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Chapman University Announces Multi-Million-Dollar Gift to Name Athletics Complex

- *\$6 Million from A. Gary Anderson Family Foundation Will Name the Erin J. Lastinger Athletics Complex*
- *Intercollegiate Athletics Program Will Be Named for Trustee Donald P. Kennedy, Chair of the Athletics Campaign*
- *Athletics Capital Campaign Raises \$15 Million Toward \$20.5 Million Goal*

ORANGE, CA, Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2005 President James L. Doti of Chapman University announced a multi-million-dollar gift to the university's athletics program at a pep rally held Tuesday, Oct. 11 at the Chapman stadium construction site. Before a crowd of hundreds of students, faculty, fans and community members inside the two-story-deep excavation, Doti announced that a \$6 million gift from the A. Gary Anderson Family Foundation will name the university's athletics complex after Chapman alumna-athlete Erin J. Lastinger, the foundations chairman. In addition, Doti announced that the university's intercollegiate athletics program will be named in honor of Donald P. Kennedy, the Chapman trustee who chairs the \$20.5 million athletics capital campaign.

Chapman's championship athletics program deserves championship-level facilities, Doti said. The Erin J. Lastinger Athletics Complex will carry our athletes into the future with nationally competitive, state-of-the-art facilities, and will be available to our intercollegiate teams, club sports participants, intramural athletes, students, faculty and staff, and members of the community. The Lastinger Complex will make it possible for the Donald P. Kennedy Intercollegiate Athletics Program to be one of the leading NCAA Division III programs in the nation.

Doti added that the Lastinger gift, in addition to previous gifts to the campaign, means that the university has raised \$15 million toward its \$20.5 million goal for the athletics capital campaign. In addition to this money, which will be used for construction funding, the university has also received \$7 million in future endowment gifts toward the athletics campaign. Chapman is actively pursuing additional commitments to secure the additional \$5.5 million needed to begin construction of the stadium next fall, Doti said. He invited the public to participate through the current Take a Seat campaign, in which individuals or corporations can name a seat in the stadium for \$1000.

A state-of-the-art athletics complex

The Erin J. Lastinger Athletics Complex will include all the buildings, facilities and fields devoted to athletics at Chapman: the 2,000-seat Ernie Chapman Stadium (soon to begin construction) with the Tom and Joan Riach Stadium Terrace; the underground parking structure beneath the stadium (currently under construction and planned to open in 2006); the Folino Family Aquatics Center with its 500-seat Frank E. and Mary Ann O'Bryan Aquatics Stadium

and Zee Allred Olympic Pool (soon to begin construction); the Athletics Pavilion with coaches offices, locker rooms and the Jamie Case-Babson Classrooms (soon to begin construction); the existing Hutton Sports Center on campus, which opened in 1978; and the Robert and Marie Gray Collegiate Rowing Center on Newport Harbor in Newport Beach, which opened in 2004.

Erin Lastinger, who earned her B.A. in communications from Chapman in 1988 and is today chairman and CEO of the A. Gary Anderson Family Foundation, immersed herself in soccer and her sorority while attending the university. Chapman helped to shape me into a good citizen and community leader, and my athletics experience added immeasurably to that experience, she said. I wanted to give back to my alma mater in a significant way, and I felt that supporting the athletics complex for upcoming generations of scholar-athletes was a very meaningful way to do this. She recalls that when she first came to Chapman, I fell completely in love with the school it was the right fit, not just for academic reasons, but for the values and ethics that are part of the whole Chapman experience. I wanted to help in extending that same experience to the student-athletes of the future. A previous generous gift to Chapman from the Anderson Family Foundation established the A. Gary Anderson Center for Economic Research, part of the George L. Argyros School of Business and Economics.

An intercollegiate program that teaches leadership and teamwork

The Donald P. Kennedy Intercollegiate Athletics Program will include Chapmans 18 intercollegiate sports: mens baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, tennis and water polo; and womens basketball, crew, cross country, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball and water polo. (There are also three club sports: mens crew, mens lacrosse and mens swimming.) Chapman competes as an NCAA Division III independent, and nearly 500 Chapman students participate on the intercollegiate and club teams. In addition, there is an active intramural sports program.

Donald P. Kennedy, vice chairman of Chapmans Board of Trustees, said, Chapmans focus is on the education of the whole person, and a part of the universitys educational process has always been devoted to the physical development of our students. A well-organized intercollegiate sports program is vital to teaching the benefits of competition, leadership, teamwork, discipline and goal-setting, and the meeting of peer universities on the athletic fields is mutually beneficial for both the athletes and the schools. I'm proud to support Chapmans intercollegiate athletics program not only to enhance our competitive edge, but to provide valuable life skills that will enhance the future of every student who participates.

Our sportsmen and women are truly scholar-athletes, Doti said. Universities that compete in Division III do not offer athletic scholarships, so those who play intercollegiate sports at Chapman do so solely for the love of the game. I am particularly proud of our student-athletes success in the classroom, as evidenced by the fact that their overall graduation rate is 85 percent, which is even higher than the overall average for the university. In other words, our athletes have a better graduation rate than our non-athletes quite the opposite of Division I and II schools. Doti added that Chapman teams and individual athletes are consistently awarded Academic All-American honors.