At the U of M, projects rise for academics and athletics facilities

BY BRIAN JOHNSON
Staff Writer

New digs for athletics, natural history, earth sciences and more are coming soon to the University of Minnesota Twin Cities - and there should be plenty of juice to power at least some of those new spaces, courtesy of another big project.

The U of M has started testing its new $113 million combined heat and power plant at 1180 Main St. SE in Minneapolis. The building will be fully operational by the end of June, said Jerome Malmuquist, the U of M’s director of energy management.

Malmuquist said the project has already paid dividends. The new facility was forced into early service in March when a busted steam line temporarily put another plant on campus out of commission, he said.

“Talk about just-in-time delivery,” Malmuquist said in an interview.

The project team includes St. Louis Park-based Adolfson & Peterson (construction manager), Jacobs Engineering of Pasadena, California, (design and engineering), St. Paul-based Harris Cos. (mechanical contractor) and others.

Here’s a roundup of a few other notable

Private institutions build, restore

Editor’s note: This report is based on private colleges that responded to Finance & Commerce’s interview requests.

BY CLARE KENNEDY
Staff Writer

The Twin Cities’ private colleges and universities have a fairly full slate, as far as summer construction is concerned, though the pace of expansion, renovation and acquisition is not as intense as it has been in recent years.

Of all the projects going on right now, Augsburg College’s is by far the biggest. The urban Minneapolis school is in the midst of building the Norman and Evangeline Hagfors Center for Science, Business and Religion, a $73 million, 135,000-square-foot multi-disciplinary complex at Seventh Street South and 21st Avenue.

The intention behind Hagfors is to encourage mixing among branches of academia.

Augsburg College’s $73 million Norman and Evangeline Hagfors Center for Science, Business and Religion in Minneapolis is expected to open in January. Construction started in April 2016.

STAFF PHOTO: BILL KLOTZ
White pine from Cass Lake, Minnesota, will cover about 40 percent of the new Bell Museum’s exterior.

STAFF PHOTO: BILL KLOTZ
The Norman and Evangeline Hagfors Center is shown in detail.

STAFF PHOTO: BILL KLOTZ
Augsburg College’s $73 million Norman and Evangeline Hagfors Center for Science, Business and Religion in Minneapolis is expected to open in January. Construction started in April 2016.

University of St. Thomas

This summer the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul is taking a well-deserved break between engagements, though there’s activity on the school’s Minneapolis campus.

For the last few years, St. Thomas’ building department has been on a tear in St. Paul, completing a $52 million athletic and recreation complex, a $66 million student center, and a $15 million parking facility. The school has yet more on the horizon: In late 2016, St. Thomas officials unveiled an ambitious $300 million, 10-year master plan for the St. Paul campus.
Continued from page 1

projects underway on the Twin Cities campus:

Athletes Village

Athletes Village, a multi-building complex that will serve 720 student athletes, is on schedule and on budget, according to the U of M.

“We are still tracking for occupancy of those facilities in January 2018, which was the original occupancy target,” said Jake Ricker, the U of M’s associate athletics communications director.

Designed by BW histor of St. Paul, the $64 million renovation of the building will be a $13 million renovation of Holland Hall. The project team believes the $64 million renovation of Holland Hall, the exterior of which was modeled after an abbey perched on Mont-Saint Michel island off the Normandy coast of France, will cover about 40 percent of the exterior, a rarity in commercial construction, according to Perkins + Will, the museum’s designer.

One distinguishing characteristic is the building’s white pine exterior. White pine from Cass Lake, Minnesota, will cover about 40 percent of the exterior, a rarity in commercial construction, according to Perkins + Will, the museum’s designer.

White pine from Cass Lake, Minnesota, will cover about 40 percent of the exterior, a rarity in commercial construction, according to Perkins + Will, the museum’s designer.

The $64 million Bell Museum and Planetarium is scheduled to open in summer 2018. The building is at the southwest corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland avenues in St. Paul.

A football indoor practice facility is part of the massive Athletes Village under construction on the University of Minnesota’s campus in Minneapolis.

Bell Museum

The New $64 million Bell Museum and Planetarium is nearing the end of construction, but the building won’t open to the public until summer 2018.

The new building is under construction at the southwest corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland avenues in St. Paul. It will replace the aging and undersized existing museum, at 19

$19 million track and field stadium, at the southeast corner of Minneapolis.

The 230,000-square-foot building, at 116 Church St. SE on the Northrop Mall in Minneapolis, is being renovated into a new home for earth sciences, physics and astronomy. The project is scheduled to wrap up this fall, according to the U of M.

Originally built in the 1920s, the building will offer 29 testing labs for physics and astronomy, four labs for earth sciences and 26 research labs, the U of M said. Ten of the research labs will be for physics, 16 for earth sciences.

Tate makeover

A year and a half into construction, the $92.5 million makeover of the Tate Science and Teaching building is entering the home stretch.

The 230,000-square-foot building, at 116 Church St. SE on the Northrop Mall in Minneapolis, is being renovated into a new home for earth sciences, physics and astronomy. The project is scheduled to wrap up this fall, according to the U of M.

Continued from page 1

College

“The time to slow down and catch our breath,” said Mark Vangsgard, CFO and vice president of business affairs.

St. Thomas has slowed its blistering pace, but is nevertheless working on projects underway on the Twin Cities campus:

St. Olaf College

St. Olaf College in Northfield is spending $13 million on an interior renovation of Holland Hall, the exterior of which was modeled after an abbey perched on Mont-Saint Michel island off the Normandy coast of France.

At St. Olaf College right now is also one of the most delicate, said Pete Sandberg, the college’s assistant vice president of facilities planning. St. Olaf is in the closing phases of a $31 million renovation of Holland Hall, a towering limestone edifice built in 1922.

Holland looks a good deal older than its 1920s vintage, and that is no accident. The building was built in the Norman Gothic revival style, designed by the Chicago firm Coolidge & Hodgdon to take after an abbey perched on Mont-Saint Michel island off the Normandy coast in France, according to the Histor