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## Monitor Newsletter December 20, 2010

Bowling Green State University

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# BGSU Monitor

DECEMBER 20, 2010

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## 'Forward Falcons' celebrates lively history of women's sports

Long before women's sports were governed by the NCAA, long before Title IX changed the face of school athletics, women at BGSU were energetically and enthusiastically participating in sports, from basketball and swimming to field hockey and fencing.

*Forward Falcons*, a new book by Dr. Janet Parks, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus in human movement, sport and leisure studies; Ann Bowers, National Student Affairs Archivist at the Center for Archival Collections, and BGSU alumna Addie Hostetler Muti '86, '88, fills a gap in the recorded history and recognizes the athletes, coaches and administrators who laid the foundation for what exists today.

Readers will find the names and backgrounds of such BGSU luminaries as Gertrude Eppler and Dorothy Luedtke, after whom facilities are named, as well as many others who have gone unremembered for too long. Pulling the information together took the efforts of numerous contributors, said Parks and Bowers. They credit Muti's master's thesis, "A History of Women's Sport at Bowling Green State University: 1910-1972," for laying the groundwork for much of the book.

Designed by Bowling Green native Jennifer Joseph, *Forward Falcons* is filled with photos and copies of newspaper clippings, bringing to life the lively women's sports scene at the University that thrived despite a lack of significant institutional support.

While those who grew up in the post-Title IX era tend to view women's athletics in relation to men's, this was not the case originally, Parks said. The book provides a new perspective as seen through the eyes of those who coached and played. *Forward Falcons* tells the story of a time when women's sports were largely administered and coached by women, and sports were more closely tied to academic programs than to the reputation of the institution. In fact, the first women's basketball teams at BGSU, formed in 1918, were outgrowths of two literary societies: the Wilsonians and the Emersons. The book also sets BGSU's story in a larger context, providing a concise national history of women's sports. "We were nationally known and considered very progressive," Bowers noted.

*Forward Falcons* documents the era from 1914 through 1982, the year that BGSU's women's program fully joined the NCAA and more thorough records began to be kept. "There were times when women's sports, though very active, weren't considered very important and weren't covered," Bowers said. "Ann's work in uncovering information has been just wonderful," said Parks.

Another challenge of reconstructing that history was that a huge number of documents were destroyed in a flood under the bleachers of Doyt Perry Stadium following the merger of men's and women's varsity intercollegiate sports programs. The authors had to rely largely on the memories and scrapbooks of coaches and athletes as well as accounts in *The Key* and articles in news outlets. Honors student Jackie Giammara in 2009 provided significant help by conducting a survey of former athletes and coaches. A website has been created for further sharing of memories and information, at <http://www.wix.com/jjosephdesigns/forward-falcons>.

To order the book or CD, visit <http://lulu.com> or <http://www.wix.com/jjosephdesigns/forward-falcons>.

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**Colwell raising education college profile**

Since he came to Bowling Green last summer as the new dean of the College of Education and Human Development, Dr. Brad Colwell has been on a mission to "get BGSU back to its glory of truly being the leader in all issues K-12."

The mission has taken him on various journeys, from the halls of the Education Building, out into the community to meet with teachers and administrators in area school districts, and to BGSU's advocates in Columbus to press for support for higher education.

"With a new governor coming in, that's doubly important," he said. "We have a great story to tell, and we need to make sure everyone hears that story. I need to lead that charge."

An important leadership development for the college is the introduction of a blended early childhood/special education program, scheduled for fall 2012. "We will be the first school in Ohio to offer it. We're blazing a trail in Ohio. Everyone is excited about that; it's cutting edge," he said.

Genial but intense, Colwell sees the importance of getting to know his new home. "A lot of my time has been spent listening," he said. "Every institution has its own culture. I needed learn the histories and traditions here. You can't come in and lead without learning the culture first." He also held a number of forums to make sure the faculty had a good grasp of budget issues and other factors that impact them. "The goal is to empower folks with the best information we can give them and let them run.

"However, some things needed immediate attention, and I've tried to address those," he said. They include clearing out and sprucing up the Education Building's hallways and plans for relocating student services offices on the first floor and creating a student lounge there. "When students come to this building, we want them to see it as student-friendly and attractive. It's important to pay attention to infrastructure."

Another pressing issue that is more complicated is dealing with the 23 percent growth in new freshmen. "That's good, but it does present issues. We're hoping to hire upwards of 20 new faculty for next year, and we hope the budget stays firm," Colwell said.

Enrollment in the college is growing, with the highest percentage increase occurring in the School of Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies. With 600 majors, "our applications there are in record numbers, and there's a lot of energy. We have a nice mix of senior and junior faculty and a new director, Dr. Philip Xie. It's exciting."

Despite the college's success and its historical role as BGSU's founding college, Colwell said, "we also realize we're not the only game in town. We cannot rest on our reputation; we have to be competitive and always be cognizant of showcasing the college in its best light."

**IN BRIEF**

**Centennial history book now available**

*Bowling Green State University 1910-2010: A Legacy of Excellence*, by Dr. Gary Hess, Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus of history, describes the growth of BGSU from its beginnings as a small, teacher-training school to its present stature as a nationally recognized university.

The 120-page book includes many historical photos and is available for \$46.99 at the University Bookstore or online at <http://www.bgsu.edu/100history>.



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CALENDAR

Monday, Dec. 20

Winter Break Begins.

Tuesday, Dec. 21

Women's Basketball vs. Canisius, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Wednesday, Dec. 22

Men's Basketball vs. Manhattan, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Friday, Dec. 24

Planetarium Show, "Secret of the Star: A Show for Christmastime," 2 p.m., BGSU Planetarium. \$1 donation suggested.

Thursday, Dec. 30

Men's Basketball vs. Texas San Antonio, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Monday, Jan. 10

First Day of Spring Semester.

Continuing Events Through Dec. 21

Planetarium Show, "Secret of the Star: A Show for Christmastime." Shows at 7:30 p.m. Sundays; 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays. \$1 donation suggested.

Through Jan. 8

Art Exhibit, featuring works by Katrina Niswander, Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

There were no jobs posted this week.

Labor Postings

http://international.bgsu.edu/index.php?x=facinfohires

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed by visiting the HR website at http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/.

Employees wishing to apply for these positions must sign a "Request for Transfer" form

and attach an updated resume or data sheet. This information must be turned in to Human Resources by the job deadline.

CLASSIFIED

On-campus classified:

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU\_only/page11151.html

Off-campus classified:

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl\_staff/page11145.html

ADMINISTRATIVE

http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm\_staff/page11137.html

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**OBITUARY**

**Deborah Fleitz**, 58, died Dec. 3 in Michigan. She was the director of public events for the College of Musical Arts from 1996-2008.

**Joseph Havranek**, 59, a professor emeritus in the School of Intervention Services, died Dec. 13 in Florida. He taught at the University from 1992 until this spring.

**Verlin Lee**, 78, a professor emeritus of educational curriculum and instruction, died Dec. 16 in Bowling Green. He retired in 1985 after 21 years with the University. Memorials may be given to the Verlin W. Lee Memorial Scholarship in the BGSU Foundation, Inc.