she began to consider it as a career.

"I never really thought about it [singing], I just always did it, I just always sang," she said.



Kisma Jordan (right) with famed American mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne

But when Jordan was an undergraduate at Kentucky State University studying education, a voice teacher approached her and said she should consider a professional singing career. So Jordan switched majors as a junior to opera theater.

"I don't think there's anything I should be doing other than singing," she said. "It's really what I want to do - everything I do revolves around music. It's really what my gift is - I have a gift of song."

Jordan is the recipient of a Winifred O. Stone Graduate Student Development Fund scholarship and a graduate assistant at the University.

The winner of the graduate division in the college's 2005 Marjorie Conrad Peatee Art Song Competition, she placed second in voice in the Tuesday Musical Club scholarship competition in Akron. She also has received awards in the Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists (formerly the Leontyne Price Competition) and from the National Association of Teachers of Singing.



Former BG running back honored to support Sebo Athletic Center

When Dave Preston '77 became a BGSU Falcon running back, he hadn't thought that one day he would be helping to give current and future Falcons a place of which to be proud.

A production and operations management major from Defiance, Ohio, Preston left BGSU and went on to be drafted by the New England Patriots, play for the Denver Broncos, and be inducted into the BGSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1982.

Now, a resident of Golden, Colorado, Preston is challenging his fellow running backs, and other supporters of BGSU athletics, to join him in his support of their alma mater. Believing he has been blessed with opportunities brought on by attending BGSU, Preston committed his support by making a gift to the Running Backs Meeting Room in the now-under-construction Sebo Athletic Center.

After meeting with Bob Sebo to discuss plans for the center, Preston said, "I left that meeting with great pride and an understanding of the need for a facility that would reflect the rich tradition of the BGSU program and attract prospects to ensure its future success."

"I have been involved in athletics most of my life, and have seen the fan support that goes along with success," stated Preston. "People want to be associated with a winner. You win and people will support you. You lose, and people will find other things to do."

When asked why Preston and his wife, Gaylene, decided to make this gift to the Sebo Athletic Center, he responded by saying, "We decided to make a capital contribution for several reasons. First, we agreed that the University needs quality facilities in order to attract quality administrators, faculty and students. The Sebo Athletic Center will allow BGSU to compete for higher quality coaches and student athletes, insuring the potential success of future teams. Secondly, our contribution offers us an opportunity to fund something at the University that is tangible – a building that our children and grandchildren can visit, years after we are gone. Finally, I felt compelled for the simple fact that my life has been blessed with opportunities brought on by my decision to attend BGSU. I am proud to be associated with Bowling Green State University, and am honored to be a part of the Sebo Athletic Center fund raising efforts."

The Building Dreams Centennial Campaign has committed to raising \$7 million for the new center. More than \$5.3 million has been raised to date. For more information on the Sebo Athletic Center, visit the BGSU Athletics web site at bgsufalcons.collegesports.com or call the Office of Development at 419.372.2424.



New Presidents Club Members

Robert and Carla Blinn

Glenn Egelman & Mary Ellen Natale

The Hubbard Company – Thomas Hubbard

Harold & Sarah Lunde

Michael R. '80 & Mary Lee '80 McGranaghan

Dave '77 & Gaylene Preston

Willie J. "Yo" '72, '73 & Dr. Pamela Cross '74 Young

Thomas P. Willett '67

Online giving

Save a check. Give online!
Make your gift to BGSU online at
giving.bgsu.edu

Upcoming Regional Campaign Kickoff

April 25
Houston, Texas

Co-hosted by Bruce and Janet Misamore
and Don and Frederica Irwin