

## Largest (and best!) in Indiana

In October, Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, opened the Charles W. Brown Planetarium - the largest in the state. After operating a 30' dome for more than 30 years, Dr. Ron Kaitchuck moved into a totally new 52' dome featuring a GOTO INC CHRONOS II HYBRID system with full-dome video by RSA Cosmos. Prime equipment contractor Ash Enterprises helped to design the dome with 148 seats, great handicapped accessibility, and ample space for lectures or small ensemble concerts.

A vibrant undergraduate program at Ball State reaches more than 1,600 astronomy students each year – one of the largest enrollments in the country! In addition to this large and growing number of university students, the new planetarium will also serve area K-12 school children and the surrounding community, continuing Ball State's 47-year tradition of providing all planetarium programs free of charge.

At the center of the action is the new GOTO CHRONOS II totally LED-illuminated opto-mechanical star projector. It is getting rave reviews from astronomy faculty, amateur astronomers, and fellow planetarians who gathered for a Great Lakes regional conference in the dome one week after its dedication. The CHRONOS II's 8,500 stars, combined with the 10,000,000 micro-stars which make up the Milky Way and deep sky objects are simply amazing. It is so realistic that the staff delights in loaning binoculars to visitors to show them the sky as it has never before been seen in a planetarium.

Let GOTO help you put this sky in your dome too!



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