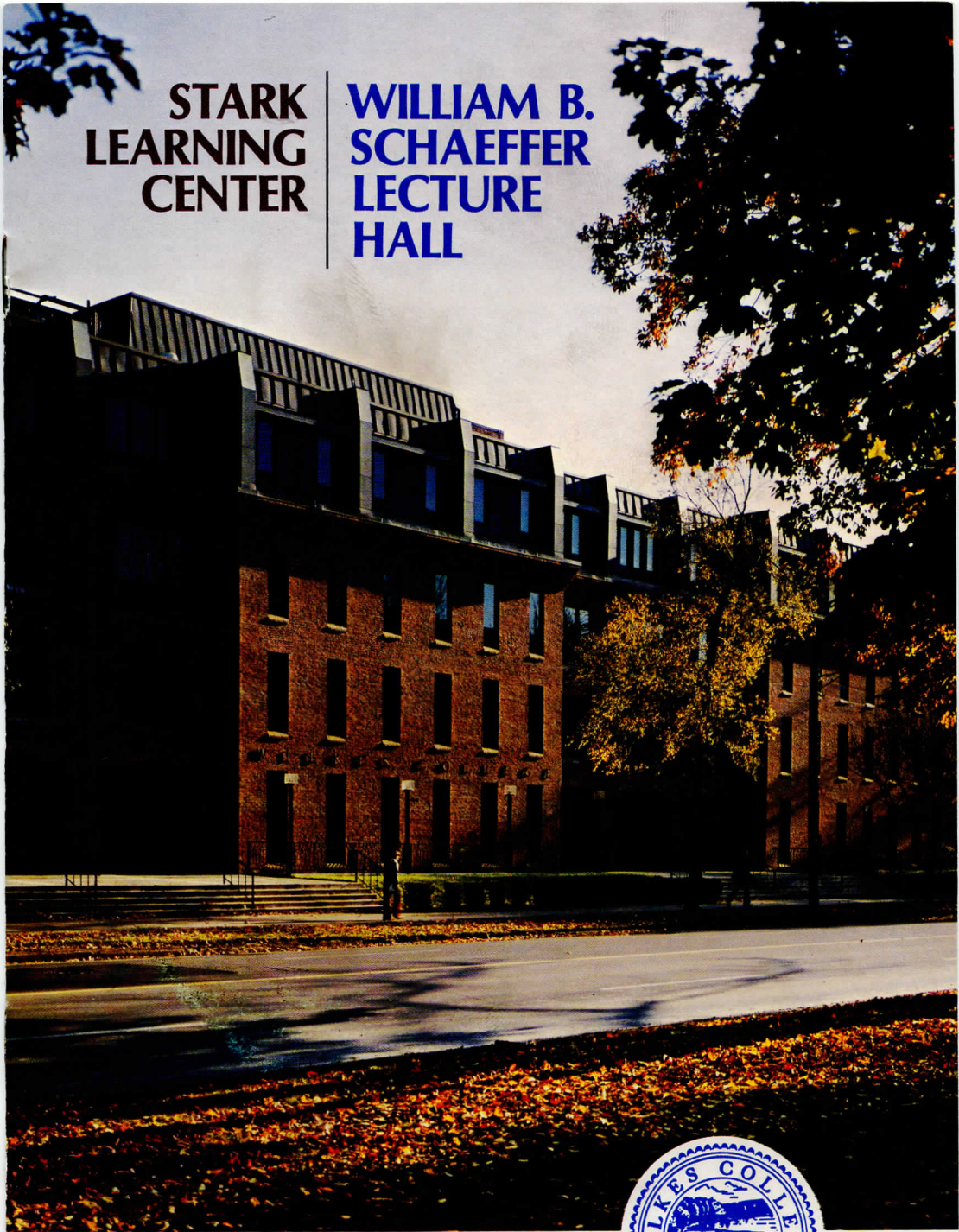


Address by Congressman Flood at the
Dedication of the Stork Learning Center, 1975 October 11th

**STARK
LEARNING
CENTER**

**WILLIAM B.
SCHAEFFER
LECTURE
HALL**



WILKES COLLEGE
WILKES-BARRE, PENNA.



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Stark Hall was the beginning. The new \$6.7 million Stark Learning Center is the fulfillment of a dream. Following four years of construction, campaigns and setbacks, the Wilkes College Stark Learning Center officially was ready to be dedicated to the advancement of science and higher education on Saturday, October 11, 1975.

One of the primary reasons for the success of Wilkes College over the years has been its long-range approach to development. Looking ahead and carefully planning and anticipating the changing needs of its students and community, Wilkes has been able to maintain a strong forward thrust.

In 1949, following the completion of the Franklin Street gymnasium, Dr. Eugene S. Farley, the first president of Wilkes, believed that the college needed to grow even more because Wilkes was reaching for a higher plateau.

With this idea in mind, Wilkes College decided to go forward in a progressive society.

The completion and dedication of the Harold R. Stark Hall in 1957 and the Research and Graduate Center in 1963 marked the start of the Wilkes College transition in educational techniques, experience and opportunities for the students.

Long before fire destroyed Conyngham Hall, the oldest Wilkes building, in December, 1968, plans were being formulated for the construction of urgently-needed additional classroom space.

Such space was necessary to accommodate the steady increase in enrollment to provide appropriate facilities for the expanded mathematics and nursing programs and to initiate a four-year degree program in electrical and materials engineering.

Added to these critical needs modern equipment also was needed to develop the innovative disciplines and teaching techniques, such as team teaching.

The college faced a disastrous and critical situation when Conyngham Hall was destroyed. The mathematics, engineering and art departments were forced into makeshift temporary quarters, straining the other campus facilities.

On the advice of Edward Durell Stone, internationally known architect, Wilkes College agreed to construct a quadrangular building to be attached to the three levels of the Stark Hall.

By demolishing the five old dormitories, Denison, Warner, Ashley, Barre, and Butler Halls, in front of Stark Hall, additional property purchases were not necessary.

With this beginning, construction began on the Stark Learning Center in 1972.

The entire complex was named for the late Admiral Harold R. Stark, a prominent local civic leader and the chairman of the Wilkes College Board of Trustees from June, 1960 to July, 1964.

Admiral Stark was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1880, the son of Benjamin Franklin and Frances Warner Stark. Graduating from Wilkes-Barre High School and the Harry Hilman Academy, he entered the U. S. Naval Academy, graduating in 1903.

In 1939, he was appointed Chief of Naval Operations and Commander of European Naval Forces during WWII. Throughout the war, he acted as liaison between Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

His service during the war years was rewarded by the Distinguished Service Medals of the Navy and the Army.

In 1937, he and his wife donated their home at 184 South River Street to the college as a memorial to Fred M. Chase and his wife, who was Admiral Stark's sister.

In 1956, friends of Admiral Stark gave more than one million dollars to Wilkes for the erection of Stark Science Hall.

The construction of the Learning Center was in two phases. During 1971-72 Phase I went into effect with the selection of land, razing of buildings and the construction of the building's girdered frame.

Phase II included the completion of the interior of the third and fourth floors of the Center and the construction of the tiered William B. Schaeffer Lecture Hall, featuring a large front elevated projection screen and sophisticated accommodations for approximately 400 students.

The Stark Learning Center marked the extension of the Wilkes electrical engineering program from two to four years, the addition of an undergraduate program in materials engineering, the extension of the nursing program, the introduction of a graduate program in mathematics, and the construction of a team-teaching faculty.

Now a reality, the team-teaching techniques at Wilkes provides the economy of large lecture sessions with small discussion groups and individual conferences for many of the college courses.

Overall, the completed building provides classrooms, studios, laboratory space as well as disciplines in environmental science, fine arts, computer science, experimental psychology, mathematics and nursing.

In 1974 the design of the Stark Learning Center by the Architect Firm, Lacy, Atherton & Davis, won "First Honors" in state-wide competition by the Pennsylvania Society of the American Institute of Architects.

During the architects face the future had to be circulation between necessary for the smaller campus.

The U-shaped courtyard plan student life.

The complex comprises the campus. The laboratory and the providing number hall.

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During the designing process of the science building, the architects faced two unique design problems. The new structure had to be connected to Stark Hall and provide continuous circulation between the two buildings on all floors. Also it was necessary for the building to be in harmonious scale with the smaller campus buildings on each side.

The U-shaped design solved both problems and the central courtyard plan was viewed as the circulation center for daily student life.

The completed Stark Learning Center, including Stark Hall, comprises the major classroom facilities on the Wilkes College campus. The lower level of the Center houses the physics laboratory and the Art and Engineering Departments, as well as, providing numerous classrooms and a circular, tiered lecture hall.

The ground floor of the building features the ultra-modern Sordoni Art Gallery, student art studios, the W. B. Schaeffer Lecture Hall, the Physics Department, an engineering section and another small tiered lecture hall.

The highlight of the second floor is the extensive Chemistry and Engineering Departments equipped with inorganic, organic, and analytical chemistry laboratories, as well as, advanced engineering, materials engineering laboratories and a photography dark room.

The Biology, General Psychology and Nursing Departments are located on the third floor. The extensive facilities available have permitted Wilkes to offer a four-year degree program in nursing. The new third floor nursing laboratory features numerous electronic self-study units or carrels, a new cardiac monitor, in addition to the complete health care materials.

Completing the Center on the fourth floor are the Mathematics and Environmental Science Departments, the computer center and the modern greenhouse, located on the roof.

In addition to the spacious classrooms in the science buildings, staff and faculty offices, graduate assistant offices and small study rooms are sprinkled throughout the structure.

With the creation and completion of the \$6.7-million Stark Learning Center, the dream of the late Dr. Farley and generous friends of the college has been realized through the growing graduate program at the college, an enlarged scholarship program for able students, the development of an educational program to enable Wilkes students to enter and successfully complete any graduate school in the country or to enter into a profession, and the ability to serve the community through educational projects.

**CONVOCATION FOR DEDICATION OF
NEW STARK LEARNING CENTER
Saturday, October 11, 1975**

Acting President Robert S. Capin, Presiding

INVOCATION Roy Williams, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Philosophy and Religious Studies

NATIONAL ANTHEM The Wilkes College Choir
Janice Pedersen, directing

REMARKS Eugene S. Farley, Jr., M.D.
Professor and Director Family Medicine
University of Rochester School of
Medicine and Highland Hospital

EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION:

The Honorable Daniel J. Flood . . House of Representatives
Congress of the United States

Joseph J. Savitz, Esquire Chairman, Board of Trustees
Wilkes College

Charles B. Reif, Ph.D. Chairman, Biology Department
Wilkes College

Edward Zaborney President, Student Government
Wilkes College

Donald F. Carpenter On Behalf of Donors

Andrew J. Sordoni, III On Behalf of Donors

Joseph Stephens, D.D.S. National President
Wilkes College Alumni Association

MUSICAL SELECTION

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ACCEPTANCE

BENEDICTION

**DEDICATION OF
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11, 1975

Capin, Presiding

... Roy Williams, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Philosophy and Religious Studies

the Wilkes College Choir
Janice Pedersen, directing

Eugene S. Farley, Jr., M.D.
and Director Family Medicine
University of Rochester School of
Medicine and Highland Hospital

House of Representatives
Congress of the United States

Chairman, Board of Trustees
Wilkes College

man, Biology Department
Wilkes College

nt, Student Government
Wilkes College

... On Behalf of Donors

... On Behalf of Donors

... National President
College Alumni Association

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

Dich teure Halle—from "Tannhäuser" . . . Richard Wagner
(I greet thee, hallowed hall)

Christine Donahue '74, soprano

Michael Haberkorn, piano

Rondo Capriccioso Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
Andrea Bogusko '74

ADDRESS J. Douglas Brown, Ph.D.
Provost and Dean of the Faculty, Emeritus
Professor of Economics, Emeritus
Princeton University

CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREE Robert S. Capin
Acting President

DOCTOR OF SCIENCE John D. MacArthur

"In recognition of his outstanding achievements in the world of business. As a native of this region, he excelled in the fields of insurance, real estate and other business ventures which required creative endeavor. His accomplishments stand as an example and inspiration to young people who are looking toward careers in business."

DEDICATION OF WILLIAM B. SCHAEFFER

LECTURE HALL The Honorable Max Rosenn, Judge
U. S. Court of Appeals
Third Circuit

ACCEPTANCE Robert S. Capin
Acting President

BENEDICTION Roy Williams, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Philosophy and Religious Studies

WILLIAM B. SCHAEFFER

The upward progress of social adjustment demands persons with foresight, perception, and a knowledge of life. They must be able to inspire confidence, understand the issues of the day, and take risks. William B. Schaeffer possessed these qualities.

"Bill" Schaeffer, as he was known to his intimates, was not tall in physical stature, but he always made a commanding presence. He had a handsome face and impressive head; his eyes sparkled with the fire of a brilliant mind. He walked with rapid stride with his eyes always set upon new horizons.

When Mr. Schaeffer came to the Wyoming Valley in 1912 in the full vigor of life, he had already achieved a state-wide reputation as an able, skillful bank examiner and an intelligent banker. The Wyoming Valley Trust Company, a progressive banking institution located on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre, succeeded in winning him from the Wilbur Trust Company, at Bethlehem, where he had served for a number of years as Business Manager and Trust Officer. At the Wyoming Valley Trust Company, he initially served as Vice President and Treasurer during the critical years immediately preceding and following World War I.

On January 1, 1927, he became the bank's president and led it successfully through the agonizing and cruel depression period of the 1930's when hundreds of banking institutions in the State were collapsing. A number of banks in the Valley also fell by the wayside during those years, but Mr. Schaeffer organized the banking leadership in the community in a successful attempt to protect depositors and preserve many of the banking institutions. His personal efforts were largely responsible for the orderly liquidation of a number of closed banks in the area and for payment in full to their depositors.

Although the major part of his life was spent as a banker, Mr. Schaeffer was at heart an educator. He was born on August 5, 1865, in White Hall Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, into a family of eight children. He came by his interest in education naturally, since his family numbered within its ranks teachers, ministers, and professional men. His great-grandfather had owned a printing press in the early days of the Revolution and is reputed to have secretly printed and distributed the Proclamation of Independence and underground tracts.

Several years after completing his education in the Lehigh County Schools and Krouts Academy, Mr. Schaeffer sought employment as a school teacher. He taught for a few years before succumbing to the opportunities of the business and financial world and entering the banking profession in which he reached a preeminent position.



As a banker, Mr. Schaeffer's customers with his customers with more important bank might play nized the potenti Obici who operat Barre. Largely as guidance, Mr. Ob Planters Nut and know, ultimately national stature. thereafter for m whom he similar can also be attrib When death ov leagues in the M First Vice Preside field of banking, bank monies and

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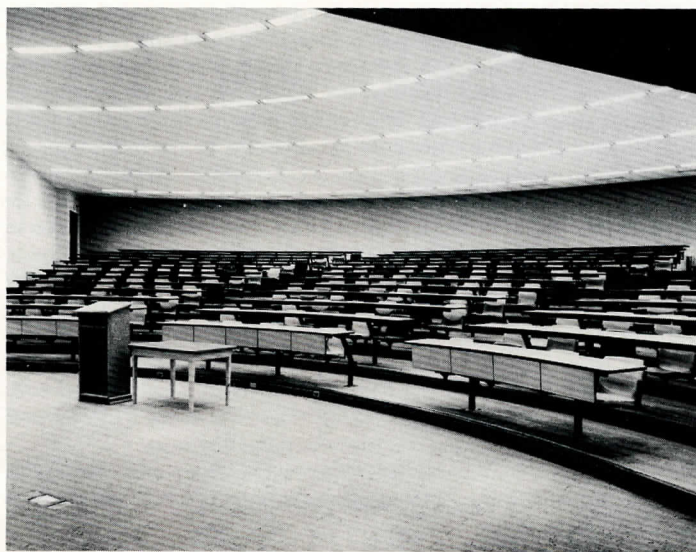
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WILLIAM B. SCHAEFFER LECTURE HALL

As a banker, Mr. Schaeffer perceived the talents of many of his customers with an educator's eye for untapped ability and, more importantly, he understood the role that a supportive bank might play in their development. For example, he recognized the potential in an immigrant American named Amadeo Obici who operated a peanut stand on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre. Largely as a result of Mr. Schaeffer's vision, support, and guidance, Mr. Obici's business expanded in a few years into the Planters Nut and Chocolate Company. The company, as we all know, ultimately became a vast corporate enterprise of international stature. Mr. Schaeffer served on its Board of Directors thereafter for many years. There were many other people whom he similarly advised and whose more modest success can also be attributed to his interest and support.

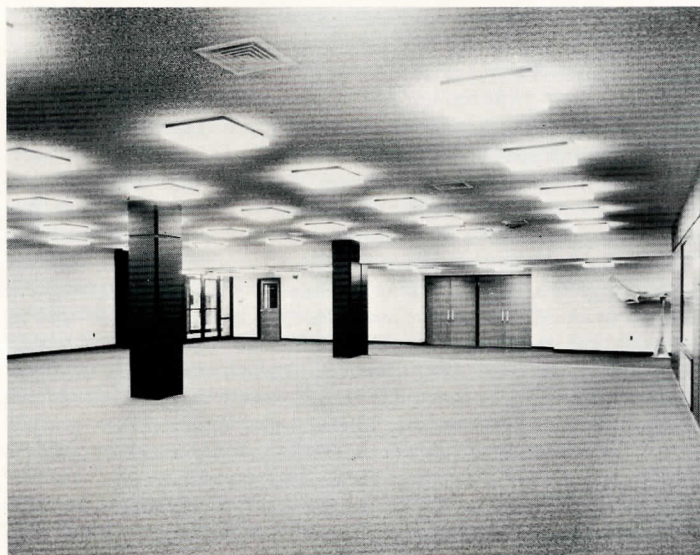
When death overtook him on December 11, 1951, his colleagues in the Miners National Bank, where he then served as First Vice President, said of him: "He was preeminent in the field of banking, particularly as it related to the investment of bank monies and trust funds.

"His keen foresight, his intimate knowledge of financial matters, his good common sense in the investment field—all these traits made of him an invaluable counsellor and advisor.

"To him for advice and guidance came many financial concerns, large and small. Even at his advanced age, he retained a clarity of perception and intense interest in financial matters which were always a source of amazement to his associates."

Despite his success as a banker, Mr. Schaeffer remained dedicated to his early interest in education. It was evident that he thought deeply of its meaning and value as a moulding force in our society. When Wilkes College was organized, he at once saw its importance in elevating the cultural and economic life of the community and brightening the horizons of its young people. Mr. Schaeffer steadily encouraged his close friend Gilbert McClintock in his enormous labors in behalf of the College, and he personally but unobtrusively contributed substantial sums to its support during the early days. Quietly and effectively, he persuaded his friends to do likewise.

His daughter, Marian Schaeffer, survives him and resides in Dallas, Pennsylvania. She continues her father's interest in the College.



LOBBY AND ENTRANCE TO W. B. SCHAEFFER LECTURE HALL

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SCHAEFFER LECTURE HALL

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 REUBEN H. LEVY, Honorary Member

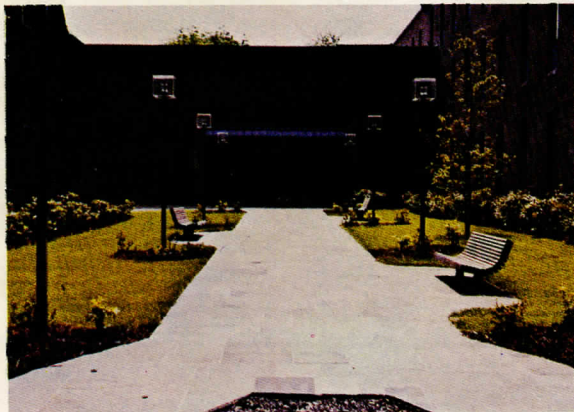
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COURTYARD NAMED IN MEMORY OF DR. ARNAUD C. MARTS



ENTRANCE TO WILLIAM B. SCHAEFFER LECTURE HALL

ADDRESS BY: CONGRESSMAN FLOOD AT THE: DEDICATION OF THE
STARK-LEARNING CENTER, WILKES COLLEGE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1975

Copy

I'm going to forego the customary salutation that occasions such as this call for and address you in a way that seems more fitting for this momentous occasion.....

We're all here with the same proud credentials..... Friends of Wilkes College.

This is truly a wonderful day for all of us who have had a long-time interest in this fine institution of higher education. It all took time and plenty of hard work under what, at times, were almost impossible circumstances.

But the reason that we are all gathered here is to dedicate this magnificent \$7-million Stark Learning Center and William B. Schaeffer Lecture Hall. Here is proof that when dedicated individuals have faith in their dreams, they can turn them into reality.

The young man who preceded me on the program -- I'll refer to him as young Gene Farley -- reminded me of the many times I was asked to perform the almost impossible by his father.

As he spoke to you, I thought back over the years to times when his late father, Dr. Eugene Farley, was only in his middle 30's and trying to convince some of the skeptics in this region that the future of this community depended upon the education of its young people.

Believe me -- and I know -- it wasn't easy for an outsider not yet near 40 to change the minds of people here. But Gene Farley was caught up in a dream that he was determined would become a reality. And he knew that if he could just show them a tiny bit of the great institution he wanted to build for them they might give him the support he needed.

And he was right. Slowly he turned the tide of those who doubted and questioned. He began to interest important and respected people who had the power of persuasion to convince others. He already had the backing of Dr. Arnaud C. Marts, after whom this beautiful courtyard is named in memoriam. But others joined him. People such as Gilbert McClintock, Admiral Harold Stark, Walter and Donald Carpenter, Andrew Sordoni, Sr., Dorothy Dickson Darte, Bill Schaeffer, Annette Evans, Charlie Waller, Lou Shaffer, Tom Kiley.....and many, many more.....I only wish I had time to mention all of them.

What a team Gene Farley put together. It will never be matched in the world of higher education. They all wanted to be part of what they could see this great man was fighting to build.

All of this.....and more.....flashed through my mind as I listened to the son of this great man stand up here just a short time ago and deliver remarks on the occasion of this Convocation and Dedication of the Stark Learning Center and the William B. Schaeffer Lecture Hall.

All of this, my dear people, just didn't happen. Some truly dedicated and generous people made it happen. They believed that this piece of our great nation had an obligation to its young people. They fully recognized what was being offered as a future in Wyoming Valley -- a lifetime in the coal mines because most of them came from families that couldn't afford to send them to college.

Believe me when I say that being a congressman wasn't easy when Gene Farley was setting his sights on the next step in the building of his college. And when he summoned the assistance of his colleagues -- such as

Harold Stark, Gilbert McClintock and the others -- they not only asked for major miracles, but never accepted less.

I am proud to say that I had the good fortune.....and, I might add, the honor and privilege.....of having been in a position where I could serve. (I will say, now that I look back, I'm still not quite sure how I was able to do some of the things they asked.)

But it all worked out, and today we are dedicating this beautiful complex named in honor of my old and dear friend, Harold Stark. And the adjoining lecture hall is a fitting tribute to the memory of my friend Bill Schaeffer. It's too bad they can't know what is taking place here today. They would have liked it and they would be pleased.

Those two men, along with the other pioneers of Wilkes College, would not have been surprised by the fact that this outstanding Learning Center actually grew out of a major setback that hurt the College. I'm referring to the fire that destroyed Conyngham Hall during a cold, wintry night a few days after Christmas of 1968. Incidentally, this building was named in honor of another great family that did so much for Wyoming Valley and Wilkes College.

Perhaps many of you aren't aware of it, but Gene Farley was preparing to move toward retirement when that tragedy struck. But the fighting spirit that moved him to build a college under almost impossible circumstances once again responded to the occasion.

Gene Farley remained in the presidency long enough to lay the groundwork for the raising of the initial funds needed to start to build something bigger and better to replace the tragic loss to his academic world.

When Gene Farley stepped down in June of 1970, it was with the satisfaction that he had once again committed the College to a course that would lead it out of trouble and upward to a higher level. Even more, he could look back with pride on the growth of a small junior college into one of the finest small liberal arts colleges in the nation.

Let me say this, though, during all the years that Gene Farley was building this College, he earned the respect and affection of all who worked with him and for him. He cajoled, badgered and begged for community and government assistance -- and he got it. I'm proud to say that many of your federal tax dollars have been brought back into the community through assistance given to the building of this great institution.

Before I close, I want to add one more chapter in how this all came about. While Gene Farley was a great builder of colleges, he was equally adept at building men -- real leaders. And when he stepped down, he had prepared a successor who would carry on -- Dr. Francis Michelini, better known to all as "Dr. Mike."

It was up to Mike to keep things moving forward and he had been prepared well by the master. Despite setbacks -- one of them the flood of 1972 -- Dr. Mike guided the construction of this Learning Center to its completion. He, too, had a major role in the reason we are all gathered here today.

My friends, I humbly submit to you that it is one of the great moments of my life to be standing here today.....taking part in reality that was built out of dreams that I pray will have no ending.