

McLane Center gymnasium undergoing major renovations this summer season

6/18/14



Alfred University's main gymnasium in McLane Physical Education Center is undergoing a major renovation this summer, thanks to a gift from a 1940 alumnus and his family.

Terry S. Galanis, Sr., founder of Sealing Devices in Lancaster, his son, Terry S. Galanis, Jr., a member of the Alfred University Board of Trustees, and their family are making the work possible with their gift to the Score One for Alfred campaign aimed at enhancing the University's sports and recreational facilities. In their honor, the gymnasium will be renamed the Terry S. Galanis Family Arena at McLane Center.

"The revitalization of our main gym is going to make an enormous impact on our athletic department as well as the campus and community," said Paul Vecchio, director of athletics. With the enhancements made during the renovation, "the Galanis Family Arena will create a superior experience for our student-athletes that will play there, our alumni, campus and community that will come to cheer on their Saxons, and indeed, for our general student body who will use the facility for both intramural and informal activities.

"I am so thankful to the Galanis family for their game-changing gift and can't wait for it to re-open this fall," added Vecchio.

The renovation will include a new flooring system that's the same as what is used at Division I athletics schools, said Michael Neiderbach, executive director of capital projects for the University. After visiting several schools to see what their flooring systems were like, Neiderbach chose a floating system, meaning the floor has been installed over new subflooring with rubber sleepers underneath. That gives the floor much more "cushion" than the previous flooring in the gym. "I could definitely tell the difference," said Neiderbach. "It is just a much better feel."

The lighting in the gym has been replaced and a new sound system installed. Once the floor is in place, a contractor will come in to install new bleachers that are pulled out by a motorized system, rather than the older-style bleachers that folded and unfolded by hand. There will be some modifications made to the railing that separates the upper and lower seating decks so that it will be possible to walk between the two.

The interior of the gym will be painted and new Saxon athletics' logos added.

The gymnasium renovation project will be completed this fall.