



COUGAR PRIDE STATE WIDE

Each year, thousands of Cougs have their photos taken with the iconic bronze statue of Butch that greets fans and visitors near the entrance of Gesa Field on the WSU Pullman campus.

Known as Cougar Pride, the statue was generously commissioned by Gary Schneidmiller in 2008 and commemorates Butch's Den, the site where live cougar mascots lived from 1927 until 1978. Two renowned Spokane artists, Mike Fields and his father Chester, created the regal cougar that looks ready to pounce at a moment's notice.

The plaque below the statue pays tribute to the history of the live cougar mascot era and honors Schneidmiller's parents, Manuel and Gladys Schneidmiller.

Now, more than a decade after he gifted the statue, Schneidmiller has brought Cougar Pride sculptures to WSU Tri-Cities (spring 2023), WSU Spokane (spring 2024), WSU Vancouver (spring 2024), and WSU Everett (summer 2024).

"Gary's gift is an incredible gesture exemplifying his passion for WSU," said Mike Connell, vice president for Advancement and CEO of the WSU Foundation.

If you would like to support the statues, please consider a gift to a campus excellence fund.



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