



Major Improvements to Athletic Facilities Coming

Major improvements to Defiance College athletic facilities were launched at a groundbreaking ceremony on March 15. These improvements will enable DC's athletic programs to be more competitive with surrounding institutions and within our conference. The upgrades will assist in recruiting quality student-athletes and continue to support retention within the basketball, volleyball and football programs.

Speakers at the groundbreaking included President Richanne C. Mankey, Interim Athletic Director Jodie Holava, Defiance City Administrator Jeff Leonard, and women's volleyball team member Sydney Unger.

Additional locker room space will bring new opportunities for student-athletes at Defiance College with added sports teams. AD Holava noted that the department and college are excited to be able to support wrestling on campus again.

Features of the project include:

- ◆ Renovation and expansion of men's and women's locker rooms, restroom improvements, a new display area, and enhanced security to existing spaces in the Weaner Center
- ◆ As mentioned, the addition of four locker rooms designed to allow for future expansion in the McMaster Center
- ◆ And, upgrades to the senior football locker room and other improvements in Coressel Stadium
- ◆ Design Collaborative and Weigand Construction teamed together to create these state-of-the-art spaces.

The list of contractors also includes Highland Electric, Leever Glass, Bayes Incorporated, Noldmann Roofing, Central Indiana Hardware, Folding Equipment Company, and B Sport.



The \$2 million project includes a 4,156 square foot addition of four new locker rooms to the McMaster Center. Renovations will also be made to the Karl H. Weaner Community Center and Justin F. Coressel Stadium, totaling 7,600 square feet.

In top photo from left to right: Buzz, Rev. Jim Brehler, Board Chair Steve VanDemark, Interim Athletic Director Jodie Holava, President Richanne C. Mankey, City Administrator Jeff Leonard, Brian Bauman for Congressman Bob Latta, Alumni Varsity 'D' President Mike Snyder, Mike Mankey, and Ohio House Representative Craig Riedel.