



2003-09-16

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## O'Learys donate \$100,000 to YSU rec center effort

Youngstown State University alumnus Bob O'Leary and his wife, Marilyn, have donated \$100,000 to the campaign to build a new \$12 million student recreation center on campus.

O'Leary, who graduated in 1959 when YSU was known as Youngstown College, and his wife are lifelong Youngstown residents.

"It's an important project," O'Leary said about the student rec center. "I feel strongly in the necessity to support the students and the university."

O'Leary took over the Miller Co. from his grandfather in 1954. The company produced about 20 regionally-distributed products, including Millers Horseradish, along with cocktail sauce, dressings and cornmeal mush. He ran the company, which was located on Glenwood Ave. and later moved to Velma Court, until he sold the business about 8 or 9 years ago.

The O'Learys have four children, two sons who attended YSU and two daughters.

The campaign to raise funds for the new recreation center has now surpassed the \$9 million mark. The new 65,000-square-foot facility will be the first campus building constructed entirely with private funds since Ward Beecher Science Hall in 1967.

The center, which will feature a fitness center, climbing wall, weight room, jogging track, racquetball courts and a spiritual meditation room, will be attached to the west end of YSU's Kilcawley Center and is expected to open in fall 2005.

A walkway in the new center that overlooks the first floor will be named the O'Leary Fitness Bridge in recognition of the O'Learys' gift.

The John S. and Doris M. Andrews Trust, named after the late financier and his wife, has pledged \$2 million to the project. Other major contributions include \$1.5 million from John and Denise York, \$1 million from the Ward and Florence Simon Beecher Foundation, \$750,000 from Anthony and Mary Lariccia and \$500,000 from D.D. and Velma Davis.

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