

Galanis gift goes to renovate McLane gym

6/13/13



A gift from Terry S. Galanis, Sr., a 1940 alumnus of Alfred University (AU); his son, Terry S. Galanis, Jr., a member of the University's board of trustees, and their families will allow Alfred University to renovate its main gymnasium in the McLane Physical Education Center on the AU campus.

The gift to create the Terry S. Galanis Family Arena at the McLane Center is part of the ongoing Score One for Alfred campaign to improve athletic and recreational facilities on the AU campus. Alfred University President Charles M. Edmondson announced the gift during Reunion Weekend.

"Whatever I have achieved in life, I owe to Alfred University," said Terry Galanis, Sr., founder of Sealing Devices in Buffalo. He admitted that he "busted out of college after six months," but the late Murray Rice, professor of physical chemistry, "took me under his wing, got me back into school and helped me get through. I wish everyone could get as much out of their school as I got from Alfred University."

"We are pleased to be able to make this donation to Alfred University," said Terry Galanis, Jr. "My father has always been in love with the University."

The project, which will include a new floor, new bleachers, and a new sound system, represents the first major renovation of the gymnasium since it was built in 1971, noted Paul Vecchio, director of athletics for the University.

Calling the gift "transformative," Vecchio said the renovated facility will allow the men's and women's basketball programs and the women's volleyball programs to better compete for Division III athletes against the schools in the highly competitive Empire 8 athletic conference.

It will also be a more attractive facility for hosting major University events, including opening convocation, honors convocation and commencement.

"The Galanis family's gift will impact generations of AU student-athletes, as well as the general student body because of the McLane Center gymnasium's constant traffic, including recreation and intramurals," said Vecchio. "This was a much-needed and sincerely appreciated gift to renovate a major Alfred University asset."

It is anticipated work will begin in May 2014 and be completed for use in fall 2014.