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Bright Outlook

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Bright Outlook

07.26.2013 | Athletics

Dayton has won more championships than in any other period in history and has ranked among the nation's best in graduating its student-athletes in the 15 years since the division of athletics started its multi-phase enhancement of athletics facilities.

So naturally, Flyer coaches are excited about the latest upgrades to athletics facilities.

Below is a summary of the four initiatives announced this summer and reaction from men’s basketball coach Archie Miller, women’s basketball coach Jim Jabir, women’s volleyball coach Matt Affolder and Vice President and Director of Athletics Tim Wabler.

ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE CENTER

The Athletic Performance Center will benefit all of Dayton’s sports programs. The location, which is attached to the east side of the Frericks Center, will allow nearly all 450 of the University’s student-athletes to train, practice and study within a 500-feet radius.

Archie Miller, head coach of the Dayton men’s basketball team: “This is going to be such a special advantage for our program. The value that we put in training our players can’t be measured, it’s so vital to our success. Not only will we be training in one of the finest facilities in the nation, but also our players now will benefit from training, studying and living all about 500 feet from one another. It's going to completely change their quality of life and will set them up for success immediately.”

Jim Jabir, head coach of the Dayton women’s basketball team: "This gives us the resources we need to take our nationally-ranked program to the highest level. We already have the greatest fans. We have the greatest arena. We have one of the greatest meeting room and film facilities with the addition of the Cronin Center last year. Upgrading our performance facilities to the best place we can train gives our athletes everything they need to succeed, and they should expect to be the best as well. Our administration has made a huge commitment of excellence to our programs, and I'm really glad to be a part of this."

DONOHER BASKETBALL CENTER RENOVATIONS

The move of the Donoher Basketball Center weight room to campus gives the University the opportunity to renovate the entire Donoher Center and keep it on par with the best in the nation.

Archie Miller, head coach of the Dayton men’s basketball team: “The commitment to basketball and to our program is as high as it’s ever been at the University of Dayton. In many ways this determines how bright a future we can have. The Donoher Basketball Center will remain one the best facilities in the country, and will really change how we recruit our players.”

FRERICKS CENTER RENOVATIONS

The Frericks Center renovation follows on the heels of two improvements in the last two years – the replacement of the playing court in 2009 and better lighting above the court to improve television broadcasts in 2011. The largest piece of the Frericks Center renovation will be the construction of a new locker room for UD’s nationally-ranked volleyball team. The new locker room, located adjacent the court, will be three times larger than the current locker room, and will include newly available team meeting space.

Matt Affolder, head coach of the Dayton volleyball team: “There is no question the Frericks Center is one of the top volleyball venues in the country, and with the announcement of a new locker room, this will provide our players and staff with the space and resources to prepare each day to compete against the nation’s elite. We are honored by the commitment the University has provided. Recruits who walk into the Frericks Center will be in awe as they see the completion of one of the premier volleyball-only facilities in the country.”

ADDING WOMEN’S LACROSSE
The addition of women’s lacrosse, the fastest-growing team sport in the U.S., according to the most recent research by Sports Marketing Surveys USA, gives Dayton 18 intercollegiate sports. Flyer women’s lacrosse will start competition in spring of 2016.

Tim Wabler, University of Dayton vice president and director of athletics: “Lacrosse is enjoying unprecedented growth. We understand the popularity of the game from youth levels all the way to the pros. We are excited to add another avenue such as lacrosse to showcase our student-athletes at the University of Dayton.”

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