

SYRACUSE

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Cox: Opening Remarks

Opening Remarks

Under the SU Big Top

Ever since it popped up on the Syracuse skyline in 1980, the Carrier Dome has been making history. Whether it's a former president delivering a Commencement address, a rock 'n' roll band raising the roof with mega-watt riffs, star student-athletes spinning magical moves, or thousands of fans unnerving the Orange's opposition, there have been some wonderful times in the Dome.

Looking back, who would have thought so many SU basketball fans would pass through the turnstiles that the Dome would lead the nation in on-campus attendance a dozen times? Not Coach Jim Boeheim '66, G'73, who tells us in "Dome Sweet Dome" (page 36) that drawing 30,000 to a hoop game in Syracuse "surpasses the wildest imagination of anybody 25 years ago." For those keeping track, the men's basketball team has entertained more than 30,000 fans on 60 occasions, setting several national single-game, on-campus attendance records in the process.

Sure, in the deep chill of winter, you still have to endure head-numbing winds while ascending the Hill, but once you pass through those revolving doors, there's a good chance you'll see something spectacular. Nearly everyone who has scarfed down a Dome Dog can tick off memories of great games and individual performances. Some of mine: Michael Owens '88 bulling his way into the end zone to give the Orange a 32-31 victory over West Virginia in 1987—and an 11-0 regular season; Kirby Dar Dar '95 racing 95 yards down the sideline on the opening kickoff for a TD as the Orange roughed up the Florida Gators, 38-21, in 1991; Sherman Douglas '89 lofting alley-oops to dunking teammates; and, of course, sitting among 30,000-plus fans riling up Georgetown coach John Thompson and his despised Hoyas.



We have seen some phenomenal student-athletes in the Dome, from speedy running back Joe Morris '82 to All-America forward Hakim Warrick '05. We've witnessed the dazzling stick work of lacrosse legends, the Gait Brothers and the Powell Brothers. We've celebrated the 1988 NCAA lacrosse championship and the 2003 NCAA men's basketball title beneath the big white roof.

One of my most striking memories was the first post-9/11 gathering in the Dome: a football game against Auburn that was as much about us getting back to our normal lives as it was about tangling with the Tigers. Many people will never forget the memorial service in the Dome in honor of their classmates and hundreds of others lost in the 1988 terrorist bombing of Pan Am 103.

Throughout its history, the Dome has been a place where the outside world has experienced Central New York and where Central New York has been enriched by the outside world. Many of us have grown up with the Dome. We've congregated with family and friends and had a lot of fun together. Here's to another 25 years of Life with the Dome.

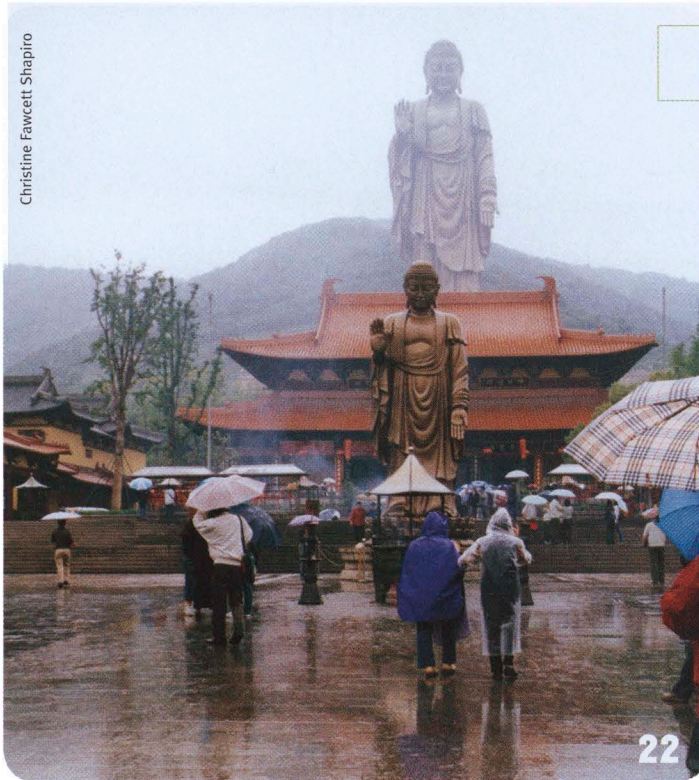
JAY COX
Editor

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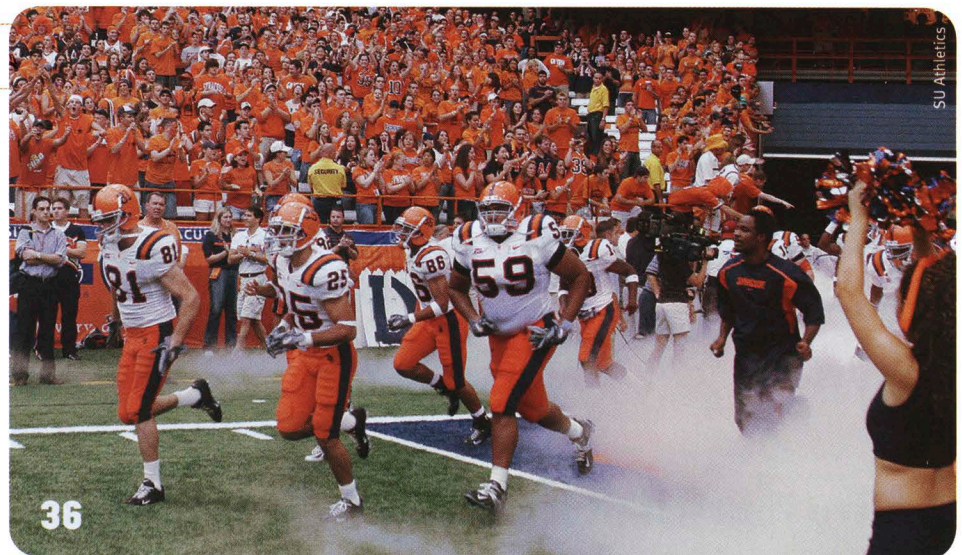
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On the Cover: Victoria Harbor, Hong Kong skyline, 2004, illuminated by a laser and pyrotechnic show

Getty Images/Jeremy Woodhouse

We all know the importance of having a will...

So why haven't almost 70 percent of us done anything about it?*



TOM SPINA graduated from the School of Management in 1957, and his wife, Ruth, studied at Syracuse for two years before joining Tom during his military service.

"I learned the importance of having a will early in life, my father passed away when I was in high school, but his careful planning paid for my Syracuse education. I came from a small village in Lewis County, New York, and graduated from high school in a class of 13. Syracuse was the institution that introduced me to the world, so when it came to making plans for our family, we have four grandchildren and Syracuse University makes five."

Tom Spina

"We see our gift to Syracuse as reaching into the future to help other young people get started in life."

Ruth Spina

* Source: onlinewills.com

**Give yourself peace of mind like the Spinas.
You owe it to yourself, your loved ones, and your legacy.**

When you choose to include Syracuse in your estate plans and notify us accordingly, you gain immediate membership in the Founders Society, a special group of alumni and friends that Syracuse University honors for their lifetime commitment.

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