"ON CAMPUS" - 1-17-80

Perhaps best known of the halls of fame at Ohio State — but the least visited is the Athletic Hall of Fame. Unlike the drainage and insurance halls of fame, which accept world-wide candidates, the Ohio State Athletic Hall of Fame honors great Ohio State athletes only.

Although a third group of athletic greats (including Jim Houston and Bruce Harlan) was recently inducted, the hall of fame is a “hall” in name only, according to Steve Snapp, associate sports information director.

Fifty-four plaques have been given to as many OSU athletic greats and forty-four matching plaques are kept in storage. Snapp said any plans to build an actual hall for visitors are “way down the road.” He added that Ohio State is the only school in the Big Ten to even have such an honor for its athletes.

Selections are made by a committee from Varsity “O” and honorees are inducted during a football game halftime. “We like to do our inducting during the football games because that’s when they get the most recognition,” Snapp said.

On the 75th anniversary of 4-H in Ohio in 1977, Ohio State gained yet another hall of fame — the Ohio 4-H Hall of Fame. Its members are honored with portraits which hang in the state 4-H cooperative extension office in the Agricultural Administration Building. Fourteen members, six of whom are women, are honored for their contributions to Ohio 4-H through leadership and service.

There are five charter members in this hall of fame including A. B. Graham former superintendent of Clark County Schools. He founded 4-H in 1902 and four of his first club members are also in the hall of fame.

According to James Helt, associate state 4-H leader, 4-H was first known as the “Corn Club.” Graham felt there was a need for rural boys and girls to know about their environment before and while they were going to school, Helt says.

Each county 4-H group has an advisory committee which can nominate two hall of fame candidates each year. The final selection committee is an anonymous 4-H group. However, unlike the other halls of fame on campus, at least 50 percent of those inducted into the hall must be living. “We want our nominees to be able to enjoy the honor. These people are volunteers,” Helt said.

Also honoring the greats of their profession in the form of a hall of fame is the insurance business.

Sixty-two world-wide insurance greats, including Benjamin Franklin and Otto VonBismarck, have received “the highest honor to which a person concerned with insurance can aspire,” according to a pamphlet published by the Griffith Foundation, sponsor of the hall.

Franklin, elected in the first year of the hall of fame’s existence, is credited with founding the first incorporated fire insurance company in colonial America. Bismarck, the 19th century German statesman, was inducted in 1976. He established the world’s first formalized social insurance program.

Edmond Halley, the astronomer who discovered the comet with the same name can also be found hanging in Room 4 of the Fawcett Center. Halley pioneered in vital statistics and mortality tables. His life expectation tables were the first to be developed.

The Insurance Hall of Fame, also a conference room, was furnished in 1957 by a $25,000 gift to the University from the Griffith Foundation for Insurance Education. Famers are elected annually by a board of 300 insurance persons.

In 1927 the Ohio State School of Journalism opened the country’s first journalism hall of fame. Since that time 21 other states have begun similar halls. Although the hall has been inactive since 1956, Professor Frank T. Gaumer says plans are underway to once again induct Ohio journalists. The hall and conference room are located on the first floor of the school.

To be eligible for the hall, nominees must have been dead at least five years, have been born in or moved to the state, and have contributed to journalism in Ohio.

A few who fit this bill are 29th President Warren G. Harding and William Maxwell Harding. Harding was owner and editor of the Marion Star in the early part of this century. Maxwell published the first newspaper in the Northwest Territory. His paper began in 1793 in Cincinnati.

Nomination to the hall can be made by anyone connected with the news media. Nominations will be screened by a journalism committee and then voted upon by a group of about 75 journalists not connected with the School of Journalism.
THE UNIVERSITY'S newest hall of fame honors persons who have distinguished themselves in the field of agricultural drainage.
Drainage expert given award

By Cynthia L. Reza
Lantern staff writer

If someone told you your career was going down the drain, you might be insulted. For members inducted into the Department of Agricultural Engineering's Drainage Hall of Fame, the statement can be taken as a compliment.

Since 1979, Ohio State's Drainage Hall of Fame has recognized outstanding drainage practitioners, educators and researchers in the areas of land drainage and water management worldwide.

This year's inductee, Jans Wesseling, is a retired research officer and department head at the Dutch Institute for Land and Water Management Research in Wageningen, Netherlands. Wesseling is the ninth inductee.

Wesseling came to the United States Monday to receive the award. During a luncheon Tuesday of the Ohio Land Improvement Contractors of America at the Holiday Inn, Worthington, Wesseling was presented with his award.

Afterward he gave a seminar on filter materials which he later repeated for faculty and students at the agricultural campus.

"So far as we know it, this is the only known award of its kind in the world," said Byron Nolte, agricultural engineer for the Ohio Cooperative Extension Service.

Nominations for this honor are received from all over the world, Nolte said. Ballots are provided in field newsletters and other industry publications.

"Drainage at the agricultural end is very important," said Melville Palmer, extension agricultural engineer and director, for the International Program for Water Management.

"In Ohio, 60 percent of crop land requires drainage for effective crop production. Drainage is vital to other country's too, like Holland."

Palmer said Ohio State's involvement on both the national and international levels for education and research in the drainage area made it the appropriate choice to develop such an award.

Professor emeritus Glenn O. Schwab was the 1983 award winner. His work focused mainly on drainage research.

"I was in on the original plan," Schwab said. "We always felt it (the hall of fame award) had to be worldwide to be anything."

The award is dedicated to former OSU professor Virgil Overholt. Overholt spent 42 years as a teaching and extension specialist in agricultural engineering at Ohio State.

The dedication was decided upon by a group of senior faculty members who knew contributions, Palmer said.

Selection of the inductee from the nominations is done by a jury of selection, said Warren L. Roller, agricultural engineering department chairman. The jury is made up of appointed individuals representing the U.S. industry (for land drainage and waste management), Roller said.

Roller has final approval on the selection and presents the award during the induction ceremony.
Wesseling is new inductee to hall of fame

By Robert Boyce

Jans Wesseling, a Dutch drainage engineer, was inducted Jan. 6 into the Drainage Hall of Fame in the Department of Agricultural Engineering.

Wesseling recently retired as the head of the Department of Water Management of the Institute for Land and Water Management Research, Wageningen, the Netherlands.

He was cited at a luncheon ceremony for his leadership and contributions to the field of agricultural drainage. During the ceremony, Wesseling described the effectiveness of new synthetic filters in improving water collection and in keeping soil out of drainpipes in an address, "The Role of Filter Materials in Drainage."

He has been editor-in-chief since 1985 of the international journal Agricultural Water Management and has served on a number of Netherlands committees dealing with engineering water management problems.

Author of 52 research articles and 20 research reports, Wesseling is the ninth inductee into the Drainage Hall of Fame. It was dedicated in 1979 to the memory of Virgil Overholt. Overholt was a long-time teacher and extension specialist in agricultural engineering. He developed many standards of practice in his specialty.

The hall of fame is headquartered in the newly-opened Agricultural Engineering Building, where an exhibit depicting the history of agricultural drainage technology recently was set up.

THE 1987 DRAINAGE HALL OF FAME inductee, Jans Wesseling, right, an engineer from the Netherlands, is greeted by Byron Nolte, professor of agricultural engineering and Ohio Cooperative Extension Service and secretary of the advisory committee for drainage and water management programs.
Obscure hall recognizes drainage

The first thing visitors to the new Agricultural Engineering Building encounter is the Overholt Drainage Hall of Fame.

Ohio State's agricultural engineering department has been internationally known for its drainage research ever since Virgil Overholt became the state's first extension agricultural engineer in 1914. In 42 years of service, Overholt published information on everything from road grading to knot tying. But his specialty was drainage.

THE OVERHOLT Drainage Hall of Fame was founded in 1979. It has inducted nine researchers for their work in drainage.

The most recent was Jans Wesseling, head of the Institute for Land and Water Management in the Netherlands. Wesseling lead the research that enabled the Dutch to reclaim sea-covered coastal areas.

The reclaimed fields, which are called polder lands, were systematically drained. The drainage allowed rain water to leach through the soil and carry salt left from the ocean back out to sea. Farmers now raise a variety of crops ranging from wheat to potatoes to tulips on the reclaimed land.

The hall of fame moved beyond the tight circle of engineering recognition last year when The Los Angeles Times added it to their list of obscure halls of fame. Rumor has it the institution also made the media as a Hollywood Squares true or false question.

BUT FOR the state's farmers, drainage is not something to take lightly. There's a saying that drainage is all that stands between the farmers of northwestern Ohio and the Great Black Swamp. Some of the state's richest land was not inhabitable, much less farmable, until the middle of the 19th century when drainage laws were written to encourage farmers to cooperate in building outlet ditches.

According to agricultural engineer Byron Nolte, Ohio is probably as intensively drained as any state in the country. "The U.S. Soil Conservation Service reports 60 percent of Ohio's cropland is on poorly drained soil," said Nolte.

A recent survey showed there are almost 5,000 miles of regularly maintained open drainage ditches in the state. Main lines of drainage tiles run into the ditches. Branch lines of tiles or laterals feed the larger main lines.

EVEN BEFORE the civil war tiles were made from wood in the state. Ohio-manufactured clay tiles from the Civil War era are on display at the hall of fame.

In 1893 the first wheel trencher was developed in Ohio to help make trench-digging easier and faster. Since then, Ohioans have developed chain trenchers and drainage plows for ditch digging.

From 1950 until his retirement in 1984, OSU researcher Glenn Swabb gathered data showing how drainage improved crop production. Nolte said Swabb's work is the world's most thorough examination of the impact of drainage on crops.

The first plastic tubing was manufactured and laid in Ohio in 1967. Plastic tubing is now used in 95 percent of the lateral tile lines. The nation's largest manufacturers of plastic tubing are located in the state. Hancock Corp. is in Findlay, Ohio, and Advanced Drainage Systems is in Columbus.

In the mid-1960s Jim Fouss, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service, was assigned to OSU to investigate the use of lasers in drainage. From his work the Dayton-based Laser Plane Co. was established to lay drainage tile with laser-beam precision. It was one of the first practical applications of lasers.

Nolte said drainage is still the dominant problem for farmers in Ohio. New research at the agricultural engineering department centers on chemicals and fertilizers that leach into drainage tiles and are carried into streams.
Columbus area boasts gamut of Halls of Fame

In Essence
Department of Interior. Yes, sir, folks say he developed sound principles for the design of gravel envelopes. Now look at him. He's in the world's one and only Drainage Hall of Fame, right here in Columbus, Ohio.
Let Canton smugly gloat over its Pro Football Hall of Fame, though it looks like an oversized strainer juice squeezer. Let Cleveland have its Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (73 induc tories and no building). Give Akron its Investors Hall of Fame.
Columbus has, well, uh, there is the Insurance Hall of Fame, the Accounting Hall of Fame and the Drainage Hall of Fame, for starters. Venture a few miles outside the city limits, and you'll find a Barbering Hall of Fame and a Bull Hall of Fame, the latter a shrine constructed by the catttle artificial insemination folks at Select Sires, honoring the seminal output of bulls who truly gave above and beyond the call.
The Ohio State University College of Optometry has an eyewear hall of fame. Actually, its official title is Celebrity Eyewear Collection, but in fact it is a hall of fame for spectacles of the rich and famous.
Arranged in several cases, the eyewear collection includes the glasses of everyone from Sherman Hemsley to C. L. Ross. Sanders. Close by the spectacles of President Bush is a handwritten note from the chief executive apologizing, "I used to wear these. They got bent from

Claims to fame
Some state and national shrines found in Ohio:

- Amrhein Sports Hall of Fame, Canton
- American Indian Art Hall of Fame, Akron
- American Racing Pigeon Union Hall of Fame, Massillon
- Christian Hall of Fame, Canton
- Engineering and Science Hall of Fame, Dayton
- Great Ohioans Hall of Fame, Columbus
- National Aviation Hall of Fame, Dayton
- National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame, Lucasville
- National Inventors Hall of Fame, Akron
- National Pro Bowlers Hall of Fame, Akron
- National Trapshooting Hall of Fame, Van Buren
- Ohio Journalism Hall of Fame, Columbus
- Ohio 4-H Hall of Fame, Columbus
- Pro Football Hall of Fame, Canton
- State Agricultural Hall of Fame, Columbus
- State Baseball Hall of Fame, Tokyo
- Conservation Hall of Fame, Columbus
- State Teenage Hall of Fame, Columbus
- State Women's Hall of Fame, Columbus
- Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Cleveland

Source: Ohio Division of Tourism and Division

Please see SHRINES page 2D
reading in the sauna.

The president's glasses share a display case with those of Miss Piggy (hot pink and heart-shaped), John Denver (engraved "Rocky Mountain High"), Elvis Presley (a pair of $7,000 sunglasses), Stephen King and Bobby Rahal.

"The pair we have from Bobby Rahal is sort of broken," I was told by my guide. "He wore them when he went into the wall. The lens pops out."

The idea for the collection cropped up over lunch among a handful of optometry professors several years ago.

"I wrote 100 letters to well-known individuals," recalled Dr. Arol Augsburger, an OSU professor of clinical optometry and curator of the collection. "Orville Redenbacher was the first to send a pair. Gerald Ford was second."

A few of the letters of refusal are more interesting than some of the collected spectacles. Columnist George Will apologized that he had run over his only spare pair with the family station wagon. Sen. John Glenn declined, noting that he thought eyeglasses incompatible with his public image.

Most of the halls of fame in the central Ohio area are narrowly focused. For instance, the Drainage Hall of Fame, at the OSU Agricultural Engineering Department, is never going to induct an altruistic plumber, say, or an urology nurse. No, the specifications cite clearly that an inductee must be "an outstanding person who has made significant contributions to the development and use of drainage in agricultural production for an extended period of time."

Like the Drainage Hall of Fame, most of the campus-area halls of fame are in buildings whose function bears a professional connection to the shrines. The Ohio Accounting Hall of Fame is in the College of Business. The Celebrity Eyewear Collection is in the OSU Optometry Clinic. The Insurance Hall of Fame is in the Fawcett Center for Tomorrow, which seems a bit curious, if only because "tomorrow" is something the hall's inductees warned prospective customers might never come (so that they could sell enough insurance to end up in the Center for Tomorrow).

The City of Columbus Hall of Fame, in City Hall, has inducted 34 people, including five football stars, three Miss Americas, one boxer and the actor (Warner Baxter) who played the Cisco Kid.

A small blurb below each picture explains why the individual was inducted. For instance, 1972 Miss America Laurel Lea Schafer was not a cinch bet just because she made it in Atlantic City. The explanation suggests she was inducted for not becoming fatheaded about being Miss America: "Yet the many awards and national recognition Miss Schafer has received have not changed her gracious style and optimistic outlook."

Each hall has a special set of guidelines and rules. For instance, only a bull can be inducted into the Bull Hall of Fame, near Plain City; but one does not need to be a barber to be inducted into the Barbering Hall of Fame in Canal Winchester. One of its first selections was the genius who invented the reclining barber chair.

All of the halls of fame save one honor past and/or present contributions. The Bull Hall of Fame, thanks to the magic of liquid nitrogen freezing, honors past, present and future contributions, ensuring that long after an inductee has gone to his final rest, he still will be hitting for average. Even Babe Ruth wasn't that good.