Cajundome celebrates its 20th year today

Decades in the 'Dome

Terry Bradshaw wants to buy Saints

From Mother Teresa to Mardi Gras, Ronnie Milsap to Motley Crüe, a tragic family funeral to sheltering thousands of hurricane evacuees, the Cajundome has hosted a variety of activities, drawing thousands of people from Acadiana and across the South since opening its doors 20 years ago today.

One day after the grand opening, on Nov. 11, 1985, Kenny Rogers became the first artist to take the stage at the new arena, setting an attendance record of more than 14,000 that stands today.

"Kenny Rogers will forever hold the attendance record," Cajundome Director Greg Davis said.

That's because the new Cajundome's regular seating wasn't installed in time for that first concert. The 'Dome rented 18-inch-wide seats for the inaugural concert. The permanent seats are 22 inches wide, which means fewer seats and fewer tickets were available for all concerts since.

Jennifer Guilbeau Lemoine said she had

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As the Cajundome turns 20 today, the local landmark is remembered for the role it has had in Lafayette.