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...Buildings

Recognizable because of its unique structure is the Churchill Academic Tower.

This complex was named after long-time religious and broadcast leader, Dr. Clinton H. Churchill. "Dedicated to Clinton H. Churchill, broadcaster, educator, evangelist, in recognition of his lifetime service to humanity and singular generosity to Canisius," were the words inscribed on the plaque unveiled by the Very Rev. James M. Demske, S.J., College President, at the dedication ceremony held on Oct. 13, 1971.

Born in Buffalo on Aug. 18, 1888, Churchill spent most of his life in the local area. Churchill began his career as a religious leader in 1917, inspired to the evangelistic movement by the Rev. Billy Sunday, world-famous preacher. He was a leader in the broadcast field with WKBW (whose call letters stood for "Well Known Bible Witness"), and WKBW-AM.

A grantor, and trustee of the Clinton R. Churchill Foundation, Churchill supported religious, educational, and humanitarian projects, aside from being a member of the Canisius Religious Studies Council. WKBW Inc., formerly the Broadcasting Foundation, Inc., was organized by Dr. Churchill, aside from his important contribution to the formation of the Buffalo Broadcasting Corp. in 1928. He was also a leading figure in the merging of three Buffalo radio stations.

Later in his career, Churchill served as pastor of the Churchill Tabernacle until pressures arising from his responsibilities at WKBW Inc. forced him to resign.

Throughout his life, Churchill was associated with many national organizations involved in radio, and television broadcast activities.

In 1970, Churchill bestowed a $500,000 gift on Canisius for the construction of the Church Hill Academic Tower, which cost an estimated $1,512,100 to build.

The Koessler Athletic Center, located on Main and East Door Streets, was designed to house the facilities of the Physical Education major, while simultaneously providing a place for Canisius students to get involved in a multitude of intramural, intercollegiate athletic programs, and intercollegiate athletics.

The building is named after J. Walter Koessler, class of '22, and founder of the Greater Buffalo Press, Inc., a student at Canisius. Koessler played varsity basketball for three years, and varsity football for two. Koessler served as captain of the varsity basketball team in his junior and senior years.

The entire Koessler family was greatly involved in athletic activities here at Canisius. Koessler's brother Ken cheered on the Blue and Gold teams in the late 1920's, while his son Jack participated in numerous intramural sports, when he wasn't cheering on the basketball teams at the Aud during the late 40's, and early 50's.

The Koessler family followed in the footsteps of these men, contributing their scholarships, and helping the teams maintain their standards of excellence. The rest of the Koessler family also played a role in the development of the athletic program.

In September of 1972, students started working for the first time toward a B.S. in Physical Education.

Interestingly, the 1973 National AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) gymnastics championships were held April 26-28, at the $3,300,000 facility.

The Horan-O'Donnell Science Building, designed to house the chemistry and physics departments, was made possible through the donations of Marjan A. Horan, and Dr. William J. O'Donnell, who also funded the efforts of the chemistry and physics programs.

Building houses classrooms, laboratories, and offices of both the chemistry and physics departments.

Bosc Hall was constructed in 1968, at an estimated cost of $2,895,000.

Bosc Hall was set to house 319 students and five faculty, with its walls, as well as the existing Frisch Hall dormitory.

The hall was named after Father Raymond G. Bosch, who died. Father Bosch topped off his 34 years of service at Canisius in April of 1667, by presenting the college with $46,822 in savings, and a portfolio of stocks, reaching an estimated value of $65,778. This donation was only one of many made by Father Bosch during his career here at the College.