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UD SELECTS CONTRACTOR TO RENOVATE ST. JOSEPH HALL

DAYTON, Ohio, July 15, 1988--The University of Dayton has selected the Dayton firm of Concourse Construction, Inc. to renovate St. Joseph Hall, a historic 105-year-old brick building gutted by a fire on Dec. 22, 1987.

The renovation will cost an estimated $5.5 million. Concourse's bid came in about $200,000 lower than the other two bids, according to Brother Bernard J. Ploeger, S.M., vice president for administration. The renovation is scheduled to be completed by July 1989.

Concourse Construction, a division of Danis Development Corp., has constructed the William S. Anderson Center and the Virginia W. Kettering Residence Hall on campus.

Edge & Tinney Architects prepared the renovation plans in conjunction with UD's campus master plan. Changes to the building include a new entry, a modernized interior, a raised roofline and courtyard landscaping. The painted zinc statue of St. Joseph and Jesus, donated in 1901 and formerly located on the north wall, will be repositioned more prominently on the west side of the building where it will be illuminated at night.

"It's not simply a rebuilding of St. Joseph, it's really a new building," Ploeger said.

The fire, which was caused by an electrical malfunction, destroyed the Center for International Studies, a computerized journalism laboratory, the office of the Dayton Council on World Affairs, irreplaceable research papers and numerous offices and classrooms.