

HOMECOMING

Pride in Our Past **2002** *Faith in Our Future*

\$22 million Student Success Center designed as new hub for campus life

GSW students will soon have a new-complex to call home.

Feb. 15, as part of the Homecoming 2002 celebration, GSW officials broke ground on the \$22 million Student Success Center. The multipurpose facility will house recreation, athletics, student life and education programs.

“Breaking ground on this Student Success Center is indeed a proud day for Georgia Southwestern State University,” said Dr. Michael L. Hanes, GSW president. “We envision this new facility becoming a hub of student life on our campus, providing students with a range of additional recreational and educational possibilities to pursue. Once completed, the Student Success Center promises to be a bold step forward that will enhance the resources available to our entire campus community.”

Highlights of the two-story facility include a convocation hall/sports arena with seating for 2,000;

updated athletic facilities, including locker areas, training areas and a fitness center; recreational facilities, including racquetball courts and a climbing wall; new and improved Health and Human Performance facilities, including classrooms, conference areas, fitness areas, and office space; room for various student organizations including Student Government and the Student Affairs Division.

Officials said the Student Success Center will be the “jewel” of the university’s facilities; the highest profile building on campus which will be used to help attract quality students to the university, and will help retain students currently enrolled at the university.

According to designers, the building will reinforce and enliven the pedestrian-friendly nature of the campus, and will help anchor the campus master plan as well. In addition, the facility will include features to encourage after-hours student activities, and will consolidate many of the student services into one

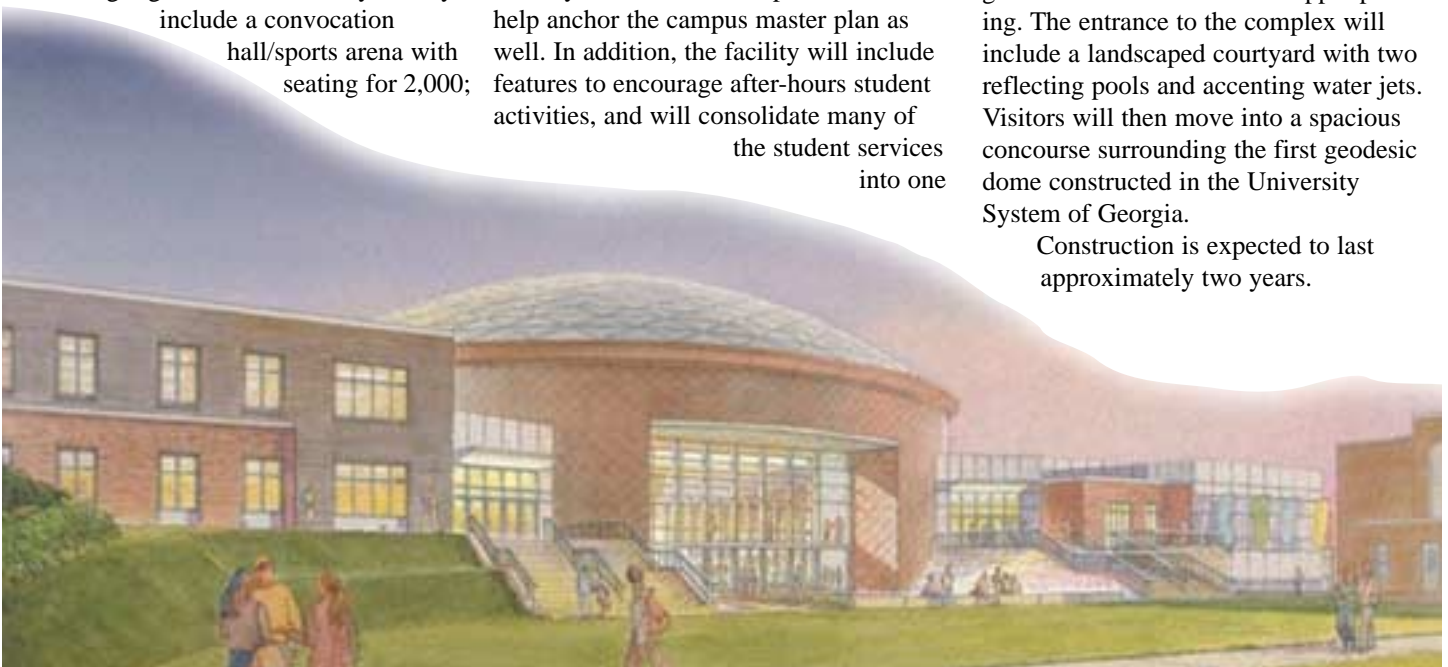


Campus officials break ground for the new Student Success Center on February 15th as part of the Homecoming 2002 celebration.

location. At 130,000 gross square feet, the complex will be developed in and around existing campus structures, resulting in renovation of the Storm Dome and demolition of a single wing of the adjacent Collum II residence hall.

Designers said exterior walls will be predominately a brick veneer, while the geodesic dome will feature copper paneling. The entrance to the complex will include a landscaped courtyard with two reflecting pools and accenting water jets. Visitors will then move into a spacious concourse surrounding the first geodesic dome constructed in the University System of Georgia.

Construction is expected to last approximately two years.



See page 19 for more scenes from Homecoming 2002