

SHS Class of '67...

<http://www.bulldogs67.com/index.html>

SHS Rededication Ceremony (debriefing)...

New South High set for bright future

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Thursday night, I attended the ceremony to rededicate South High School and was filled with a sense of awe and great pride. It was amazing to see its transformation into a 21st-century, state-of-the-art building dedicated to educating our future leaders.

Superintendent Gene Harris, South Principal Johnetta Wiley, the Columbus Board of Education and all involved in this project are to be congratulated. It's great to know that South High will continue for decades to come. Go Bulldogs!

GREGGORY UNDERWOOD

South High School Class of 1970, Columbus

Ria Genoozis Harvey, Sept. 25th... There were quite a few more people at the rededication than I'd imagined last night. I liked the way the original part was preserved, and the addition is quite impressive: computers and phones on teachers' desks; cushy seats in the auditorium; wonderful gym; great student chairs/desks; open cafeteria...no eating in the basement. Funny how I felt a bit nostalgic and took more comfort in seeing what was the same as opposed to how it'd changed.

Editor... Roberta Bivens and I sat together front row, center. As class treasurer, I used to collect senior dues (front, center) at a table adjacent to the stage during senior homeroom . When I looked up at the balcony from that vantage, it brought a tear. Ria, your last sentence (above) captures my entire

experience. Certainly, the NEW was cool (could only imagine the thrill of having played tennis on those courts back in the day), but it was the OLD that totally imprinted itself on my heart.

I'd forgotten about the original ceramic tile floors in all the hallways and stairways, absolutely gorgeous after being cleaned, polished, spit-shined. The original hardwood floors in the classrooms are warm, inviting, highly shellacked and better than new. Now 85 years old, the building's original cabinets and flooring all seem like treasures. The little room on the third floor (with a window on Ann Street where Ina Short and Al Willhite smoked after being thrown out of Spanish) between the old Spanish classroom (still used for Spanish) and the Vocal Music room has been converted to a wheelchair lift! Someone peeked under the piano cover and remarked over and over, "It's the same piano." (That's nice to know.) The staircases are no longer marked UP and DOWN. With only 500+ kids in the building, they probably handle two-way traffic easily. Remember traffic jams on those staircases when they were one-way??

As I walked down the first-floor hallway, up the staircase on the south end, headed for my Algebra II classroom at the top of the stairs, another view caught my eye and stopped me cold: two huge pop machines sat across from the first classroom on the left! Up the steps on the third floor just above these two, visitors will find two more!! Guess we can't let the 'Dawgs get too thirsty, go without a sugar fix or find other ways to pad the general fund coffers minus profits from the sale of sodas.

'67 Classmates in attendance: Karen Taylor and Walter Wonn (Mr. and Mrs.), Roberta Bivens Clark, Frances Beasley, Bill McCall (and guest), Sylvia Holland with her two brothers (SHS '68 and '78), Sue Willoughby Bowles, Barbara Zwilling Swad, Tom Whitacre (wife Linda), Ria Genoozis Harvey and Brenda Reese.

Other Bulldogs recognized... Angela Pace, Bill Keeney (wife Kathy), Donnis Foraker and Jeffrey Thompson, Greg Underwood, '70; Marc Borst, '63; Tim Gall and Richard Kimberley, '65; Rodger Wharton, '66; my former student at Northeast Career Center, Melinda Davis, SHS '87. Also, Donis introduced me

to his niece (Bill and Karen Foraker's youngest daughter), who told us Karen Nothstine, SHS '65, was in the building.

High Times at South High rallies neighborhood (photos)

Look for '67 classmates sitting in the Auditorium...

Frances Beasley, front row

Sylvia Holland (and her two brothers)

Roberta Bivens and Brenda Reese, side by side, last photo

Tom Whitacre (Linda), Barbara Zwilling, Sue Willoughby (left section, middle)

By Felix Hoover

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Bulldogs of many eras woofed it up Thursday night at the dedication of their recently renovated alma mater, South High School.

The ceremony brought together current students, alumni, faculty and staff members, building and district officials and community residents for an evening of reflection and inspection.

Schools Superintendent Gene Harris presented some of the school's history, noting that South was built in 1924, shortly after education became compulsory in Ohio. She noted that a millinery program was showcased at that time and challenged the audience to identify the product it designed and produced.

Students played several roles in the dedication program; The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps provided the color guard, senior Malivan Xaiyakosy led the Pledge of Allegiance, the jazz band performed four numbers and all of the aforementioned took part in the ribbon cutting.

Most of the people on stage seemed at home because they're accustomed to appearing in front of large crowds. But the South High stage really was home

for two members of the Class of 1970: emcee Angela Pace, director of community affairs at WBNS-10TV, and Jeffery V. Thompson, a stage and screen actor, playwright and director.

"The beginning of my career was on this very stage, doing plays, writing sketches and having an absolutely wonderful time," Thompson said. He asserted pride in the education he received at South and reflected fondly on the extracurricular activities for athletes, musicians and thespians. "When the bell rang at the end of the day, most of us returned here because this was our playground," Thompson said.

Dawn McGraph gets views of South's recent past, present and near future from three of her sons, Gerald Byrd, who played football before he graduated; Justin Byrd, who plays keyboards in the jazz band; and Elijah Anderson, 10, who attends Cedarwood Elementary School. Elijah said he especially enjoyed the jazz band's rendition of *I'll Be There* and chuckled when someone punned that he'll be there at South some day.

Anthony Wiley, nephew of South High Principal Johnetta D. Wiley, used to come north from Mississippi when he was "a little kid." He ended his high school career at South, graduating in June as class president. The most impressive changes in the \$32.1-million makeover, he said, are the auditorium, the gymnasium and the cafeteria, said Anthony Wiley, who's studying at Central State University in manufacturing engineering.

James Howell, Class of 1980, said that upgrades in the library and media center, as well as addition of wi-fi throughout the building give the school a 21st-century readiness. He said he has extensive experience in facilities management and appreciates what the board, administrators and the renovation team have done with the building. "What they did to this school will be here another 100, 200 years," he said. "When we're long gone this school will still be here. As stakeholders, that's what we're looking for."

The turnout, which nearly filled the auditorium, impressed alumnus Jeffrey Sheppard. The cushioned seats and improved lighting make the auditorium "the crown jewel of the building," he said.

Tom Niklas, who attended the old Aquinas High School, said he drove by the school every day during its renovation and became impressed with improvements to grounds of South, at 1160 Ann St. "At first I thought it was going to be a clean-up, fix-up job," he said. "When they started there was a lot of skepticism, and I was one of the skeptics. I'm pleased to see they've done a great job."



Gift of Class of '68 (situated in Main Hall)



Jeffrey Thompson, SHS '70, and actor/director



Thompson, Supt. Harris, Pace and Principal Wiley



Jim Driggs, SHS '68, and President, SHS Alumni Assn.



Frances Beasley (and Bulldog cousins)



Sylvia Holland (between Bulldog brothers)

Bulldog's Turning The Big 6-0 in October...

1- Roberta Fisher Miller; **2-** Nancy Holloway Essman (RJH Vocal Music Teacher), Tom Todhunter; **6-** Cathy Hoover Watkins; **8-** Charles McAvoy (lost), Kathy Roseberry Van Zandt; **9-** Phyllis Flanery Altizer; **10-** (Kay) Lynn Wells Johnson (lost); **11-** Richie Bolden, Ruby Lee; **13-** Linda Burchfield Trimmer, Sheila Kemmerling (d.); **14-** Marianne Breckner Gall; **15-** Frances Beasley, John Dethloff SHS '68, Al Willhite SHS '65, Marc Borst SHS '63; **16-** John Finnerty; **18-** Charles Pratt (lost); **19-** Judi Williams Huff; **20-** **Stanley Uffner (lost)**; **21-** Michael Norris, Pat Wyss; **22-** Virginia Baugh Haney, Linda Sigman Hott; **23-** Richard "Dickie" McNamara (lost); **24-** Pat Reall; **25-** Ron Foraker; **26-** (David) Keith Hatfield, Ida Wright Fiwek; **27-** Kathy Kirby Sailor (lost), Margaret Neymeyer Cornwell; **29-** Joe Bernthold; **30-** Bill Broughton (lost); **31-** Connie Kline (lost).

Two Words, Songs, et al...

South Street - The Orlons '63

Can you watch this video and NOT do the pony??

<http://www.viddler.com/explore/NTSTV/videos/11/>

Welcome back...

Jane Tomsic Hubbard, Sept. 27th... I was a graduating member of the South High 1967 class. I just happened to find an old postcard about the 40th year reunion that had my old address on it, and I thought I would update you with my new address/info. Thanks... take care, Jane

Sharon Rausch Mason, Sept. 29th... *Kids say the darnedest things!*