

The Ohio Union at
The Ohio State University



Connection

Winter
2010

Where memories are made and leaders emerge

\$2 Million Gift To Honor Archie Griffin

Private donor provides support to recognize football legend

The ballroom in the new Ohio Union has been named in honor of Archie Griffin to reflect the wishes of a private donor who has given \$2 million to be split evenly between the Alumni Association and the new Ohio Union. The gift was made to honor Griffin's achievements as a student athlete as well as the inspiring leadership he has provided to the University throughout his career.

Griffin, president and CEO of Ohio State's Alumni Association, earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from The Ohio State University in 1976 and is college football's only two-time Heisman Trophy Award winner. Before assuming the leadership of the Alumni Association in 2004, Griffin was associate athletic director and worked for 19 years in Ohio State's athletics department. He also played professional football with the Cincinnati Bengals. A community leader who serves on many boards and supports various philanthropic causes, Griffin is a much sought-after public speaker and is highly regarded as an ambassador and advocate for Ohio State's mission.

"I am deeply honored by this generous gift," Griffin said. "The Ohio Union means so much to all members of the Ohio State family and has played an important role in university and community events for decades...I am humbled to have my name associated with such a magnificent resource for the University and the Columbus community, and I am grateful to my friend who also loves Ohio State and made this possible."

The nearly 18,000-square-foot Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom will host many university and community events, including the 2010 OSU Football Appreciation Banquet, United Way Central Ohio's Celebration of Excellence Awards Luncheon, and the Ohio Historical Society's Ohio History Day. The space is able to accommodate up to 1,700 guests and features hardwood flooring, three custom-made "Block 'O'" chandeliers, four balconies, and six projection screens. In addition to Archie's name, the ballroom will also showcase some of his football memorabilia.

1



**FIRST
★ 30 ★
DAYS**

**Ohio
UNION**
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

WELCOMING "U" HOME

**THE NEW OHIO UNION
IS NOW OPEN!**

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING
OF THE FIRST 30 DAYS OF
OPENING EVENTS, VISIT
www.ohiounion.osu.edu

Check out the next edition of
Connection, which will feature highlights
of the Ohio Union Opening.

Bucks take Rose Bowl Title, Team up with Ducks to Fight Hunger



On Friday, January 1, 2010, the Buckeyes took the field at the Rose Bowl--their first trip to Pasadena, California, for the Tournament of Roses since 1997. But before going head-to-head on the football field, the Ohio State Buckeyes and the University of Oregon Ducks paired up to help fight hunger in the Los Angeles community.

For the past 11 years, Ohio State's Office of Student Life has provided community service opportunities for alumni, students, staff, faculty, and community members in the host cities of bowl tour games. This year, in Los Angeles, approximately 250 Bucks and Ducks

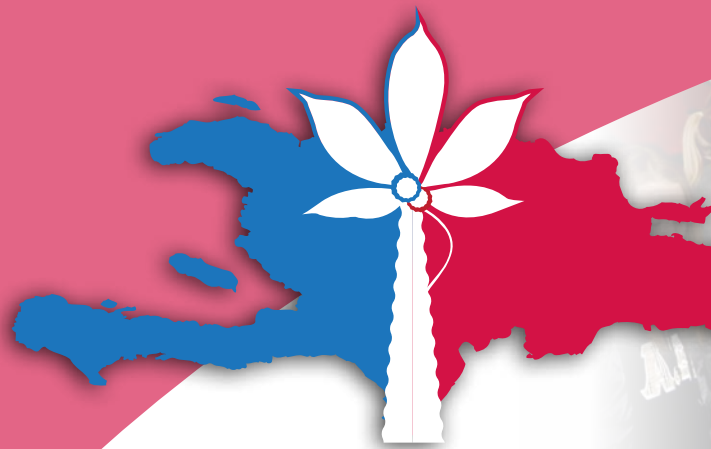
worked side by side at the Los Angeles Foodbank to sort and package food for the hungry. In attendance were Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee and Oregon President Richard Lariviere. Shelly Hoffman, Assistant Vice President for Media Relations at Ohio State, commented on the project, "It is part of who we are as a land grant school. We feel strongly about giving back to the community." Back in Columbus, a similar service project took place to coincide with the Los Angeles effort. Ohio State students and staff volunteered at the Recreation and Physical Activity Center (RPAC) to prepare 160 "kids packs"—decorated goody bags filled with soup, healthy snacks, and toiletries for needy children. The packs were donated to the Mid-Ohio Food Bank.



PHOTO KEY

- 1 Archie Griffin speaks as the Union honors him with the naming of the Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom.
- 2 Alex Swain and Matt Dodovich, students and Ohio Union Council members, pose with Brutus Buckeye and the Oregon Duck at the Rose Bowl community service project.
- 3 Volunteers pack food items at the Los Angeles Foodbank.

**Ohio
UNION**
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



One University. One Cause. A Buckeye Benefit Dinner for Haiti

While American Red Cross workers and volunteers diligently worked in Haiti to rescue victims of a devastating earthquake, Buckeyes were busy in Ohio raising funds to aid the efforts. Students, faculty, staff, and friends of Ohio State united on Monday, February 1 to support the relief efforts. A benefit dinner was hosted at the Recreational and Physical Activity Center's (RPAC) Tom W. Davis Gym. The event was planned and coordinated by the Undergraduate Student Government, and the Greek Councils.

Participants purchased meals for \$10, which included penne pasta with marinara sauce and meatballs, salad, garlic bread, and Coca-Cola beverages. From the generous donations of U.S. Foodservice and Coca-Cola, the food, beverages, and supplies used at the event were free of cost to Ohio State, so 100% of the proceeds from the benefit dinner were donated to the American Red Cross. More than 175 students, faculty, and staff volunteered their time to coordinate the event and serve meals.

The event was a huge success with more **1,800 meals** served on-site and through a drive-through option. The proceeds totaled an outstanding **\$22,317.46**.

Record-Breaking Year for BuckeyeThon

Student Philanthropy Breaks \$100,000 fundraising mark

Ohio State students came together on February 20 for a common cause: to raise money for Nationwide Children's Hospital. A student philanthropy, BuckeyeThon is a 14-hour dance-a-thon. BuckeyeThon also included basketball, cornhole, video games, ping pong, dodgeball, board games, cards, and other group activities to keep participants busy during the evening.



OHIO UNION by the NUMBERS

\$100,823.09

RAISED
at 2010 Buckeyethon.

\$22,317.46

RAISED
at the Buckeye Benefit
Dinner for Haiti.

3,400
CHAIRS

purchased for the 2nd and 3rd
floors of the new building.

140
DIGITAL DISPLAY
SCREENS

throughout the new Ohio Union.

25
TOPPINGS
available at the "Across the
Field," the salad station in the
Union Market.

7
DINING OPTIONS
in the new Ohio Union.



"Hopefully BuckeyeThon will show students that there are easy ways to give back to the community. After students graduate, we hope they won't forget that and will continue to be active in the community where ever they may end up."

-Peter Koltak, BuckeyeThon Planning Committee Member

This event has two goals. The first goal is to raise money to benefit patients of Nationwide Children's Hospital and their families who are in need. The second goal is to build a culture of philanthropy among Ohio State students. Peter Koltak, student at Ohio State and member of the BuckeyeThon Planning Committee said, "Hopefully BuckeyeThon will show students that there are easy ways to give back to the community. After students graduate, we hope they won't forget that and will continue to be active in the community where ever they may end up."

This year dancers had to raise at least \$100 to participate, or if they signed up as a group they were required to reach a group goal in order to participate. This change significantly increased the amount of money that BuckeyeThon was able to raise. Nearly 500 dancers reached their goal of raising \$100, and more than 50% of them stayed the entire 14 hours without sitting down. A total of \$100,823.09 was raised to benefit Nationwide Children's Hospital. This is the first year the event has broken \$100,000, an incredible milestone for this annual event.

Ohio Staters, Inc. Elects New Executive Board

The conclusion of winter quarter marked the ending of the 2009-2010 Ohio Staters, Inc. Executive Board's term. After graduation in June, past president Jaimie Horning will be attending graduate school to earn a master's degree in speech language pathology and knows that she will be leaving the organization in good hands. Jaimie said, "My favorite part of being Stater President was getting to know all of the members even better. It is such an inspiring group of people, and I am better for having learned with each and every one of them throughout the past year."

Hans Voss, a third year political science major from Centerville, Ohio, was elected to succeed Jaimie as president. Craig Morin, also a third year political science major, will join Hans on the 2010-2011 OSI Executive Board as vice president. Kyle Bruggemen was elected as the treasurer and is an industrial and systems engineering major. Serving the organization as secretary will be Colleen Miller, a nutrition major. Pete Metz, a political science major, completes the Executive Board as recording secretary.

The Executive Board is excited about the upcoming celebration of Ohio Staters, Inc.'s 75th Anniversary. Hans said, "Every current member of the organization considers it a distinct honor to be a student while celebrating 75 years of service to the University, and I am humbled to serve as President during

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-Hans Voss, 2010-2011 Ohio Staters, Inc. President

this extraordinary occasion." This will be a time of uniting alumni and current members on campus to discuss the service they have done or are currently doing at Ohio State. Memories of spring break trips with their mascot, the Stater Elephant, or meetings in the old Union, will be shared throughout the celebration.

With the opening of the new Ohio Union on March 29, the Ohio Staters Inc. Traditions Meeting Room and the Founders Room was unveiled. The designation of these spaces was made possible by donations from generous OSI alumni and the student organization.



Save the Date
**OHIO STATERS INC.,
75TH ANNIVERSARY
WEEKEND**
November 5-7, 2010

The new executive team has a lot to look forward to in the coming months. The 2010 spring quarter will be one of OSI's busiest times, with four upcoming events in addition to the recent opening of the new Ohio Union. On April 6, the organization was included in the Multicultural Center's Freedom Festival; the group created a short video about the Underground Railroad at Ohio State, and hosted a tour through the trail of Underground Railroad plaques they previously placed across campus. On April 23, the group will hold the second annual Festival of the Finest in the Great Hall of the new Ohio Union, an arts festival highlighting the artistic talents of OSU students. Throughout spring quarter, OSI will sponsor an initiative called Spring into Fitness, which encourages students to focus on their physical health. The initiative will conclude with a 5K run at Fred Beekman Park on May 8. For the third year, Staters will host Best Day of Your Life, a day filled with fun activities and giveaways to encourage students to focus on what makes them happy, while also raising awareness about mental health.

Ohio State Sorority & Fraternity Life Continues to Excel

Formal Recruitment Rates Increase, Community Success Recognized at National Leadership Conference

Sorority Winter Recruitment at Ohio State concluded in early January 2010 with a significant member increase from the 2008 and 2009 seasons. This year, twelve of fourteen sorority chapters each received 27 new members. Additionally, a total of 368 potential members were matched to a chapter, a 103-member increase from 2008 and a 56-member increase from 2009. There was also success in the retention rate of potential members who began the recruitment process and females who were matched to chapters, with 75% remaining through the formal recruitment program. At the end of January, twelve chapters were at or over their total member goals, containing 100 or more members.

Additionally, Sorority and Fraternity Life continues to excel in the community. The National Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values presented Ohio State's Panhellenic Association and the Interfraternity Council with a series of awards at the annual Fraternal Leadership Conference held in St. Louis. The Association's annual Award and Assessment program is designed to give Sorority and Fraternity Governing Councils from across the country the opportunity to be recognized for their achievements, and to benchmark and assess themselves against national standards. The Ohio State Panhellenic Association received a program excellence award in Membership Recruitment and in Council Management. The Interfraternity Council was also recognized, bringing home a program excellence award in the area of Self Governance and Judicial Affairs.



PHOTO KEY

- 1 Volunteers serve pasta and meatballs at the Buckeye Benefit Dinner for Haiti.
- 2 New Ohio Staters, Inc. Executive Board: Craig Morin, Hans Voss, Colleen Miller, Pete Metz, and Kyle Bruggemen.
- 3 Enthusiastic participants keep spirits high at BuckeyeThon 2010.
- 4 BuckeyeThon dancers cheer each other on at the annual student philanthropy.
- 5 Members of the Ohio State Greek Councils pose for a picture at the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values Conference.

2010-2011 Executive Board Selected for the Ohio Union Activities Board

New officers chosen to lead organization into the new Ohio Union

The Ohio Union Activities Board (OUAB) has completed its Executive Board selection process for the 2010-2011 school year. Each candidate went through an extensive application process, including a written application, resume, statement of intent, and letter of recommendation from a peer. From the applicants, a pool of 23 candidates were offered an interview with graduating members of the current OUAB Executive Board, graduating members from OUAB's general membership, advisors, and a representative of the Ohio Union Council. The newly elected officers are:

President – **Stephen Humphries**, Junior, Strategic Communications
 Vice President – **Michelle Mudarth**, Sophomore, Art History
 Director of Operations – **Amanda Close**, Junior, Biology & Psychology
 Co-Director of Marketing – **Alevtina Feinstein**, Junior, Marketing
 Co-Director of Marketing – **Lauren Boyd**, Sophomore, Communication
 Dates & Data Chair – **Kaitlyn McDowell**, Sophomore, Exploration
 Collaborative Events Chair – **Ally Silva**, Junior, International Studies
 Comedy Chair – **Fontine Baptiste**, Sophomore, Marketing
 Concerts Chair – **Linnea Larson**, Junior, English & Logistics Management
 Lectures Chair – **Daniel Walls**, Sophomore, Microbiology
 Special Events – **Shari Lee**, Junior, Marketing
 Visual & Fine Arts – **Ryan Orlosky**, Freshman, Biology

OUAB's new president, Stephen Humphries, is a third year student studying strategic communications. From Dublin, Ohio, he currently serves as the Lectures Chair for the executive board and is the co-convenor of the OUAB Opening Events Project Team. Stephen will be charged with the task of leading this group through the transition into the new Ohio Union. OUAB has a busy year ahead of them as they plan to utilize the new space for programming and events. The board has also launched a new logo to carry them through this exciting year.



OHIO UNION ACTIVITIES BOARD

ouab.osu.edu

Ohio Union & Student Activities Alumni Society Upcoming Event:

Join us at the new Ohio Union for this exciting event just for Ohio Union Alumni!

Saturday April 24, 2010

SPRING FOOTBALL GAME TAILGATE

Woody's Tavern, the Ohio Union
 Tailgate begins at 10:30am.

RSVP to Jenn Geller
 at (614) 247-2075
 or geller.28@osu.edu



The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc.

Ohio State Alumni Association and the University Join Forces

Two Organizations Come Together to Create a strong Relationship

In February 2009, The Ohio State University Board of Trustees approved an agreement that will more closely align Ohio State's Alumni Association with the University. The Alumni Association will remain a member-based organization but, by working in new ways with the University, it will expand its reach beyond dues-paying members.

The Association was previously a separate non-profit entity, a largely self-supporting organization funded primarily by member dues.

The agreement resulted from a year-long study of best practices in alumni engagement among leading public and private universities.

As Alumni Association President, Archie Griffin, explained, "I can say that much thought and effort went into considering all aspects of the change . . . The task force adopted the best elements they saw in their final recommendations. It was important that we give careful consideration to make certain the change would result in a win for all parties involved."

"This strengthened partnership will enable us to collaborate more readily and to engage alumni and friends much more deeply. The result will be innovative, robust programming that fully leverages the vast talents of all of our constituents."

-Ohio State President, E. Gordon Gee

President E. Gordon Gee stated, "This strengthened partnership will enable us to collaborate more readily and to engage alumni and friends much more deeply. The result will be innovative, robust programming that fully leverages the vast talents of all of our constituents." Programs and initiatives being explored include career

services, enhanced alumni networking, regional engagement, lifelong learning opportunities, volunteer recruitment, and coordination.

Archie Griffin will remain president and CEO of the Alumni Association and will assume the additional role as senior vice president for alumni relations of the University

as well as become a member of Gee's senior leadership team. The Alumni Association's 57 full-time employees will become University employees but remain dedicated to their alumni relations work. The Association will continue to operate as a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation with its own 17-member board of directors, to which two university appointees will be added. The Ohio State University Alumni Association has a proud 130-year history, with a potential audience that now numbers more than 470,000 living alumni around the country and throughout the world.

PHOTO KEY

1 Members of the 2009-2010 Ohio Union & Student Activities Alumni Society Board of Governors: Danelle Kirian, Rosemarie Deschler, Eve Ellinger, and Greg Gorospe