

1-1-2012

Athletics projects fuel drive for national prominence

Furman University

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Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2012) "Athletics projects fuel drive for national prominence," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 54 : Iss. 4 , Article 19.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol54/iss4/19>

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Furman BECAUSE FURMAN MATTERS



Athletics projects fuel drive for national prominence

FURMAN'S TRADITION of athletic achievement is a source of pride to students and alumni. Through the years Furman teams have recorded 177 Southern Conference championships (regular season and tournament) and won two national crowns (women's golf in 1976 and I-AA football in 1988).

Furman is working to maintain this tradition while bringing the university to national prominence in all sports. Doing so will extend support

to such areas as student recruitment, cultural diversity on campus, and school spirit.

The challenge is to provide resources and facilities to ensure that all Furman teams continue to compete on a level field with other institutions. Momentum for these efforts is building, as is evident by a recent \$100,000 gift to re-equip and revamp the athletics weight room in Timmons Arena.

For the final phase of the \$400 million

Because Furman Matters campaign, the university has embarked on several projects to strengthen its athletic facilities, including those featured here. For more about these and other priorities — a field house at Eugene Stone Soccer Stadium and support for the Paul Scarpa Tennis Endowed Fund and the Blue Shoes endowment for track and field and cross country — visit www.becausefurmanmatters.com.

Baseball: Latham Stadium

Phase I:

Construction of clubhouse along right field line (begun in February). Estimated cost: \$2 million (\$1.8 million committed).

Features:

Indoor hitting and pitching cages, coaches' offices, players' lounge, locker rooms, outdoor viewing area.

Phase II:

Upgrades to press box, concourse and concessions areas; improved seating. Estimated cost: \$1.5 million.



Football: Paladin Stadium

Revamp press box tower into five-story building, including two-story football operations complex (rendering on left).

Lower two levels:

Locker rooms, coaches' offices, meeting space, new "Heritage Hall."

Upper levels:

Club level area with concessions and special seating, new presidential and corporate suites, high-tech press box.

Total estimated cost:

\$12 million (\$2.4 million committed).

Naming opportunities:

Stadium, two-story football operations complex, areas within the facility.

Softball: Pepsi Stadium

Begun in February.

Features:

Two-story press box with concessions, coaches' offices, space for staff, media and guests. Estimated cost: \$615,000 (\$550,000 committed).

Golf: REK Center

Phase I:

Addition of short-game practice area. Estimated cost: \$325,000 (\$280,000 committed).

Phase II:

Expansion of REK Center for Intercollegiate Golf. Estimated cost: \$1 million.

\$1 million gifts support Townes Center, OLLI

THE CHARLES H. TOWNES CENTER for Science and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Furman each recently received \$1 million donations.

The Milliken Foundation of Spartanburg, S.C., made its million-dollar gift to the Townes Center in honor of Daniel S. Sanders, a member of the Furman board of trustees who recently retired from the Milliken & Company board of directors. The complex's library will be named for the Sanders family.

Sanders, a Greenville resident, is former president of the ExxonMobil Chemical Company and former chair of both the American Chemical Council and the Society of Chemical Industry. He has co-chaired the Furman Parents Council and been a member of the Advisory Council and the Richard Furman Society executive committee. His wife, Emilyn, is an emerita trustee, and their sons, Dan '86 and John '88, and Dan's wife, Suzanne Von Harten Sanders '88, are alumni.

The Bernard Osher Foundation of San Francisco's million-dollar gift to OLLI will fund an endowment to support the program's growing membership and provide opportunities to expand its outreach into senior communities throughout the Upstate. OLLI offers more than 300 courses and events a year to its nearly 1,200 members. The program will soon be housed in the Herring Center for Continuing Education, now under construction.

This is the second \$1 million gift that the foundation has made to Furman. FULIR, the Furman University Learning in Retirement program, was renamed the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman in 2008.

