6-30-2000

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Recommended Citation

"100-Foot Crane to Hoist Steel at UD's St. Mary Hall; UD's Baujan Field Gets Hillside Terraces for Seating" (2000). News Releases. 9024.
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As the University of Dayton celebrates its 150th anniversary, improvements to campus facilities continue on campus, whether the construction projects involve some of the oldest buildings on campus or spectator space at one of the Flyers’ more venerable sport venues.

SATURDAY, JULY 1: 100-FOOT CRANE TO HOIST STEEL AT UD’S ST. MARY HALL

Retrofitting a new heating and air conditioning system into a building that’s 130 years old is a big job. And it requires big tools.

An 18-ton truck crane with a 100-foot boom will arrive on University Circle at the University of Dayton at 5:30 a.m. Saturday, July 1, in preparation for hoisting more than a dozen structural steel I-beams onto the fifth floor of St. Mary Hall. Depending on the weather, the beams will either be lowered through a hole in the roof of the building or eased in through the fifth floor windows. The crane is expected to be ready to hoist the I-beams at about 7 a.m., with work continuing through noon or 1 p.m.

The five-story building, first occupied in 1871, was the largest building in Dayton when it was built, and city dwellers called it “Zehler’s Folly” after Brother Maximin Zehler, president of what was then known as St. Mary’s School for Boys. The building measures 65 to 70 feet from ground to soffit.

On Saturday, July 8, two 5,000-pound air handlers will be lifted onto the fifth floor of the building. St. Mary Hall will be vacated for both Saturdays while the crane is in operation.

The project, estimated at $615,000, is expected to continue through the end of August. Fender Construction Co. Inc. is working on the project.

For more information, contact Keith Hagemeyer at (937) 229-3769.

JULY 1–AUG. 14: UD’S BAUJAN FIELD GETS HILLSIDE TERRACES FOR SEATING

Sports fans who flock to the men’s and women’s soccer games at the University of Dayton this fall will find a new look on the hillside north of the field. Terraces of grass, separated by retaining walls built of buff-colored blocks, will accommodate 750 to 1,000 fans who can bring blankets and lawn chairs or find seats on the edges of the terraces.

Crews have just started clearing vegetation from the hillside, and work with heavy equipment is expected to continue on Saturday, July 1, and throughout the summer.

“we have such a pretty setting for Baujan Field, and the terraces will blend into the natural setting,” said Don Ross, assistant director of athletics for compliance and academic services at UD. The team benches will be moved to the north side of the field.

The project, expected to cost $500,000, will be complete by Aug. 14, in time for the first home game Aug. 27. Terraces will stretch about 200 feet along the top of the north hill behind St. Joseph Hall and will taper down to just above field level. Woolpert LLP designed the project, and Double Jay Construction is doing the work.

For more information, call Don Ross at (937) 229-4425.