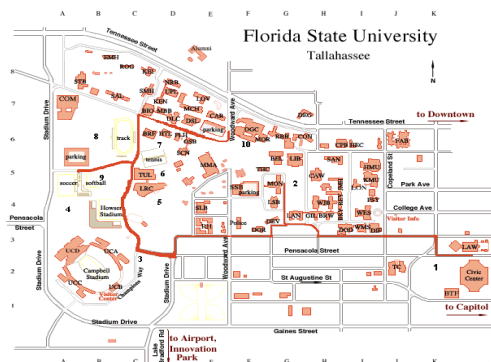


FSU SPORTING VENUES WALKING TOUR

Florida State University's growth after its metamorphosis from an all female college to a coeducational university was tremendous. One of the beneficiaries of this growth was the University's athletic department, especially the football program. With the athletic programs came the necessary improvements to existing structures and construction of new ones. The sporting venues named for people are interesting in the varied nature of the scope of their namesakes' actual connections to the University. As we walk through the tour, you should keep an eye on upgrades and expansions present at each venue.

OUR ITINERARY:



1. DONALD L. TUCKER CENTER

Starting off on Pensacola Street, the first venue we reach is the Donald L. Tucker Center. The Tucker Center currently serves as the home of the Florida State men's and women's basketball teams. It opened on 14 September 1981 and has served as the home of the men's basketball team since then. FSU women's basketball has called the Tucker Center home since 1995. If you look at the roof you will notice it is newer than the rest of the building. In 1995, bad weather actually ripped off a 45 by 100 foot portion of metal from the roof while 2600 people were inside attending a Christian ministry. Most of the roof damaged was from a \$200,000 repair job done just one month earlier. The Civic Center was named for Donald L. Tucker, a two-term Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives who led the fight in state legislature to appropriate \$12 million to build the Civic Center.¹

¹"Civic Center New Home for Lady Seminole Team," Tallahassee Democrat, 1 Jun 1995; "We Looked Up, the Ceiling was Gone," Tallahassee Democrat, 12 Nov 1995; "Civic Center's 'Driving Force' Dies at 62," Tallahassee Democrat, 2 May 2001; "Happy 20th, Civic Center," Tallahassee Democrat, 16 Sep 2001.



Donald L. Tucker Civic Center



Rep. Donald LeGrand Tucker

Tucker is a descendant of Luther Tucker, a West Florida Seminary cadet and veteran of the Battle of Natural Bridge.

FOR FURTHER READING:

Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center: <http://www.tlccc.org/>

FSU Men's Basketball: <http://www.seminoles.com/sports/m-baskbl/fsu-m-baskbl-body.html>.

FSU Women's Basketball: <http://seminoles.cstv.com/sports/w-baskbl/fsu-w-baskbl-frame.html>

Allen Morris, "Reconsiderations: Second Glances at Florida Legislative Events; The Speakers" (Tallahassee, FL: Florida House of Representatives, 1989).

2. KATHERINE MONTGOMERY HALL

From the Tucker Center, we will take the bus down Jefferson Street and make a slight detour to the historic section of campus. Montgomery Hall is adjacent to Landis Green and the Stozier Library. The visitor is treated in the lobby with a small display of items from Montgomery's heyday as a social center of FSCW. Of all the sporting venues on campus, the Montgomery Gym (later Montgomery Hall) has the most intimate connection to its namesake. Dr. Katherine Montgomery not only led the fight to have it built, but even drew up architectural plans for the building based on what she saw from student gyms around the southeast. It was not until the floor of the old gym collapsed in 1926 during a basketball game that the money was set aside for what would become the Montgomery Building. The architect was so impressed with her work, he incorporated all of it that could fall under the budget. Miss Katie was so enamored with the new building that she slept on the gym floor the night before the official opening. After its opening, she personally cleaned out the pool once a week. She would spend the last thirty years of her career in the building. In its heyday, the Montgomery Gym was a center of student life. In addition to serving as the administrative and instructional center of the Physical Education Department, the building also included a bowling alley, basketball court and swimming pool. Montgomery hosted the annual Odds and Evens basketball game and served for many years as the registration center for the registration of new classes each semester. The gym was named for posthumously for Miss Katie on the 14 November 1959. The gym was officially converted into a dance hall for the FSU Dance Department in October 2004 and renamed the Katherine Montgomery Hall. The old swimming pool was converted into a state of the art theater complete with new stadium style seating. The basketball court now serves as a dance studio for the Department.¹

¹ Dorothy Tucker, "Katherine Williams Montgomery: Her Life, Professional Career and Contributions to Physical Education (Houston, TX: Dorothy Tucker, 1960); "Another Year, Another Construction Project," FSView, 23 Aug 2004; Peter Castelow, "Katherine Montgomery: A Change of Heart on Women's Competitive Athletics in the Early 20th Century," (Tallahassee, FL: Peter Castelow, 2005); "A Taste of FSU History," FSView, 22 May 2006.

FOR FURTHER READING:



Montgomery Building

Dorothy Tucker, "Katherine Williams Montgomery: Her Life, Professional Career and Contributions to Physical Education (Houston, TX: Dorothy Tucker, 1960).

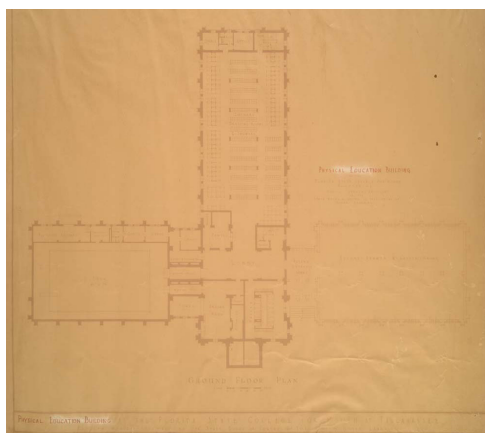
Peter Castelow, "Katherine Montgomery: A Change of Heart on Women's Competitive Athletics in the Early 20th Century," (Tallahassee, FL: Peter Castelow, 2005).



Dr. Katherine Montgomery
"Miss Katie"



Green dress on display in lobby



Original blueprints of the Montgomery Building drafted by Katherine Montgomery

Montgomery has received much criticism for her role in preventing intercollegiate competition for FSCW and later for women at FSU. She believed that intercollegiate competition (what she called \$port\$) inevitably led to monetary involvement and exclusiveness. Once this happens, athletics loses its educational quality. Sports should be available for everyone and free of economic interests.

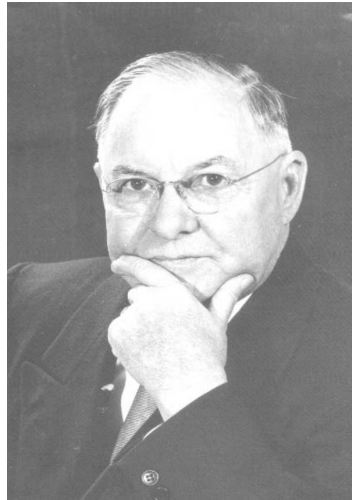
3. BOBBY BOWDEN FIELD AT DOAK CAMPBELL STADIUM



Doak Campbell Stadium 1950



2006



Doak Sheridan Campbell

Dr. Campbell deserves much credit for leading the University through its transition but he was not a fan of the move. Shortly before his retirement he told his wife “I wish that I could wave a wand and stop the growth of this institution.” (William Oliver, “Doak S. Campbell, Educator” (Tallahassee, FL: William Oliver, 1978), p. 230.)



Bobby Bowden

As a quarterback for Howard College, Bowden played in the second game ever held at Doak Campbell Stadium on 14 Oct 1950.

As we make our way back to Jefferson, the street dead ends at our next stop: Bobby Bowden Field at Doak Campbell Stadium. Commonly called just “Doak,” the stadium was built in 1950 for the football team. It was named for Dr. Doak Campbell, president of FSU during its transition from an all-female college to co-educational university. The stadium has undergone 15 expansions during its 56 year history. What started out as a small 15,000 seat metal stadium is now an 84,000 seat fully enclosed brick behemoth. Doak Campbell Stadium was modeled after the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Florida. At one point in 1969 the University seriously considered demolishing Doak and building a new one somewhere else. They wanted to use the land for dorm space and office space. The plan fell through however when FSU lost the bid on the land to Leon County.

You should pay attention to the brick wings of the stadium. Originally called by critics the “Jock’s Palace,” construction of the familiar red brick facade began in December 1991 and finished in 2003. Upon completion of the project most people came to see the benefit of the new University Center in providing badly needed office and classroom space for FSU. On 21 November 2004 the stadium was officially renamed Bobby Bowden Field at Doak Campbell Stadium in honor of their long time football coach Bobby Bowden. Bowden holds the NCAA Division IA record for most career wins. He coached the Seminoles to two national titles, one in 1993 and one in 1999.¹

1 “Erection of Steel Begun on Stadium,” Florida Flambeau, 4 Aug 1950; “West Stadium Ready for First Home Game,” Florida Flambeau, 26 Sep 1950; “FSU Seeks New Stadium Site on Low-Priced Federal Land,” St. Petersburg Times, 17 Apr 1969; “Stadium Expansion Ready for First Game,” Florida Flambeau, 10 Sep 1993; “FSU to Honor Bowden Before Clash with Gators,” FSView, 18 Nov 2004; “Doak S. Campbell Stadium, Home of the Seminoles,” FSU News, 23 May 2005.

FOR FURTHER READING:

Frank Stephenson, “War Child,” Research in Review (Summer 1995), available online at <http://www.rinr.fsu.edu/summer95/features/warchild.html>

William L. Oliver, “Doak S. Campbell, Educator,” [dissertation] (Tallahassee, FL: William Oliver, 1978).

“Papa Nole: The Life and Times of Bobby Bowden,” The Ledger, 3 Sep 2000, available online at <http://www.theledger.com/static/bowden/intro.htm>

James P. Jones, “FSU One Time! A History of Seminole Football,” Tallahassee, FL: Sentry Press, 1973).

4. MIKE MARTIN FIELD AT DICK HOWSER STADIUM

Next we head down Champions Way and the first building on left is Mike Martin Field at Dick Howser Stadium, home of FSU's baseball team. The stadium opened up on 28 March 1983 and took one million dollars to build. Dick Howser was FSU's first ever All-American in baseball and managed the team in 1979. Howser died from a brain tumor in 1986. They named the stadium posthumously in Howser's honor. Mike Martin has more wins than any other manager in FSU history and the field was officially named in his honor in 2005. The stadium itself has undergone many changes. You should pay attention to the red brick facade. This was added to the stadium after a \$14 million renovation in 2004.¹

¹ "Howser Sets New Standard for Collegiate Ball-parks," Florida State Times, Nov 2004; 2004 Florida State University Baseball Media Guide, p. 136-138; "Mike Martin Field Enshrined," FSView, 4 Apr 2005.

FOR FURTHER READING:

Jim Crosby, "The Tradition of Dick Howser Stadium," available online at <http://www.sectionb.com/howsertrad.htm>



Dick Howser Statue at Dick Howser Stadium

Dick Howser was voted "Athlete of the Year" for FSU in 1955. Also in the running was Bob Crenshaw, namesake of Crenshaw Lanes. ("The Press Table," Florida Flambeau, Feb 1956).



Mike Martin

Martin has been involved with the FSU baseball team as a player, assistant coach and manager for 34 seasons.



5. BOBBY E. LEACH CENTER

Across the street from Dick Howser is the Bobby E. Leach Student Recreation Center. Construction started on the Leach Center in December 1989 and the building itself was officially opened on 9 September 1991 at the cost of \$12.9 million dollars. It serves as a student gym and as the home of the men and women's swimming and diving teams. You should take notice of the tremendous size of this gym. When the Leach Center was built, it was one of the few student gyms in the country of this size. Dr. Bob Leach was the first ever African-American administrator at FSU and remains the highest ranking black administrator in FSU history. He was hired in Jul 1978 as Vice President of Student Affairs and continued in that capacity until poor health caused him to step down in 1988 and he died a year later in 1989.¹

¹ "Leach Plans Evaluating Time," Florida Flambeau, 26 Jun 1978; "New FSU Student Rec Center Scheduled to Open Monday," Florida Flambeau, 7 Sep 1991.

FOR FURTHER READING:

FSU Campus Recreation webpage in honor of Dr. Leach:
<http://fsu.campusrec.com/leach/drleach.shtml>.



Dr. Bob Leach

Dr. Leach was the force behind the creation of the Mental Health Center, created during his tenure

6. BOBBY TULLY GYM



Bobby Tully

Bobby Tully's family figure prominently in Tallahassee. The James C. Tully Medical Center is named for his brother. Another brother, Jack, was the first ever team captain of the FSU football team after it became co-educational. His mother Winnie was a juvenile probation officer for over 30 years.

Next up is the Bobby Tully Gym next door to the Leach Center. Tully Gym opened up in 1956 to serve as the home of the men's basketball team and gymnastics team. The seating capacity is was only 4,200 and at the time of construction many people considered it to be huge. Tully became the home of the FSU women's basketball team and volleyball team. The school quickly outgrew the gym however, and over time it earned the moniker "Tiny Tully". The men's basketball team left in 1981 and the women's basketball team followed them in 1995. Today it is housing the women's volleyball team and the offices of the Student Recreation department. Tully also serves a variety of intramural sports. A generous donation to the volleyball program by Lucy McDaniel of over a million dollars allowed for the replacement of the gym floor, the installation of padded seats and new lighting. On 2 Nov 2000 the Gym was officially re-named Lucy McDaniel Court at Robert Tully Gym in honor of her generous donations to the volleyball program. Bobby Tully was a WWII veteran and member of the FSU football team. When he died in 1954, he was the first varsity athlete from FSU to die.¹

1 "Tribe Cagers in Home Opener," Florida Flambeau, Dec 1956; Joan Perry Morris and Martee Wills, "Seminole History: A Pictorial History of Florida State University," (Jacksonville, FL: South Star Publishing Co., 1985), p. 60; "Civic Center New Home to Lady Seminoles," Tallahassee Democrat, 1 Jun 1995.

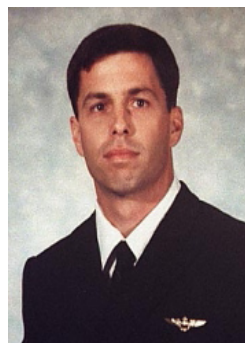
FOR FURTHER READING:

Winnie Tully Interview, in the Reichelt Oral History Archives

7. SCOTT SPEICHER TENNIS CENTER

As we keep going down Champions Way, we approach the Scott Speicher Tennis Center located next to Tully Gym. The Speicher Center opened in the summer of 1993 as the home of the men's and women's tennis teams, also serving as a student recreation court (pictured on far right). The tennis stadium cost \$1.2 million to build. Attention should be paid to the facade tower. Quite a wonderful view of campus from that spot. Michael Scott Speicher was a Navy fighter pilot shot down in the Gulf War. An FSU alum, Speicher's family still holds out hope for his return. They started "Friends Working to Free Scott Speicher."¹

1 2003-2004 Florida State Women's Tennis Media Guide, p. 42; "Home Court Advantage," FSView, 29 Aug 2005.



Lt. Com. Scott Speicher

Speicher's wife remarried after he went down in Iraq. His wife's second husband is one of the most outspoken advocates for his safe return home.



FOR FURTHER READING:

Friends Working to Free Scott Speicher: <http://www.freescottspeicher.org/>

8. MIKE LONG TRACK

Our tour now turns off on Chieftain Way. Across the street from the Speicher Center, at the corner of Chieftain and Champions, is the Mike Long Track. The Mike Long Track serves as the home of the Florida State men's and women's track and field teams. Prior to the construction of Long Track, the FSU track and field teams played on a track located near Tallahassee Community College. In 1955 Mike Long officially took over as head coach of the FSU track team. When Long Track opened in 1957, it was to serve as a joint venture between FSU and Florida High School. The now familiar synthetic surface was added on in 1974. The track would be named for Long in 1979, two years after his retirement. Attention should be paid to the new track surface. In 2003, as part of the first part of a \$2.1 million dollar renovation of Mike Long Track, the track was resurfaced and expanded. Future plans include the renovation of the bleachers and the track and field office building located there. Mike Long coached the Seminoles Track and Field Team for 22 years, starting up from scratch and turning the program into a recognizable entity. Known as "The Father of FSU Track and Field", Long was inducted into the FSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1978, shortly after his retirement.¹



Mike Long (at left)

Mike Long's son Terry Long was head coach of the FSU men's and women's track and field teams from 1988-2003.

FOR FURTHER READING:

FSU Track and Field: <http://seminoles.cstv.com/sports/c-track/fsu-c-track-body.html>

¹ "Mike Long Track Receives Long Overdue Renovations," FSView, 20 Mar 2003; 2004-2005 Florida State University Track and Field Media Guide, p. 40.

9. JOANNE GRAF SOFTBALL FIELD



Dr. JoAnne Graf

Dr. Graf received her doctorate in Athletic Administration from FSU in 1992

FOR FURTHER READING:

FSU Softball: <http://seminoles.cstv.com/sports/w-softbl/fsu-w-softbl-body.html>

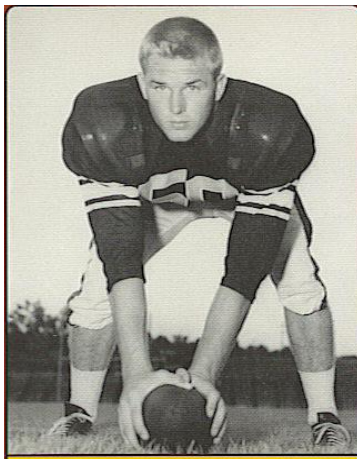
JoAnne Graf: http://seminoles.cstv.com/sports/w-softbl/mtt/graf_joanne00.html

As we head down Chieftain Way a little bit from Long Track, we reach the Joanne Graf Softball Field. The Joanne Graf Softball Field is part of a two sport complex, with one side being the softball field and the other side the soccer field. Completed on April 17, 1999, the softball/soccer complex came as part of a 1995 plan in part to help FSU satisfy Title IX requirements. In 1977, \$5 million was set aside for men's sports while women's sports had a budget of only \$163,000. Criticism was rampant within the FSU Athletics Department over favoritism towards men's sports as evidenced by the inferior facilities used by the women's programs. The best women's venues, the swimming and golf facilities, were also used by the men's teams. To make up for the quality differences between the softball field and Dick Howser Stadium, plans were made for the construction of this complex. In April 2005, the softball complex was officially named Joanne Graf Field in honor of Dr. Graf. Joanne Graf was an alum and former softball player for FSU, graduating in 1975. Dr. Graf has over 1,300 career victories to go with two national titles (1980 and 1981) and ten Atlantic Coast Conference titles since FSU joined in 1992.¹

¹ Jan Pudlow, "Women Just Keep on Playing," FSU Times vol. 5 (Oct 1999), p. 8; 2004-2005 Florida State University Softball Media Guide, p. 49; "Name Game: FSU Softball Honors Graf," Tallahassee Democrat, 2 Apr 2005; "Graf Joins School's Coaching Pantheon," Tampa Tribune, 13 Apr 2005.



Bowling alley and billiards toom at Crenshaw



Bob Crenshaw

Bob Crenshaw weighed 175 pounds, making him the smallest offensive lineman in the country.

10. CRENSHAW LANES

As we wind our way back towards the original campus, our last stop is Crenshaw Lanes located inside the Oglesby Student Union. Prior to Crenshaw Lanes, the only bowling alley on the Florida State campus was a small two lane bowling alley in the old Montgomery Gym. For a small all-female campus where curfews were in effect and leisure time severely restricted, the small alley in Montgomery worked fine. The students devoted most leisure activity while in the Montgomery Gym to swimming in the pool. When FSCW became the coeducational FSU in 1947 it quickly became obvious that this tiny facility simply would not do. Crenshaw Lanes opened August 1964 as part of the massive student union project. Originally named the Crenshaw Building, Crenshaw consists of a twelve lane bowling alley and a billiards room. Like Tully Gym, Crenshaw Lanes was considered large when it opened but now clearly is too small for FSU. Aided by its central location, cheap student prices and alcohol sales, Crenshaw Lanes has the highest average volume for any twelve lane bowling alley in the country. It serves as the home of the FSU bowling team. Also like Tully, Crenshaw Lanes is named for a former FSU football player who died. Bob Crenshaw was the starting center and team captain of FSU who played here from 1953 to 1956. Crenshaw enlisted in the Air Force Reserves after graduating and tragically died in a plane crash near Chiefland, Florida in 1958. In his memory, his teammates set up the Bob Crenshaw Award, an annual award voted on by FSU players given to the Seminole player who had the most heart. Crenshaw was inducted into the FSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1981. So sit back, put on some ugly shoes and have a beer!¹

1 "Union Opens New Facilities; Bowling, Billiards Provided," Florida Flambeau, 18 Sep 1964; James P. Jones, "FSU One Time! A History of Seminole Football," (Tallahassee, FL: Sentry Press, 1973), p. 161; Bill McGrotha, "Seminoles! The First Forty Years" (Tallahassee, FL: Tallahassee Democrat, 1987), p. 45; "A Time to Remember Fallen Heroes," Daytona Beach News-Journal, 23 Mar 2003; Interview with Michael Fine, Director of Crenshaw Lanes, 19 Oct 2006.

FOR FURTHER READING:

Crenshaw Lanes website: <http://union.fsu.edu/crenshaw/>

The naming of a building or venue is an imperfect science. Deciding on an appropriate name for a building can sometimes cause controversy, especially if a building already has a name or the potential namesake has little or no connection to the building or program. Timing is also a concern. Should it be named while the person is still alive, after he or she retires or posthumously? The names of sporting venues on FSU's campus reflect a wide range in terms of connections and timing. Some namesakes played a role in the building's construction, like Katherine Montgomery, Don Tucker and Doak Campbell. Bobby Bowden, Bob Leach, Mike Long, JoAnne Graf, Mike Martin and Dick Howser were honored for proactive roles they played in developing programs. Bob Crenshaw, Bobby Tully and Scott Speicher had no role at all in the buildings or the respective programs they host. Each venue reflects one common theme: the continued growth and desirability for better facilities to absorb this growth. While their age may vary, each one of the venues were either built or undergone renovations within the past 15 years.