

NEWS RELEASE

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University of Saint Mary Dedicates McGilley Field House

(Leavenworth, Kan.)— Over two hundred people turned out Thursday, June 24 for the blessing and dedication of University of Saint Mary's newest campus building, McGilley Field House. The 30,000 square foot multi-purpose building is the largest recreational facility in the Leavenworth-Lansing area and can seat up to 2,600 people. The field house is named in honor of Sister Mary Janet McGilley who served as president of Saint Mary College for 25 years.

Because it accommodates a thousand more seats than Ryan Sports Center, McGilley Field House will be the new home for USM commencement. This is the first new facility Saint Mary has built since Ryan Sports Center opened in 1992.

McGilley Field House has:

- 3 full sized courts serving basketball, volleyball, tennis and futsal
- 2 batting cages
- 2 full sized men's and women's locker rooms
- Large weight room with free weights, resistance training machines, and treadmills that can be used by all USM students, faculty and staff
- Full digital sound system with multiple configuration capability
- Internet access

In addition to serving Saint Mary's eight varsity sports teams, athletic director Darrell Phipps said, "The multi-purpose building will also be used for the development of the intramural program, as an aid for class projects that cannot be done in the classroom, as well as a place for non-student athletes to go for recreation and fitness."

Speaking at the dedication, head football coach Scott Frear said that McGilley Field House has already resulted in a 20 percent increase in student athlete recruitment. "Recruits want to see how committed a university is to supporting its sports programs. A new field house is a strong sign of Saint Mary's commitment. This is a place where students can gather to socialize and reduce stress through exercise."

McGilley Field House is located off Hughes Road on the northwest side of main campus at 4100 S. 4th Street in Leavenworth, Kan.

The field house can be rented for use by the community for sports camps, meetings, conferences, limited venue concerts and social gatherings. Call Coach Darrell Phipps at 913-758-4337 for more information about rental opportunities.

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