

ARCHES

A newsletter for neighbors of the University of St. Thomas

March 2009

Trustees OK construction of Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex

The University of St. Thomas Board of Trustees recently approved construction of a \$52 million athletic and recreation complex on the university's main campus in St. Paul. Work on the project, the largest in St. Thomas history, will start in late May.

The board has studied for several years interconnected plans for a new athletic complex that will be followed by a proposed new student center. It discussed the athletic complex in October but held off on approval because of concerns about the weakened economy's impact on the university's ability to raise funds for the project.

"Thanks to the support of generous contributors, we are able to move forward with the Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex," said Father Dennis Dease, president.

"Our athletic facilities, some dating to the 1930s and last upgraded in 1981, once were adequate for a much smaller student body," he said. "Our facilities simply have not kept pace with our growth or the kinds of facilities now found at other Minnesota colleges. We are



This illustration shows the St. Paul campus quadrangle with its new Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex (right) and the proposed new student center (top left).

building for the future and to ensure the long-term success of the university. These new facilities will be among the finest in our conference and in the region."

The athletic and recreation complex, a recently opened 725-car parking facility and the proposed student center all are named for Lee and Penny Anderson, whose \$60 million gift to the university's Opening Doors capital campaign has helped make all three projects possible. Lee Anderson is a St. Thomas trustee and owner and chairman of Twin

Cities-based APi Group Inc.

The project will be financed by gifts and bonds sold by the university, and the associated interest and operating expenses of the new building will be covered by gifts. There will be no impact on the university's 2009-2010 operating budget.

The 180,000-square-foot Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex will be located east of St. Thomas' football stadium and on the existing (and a larger) footprint of Schoenecker Arena,

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UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

Construction to begin in May, new athletic facilities to open in fall 2010

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Coughlan Field House and Foley Theater, all of which will be razed. Construction will begin after May 23 graduation ceremonies; the complex will open in fall 2010.

The proposed \$66 million, 240,000-square-foot Anderson Student Center would be located on the site of the Cretin-Summit parking lot. Construction, if approved next year by the St. Thomas Board of Trustees, would begin in summer 2010 and completed by February 2012.

The new athletic complex, together with the anticipated student center, will significantly change the appearance of St. Thomas along both Summit and Cretin avenues. The student center would be the final campus structure along the north side of Summit between Cleveland and Cretin avenues.

Inside the campus, the park-like "lower quad" will be expanded to the west and integrated with the Mankato-Kasota stone entrance of the 1946 O'Shaughnessy Stadium.

The \$15 million Anderson Parking Facility that recently opened near the intersection of Grand and Cretin avenues will allow the university to eventually close its 400-car parking lot at Summit and Cretin avenues. This will free up space for the athletic complex, student center and larger lower quadrangle.

The athletic complex will incorporate a range of energy-saving features that include light-colored roofing to decrease cooling requirements in the

summer, increased exterior insulation, high-efficiency motors and pumps, automated and low-energy-use lighting, low-volume toilets and restricted-flow showers, and generous use of windows and skylights.

While the university plans to seek LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification for the proposed student center, it will not seek that certification for the athletic complex.

LEED certification for the athletic complex would add at least \$250,000 in administrative costs, plus an additional \$250,000 to \$500,000 in construction costs, university officials said. Achieving the kinds of energy-use reductions required for LEED certification, they added, is better-suited for office-type buildings.

Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex

The three-level building will replace O'Shaughnessy Hall, which opened in 1939, and the connected Schoenecker Arena and Coughlan Field House, which together opened in 1981. Construction will begin with the demolition of Schoenecker, Coughlan and Foley.

O'Shaughnessy will be razed in summer 2010 to make room for the proposed student center.

The Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex will feature:

- ◆ A 2,000-seat basketball and volleyball arena in the same location as the existing Schoenecker Arena, but with the court running east-west instead of north-south.

- ◆ An aquatic center containing an eight-lane, 25-yard swimming pool and diving area on the site of Foley Theater. The aquatic center will have spectator seating for varsity competitions and will look out onto the campus' lower quadrangle.

- ◆ A new field house with a 200-meter track on the Coughlan Field House site, which now has a 166-meter track. The larger track will be accomplished by expanding the field house to the north, where part of the Physical Plant building will be removed; to the west, into a parking area that flanks the football stadium; and slightly to the east and south. Locker rooms, meeting rooms, training rooms and other support facilities will be constructed under the field house.

- ◆ A west wing with a fitness center, weight room and aerobic rooms on the first floor and offices, classrooms and labs on the second and third floors.

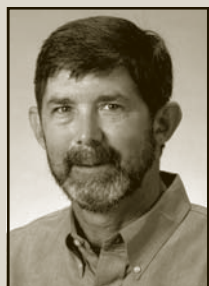
Proposed student center

The two wings of the proposed student center will wrap around the corner of Summit and Cretin, with one wing facing Cretin and the other facing Summit. It will have two primary entrances; one will face Summit and the other will face a larger, interior quadrangle.

The center will be home for many programs and facilities now in Murray-Herrick Campus Center, including retail and residential dining facilities, a

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Over the back fence



**By John Hershey,
Neighborhood Liaison**

I drove into the new Anderson Parking Facility recently and smiled. After

months of watching it emerge from an ugly hole in the ground, I took particular pleasure in using the ramp for which I'd been given the responsibility of tracking progress and providing weekly construction Web site updates.

As the project unfolded, I occasionally donned a hardhat and a bright orange vest to take a tour with the site manager. I recall a particular moment as I commented about the quality of the work his crew did and

expressed my appreciation when he responded promptly to occasional complaints from the neighbors. He stopped walking, looked me in the eye and said, "I'm proud of the work we're doing." I appreciated his candor but what impressed me most was to speak with a man who cared about the quality of his work. I think it shows in the final product.

It also helped that other people cared. We consulted with the West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee (WSNAC) and wrestled with a variety of issues and concerns. WSNAC tore the first design apart. Its suggestions led to a better one. The committee's ideas resulted in providing more green space, which will appear as the weather warms. We widened the roads and improved the sidewalks at WSNAC's behest. I think we have a better product because we listened to our neighbors.

I'd also like to thank everyone who put up with the inconveniences caused by construction. We did our best to mitigate noise and dust and traffic congestion but not all of it could be avoided. I heard from only a handful of disgruntled folks and know that some did not take the time to register their complaints. If the project inconvenienced you, thank you for your patience.

Above all, though I'm not a fan in general of adding more parking ramps to our crowded city, I hope this one proves a useful tool in helping us bring more cars onto our property. Though I live close enough to walk to work, I occasionally require a car for the off-campus trips I make. I plan to buy a permit to use the ramp from now until the end of May and will continue to smile each time I drive in and see it being used.

Student center to have underground parking

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ballroom, offices for student organizations, and many gathering areas, meeting rooms and lounges.

The new student center will have underground parking; how much has not yet been decided. Access to the ramp will be from Cretin.

The St. Thomas board also is studying a proposed renovation of the current student center, Murray-Herrick Campus Center, located in the heart of the main campus. That project, if approved, would not begin until the Anderson Student Center is completed.

A 50-year partnership with Opus

The new construction will have the traditional St. Thomas look,

the result of Collegiate Gothic architectural style and extensive use of Mankato-Kasota stone on the buildings' exteriors.

Opus Northwest and Opus Architects and Engineers are the contractor and architect for the athletic and recreation complex and the student center, with design assistance from Hastings-Chivetta of St. Louis on the first project. Opus has designed or built more than 20 buildings on St. Thomas campuses over the past 50 years. Ryan Companies designed and built the 725-car parking ramp.

St. Thomas is reviewing plans for the athletic complex this winter and spring with the West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee and will go through a site-plan review with the city of St. Paul in the spring.

2009 Whalen Symposium on Media Ethics

Whose News?
Audience Responsibilities
in a Digital World

7 p.m. Monday, May 30
O'Shaughnessy Educational
Center auditorium

Join former St. Paul Mayor George Latimer, WCCO-TV news director Scott Libin, UST professor Wendy Wyatt and moderator Cathy Wurzer, host of Twin Cities Public Television's "Almanac," for program about changing faces – of news organizations and the audiences they serve – in today's digital world.

At St. Thomas

Join the St. Thomas community for these speakers, events and performances.
For more information, call the number listed with the event or (651) 962-6400.

March 13-15

Theater: Students from the University of St. Thomas and the College of St. Catherine will present Shakespeare's classic tragedy, "Macbeth," at The O'Shaughnessy, the auditorium at St. Catherine, 2004 Randolph Ave.

Performances begin at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday.

General admission is \$16; admission is \$6 for UST and CSC alumni and for students, faculty, staff with ID from the Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities (St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Ausburg College, Hamline University and Macalester College).

Reservations and info: (651) 962-6700.



March 17

Open house: UST's O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center and Center for Irish Studies co-host their annual St. Patrick's Day Open House from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the library's Special Collections Reading Room, Room LL09.

The event features readings and the display of new and rare Irish books from the university's Celtic Collection.

A brief program begins at 12:15 p.m.

St. Thomas' 9,200-volume Celtic Collection is the largest of the university's special collections and one of the 10 largest collections of Celtic materials in North America, including works on Irish history and politics, church history and religion, and folklore, art and music of the Celtic nations.



March 18

Discussion: "A Muslim-Catholic Dialogue on Faith and Reason," with two prominent scholars on the relationship of faith and reason in Catholicism and Islam, will be held from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, in O'Shaughnessy

Educational Center auditorium.

UST's Terrence J. Murphy Institute for Catholic Thought, Law and Public Policy hosts the dialogue by Ibrahim Kalin, professor of Islamic history and culture at Georgetown University, and Archbishop Celestino Migliore, apostolic nuncio and permanent observer of the Holy See to the United Nations.

More info: Call (651) 962-4842.



April 14-May 29

Exhibit: The story of pilgrimage – "travel for transformation" – inspires 39 photographs, paintings and sketches by eight artists from across the United States and Canada in an exhibition, "Sacred Steps on the Camino."

The exhibition's display in Minnesota is made possible by support from the Program for Cultural Cooperation Between Spain's Ministry of Culture and U.S. Universities; the Xunta de Galicia and its Xacobeo Foundation for pilgrimage studies; and St. Thomas' College of Arts and Sciences and its departments of Art History and Modern and Classical Languages.

"Sacred Steps on the Camino," created at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va., is administered by the Spanish Embassy in Washington, D.C.; by the time it arrives in St. Paul, it will have been shown in eight U.S. cities from coast to coast as well as in Montreal and Toronto.

Dr. George Greenia, the exhibition's originator and curator, will give an opening lecture, "The Camino de Santiago: Pilgrimage, Medieval and Modern," at 7 p.m. Friday, April 17, in O'Shaughnessy Educational Center auditorium. A lecture and reception to follow, featuring Spanish food and music, are free and open to the public.

See the exhibit from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and noon to 10 p.m. Sundays in the Lobby Gallery of O'Shaughnessy Educational Center.

More info: Call (651) 962-5560.



April 17

Reading: Irish poet Mary O'Malley, winner of the 13th annual Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award for Poetry given by St. Thomas' Center for Irish Studies, will read from her work at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of UST's John R. Roach Center for the Liberal Arts.

O'Malley, born in rural County Galway in 1954, is writer-in-residence at the National University of Ireland, Galway. She has published six poetry collections: *A Consideration of Silk* (1990), *Where the Rocks Float* (1993), *The Knife in the Wave Water* (1997) and *Asylum Road* (2001), all published by Salmon Press, and *The Boning Hall: New and Selected Poems* (2002) and *A Perfect V* (2006), published by Carcanet Press.

The reading, free and open to the public, caps a week of events, classroom visits and other public appearances by the poet. Info: (651) 962-5662.



May 3

Concert: St. Thomas' internationally renowned Liturgical Choir gives a performance of "The Pilgrim: A Medieval Liturgical Drama for Eastertide" by St. Paul native Richard Proulx at 3 p.m. in the Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas. The composer will be present that day and receive an honorary degree from the university.

A free-will offering will be taken to support a music school at Jesu Cristo Resucitado parish in Venezuela.