

NEWS RELEASE

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UNIVERSITY PROJECT RESCUED BY INNOVATIVE FOUNDATION ENGINEERING

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif.—June 20, 2001—Lowney Associates devised a solution to a complex problem that threatened to halt the remodel of Santa Clara University's (SCU) Leavey Center.

The Problem

SCU's Division I sports center originally had a light weight "bubble" roof, made of thick plastic. Since the remodel called for a solid roof and curved, glass window walls, a new foundation was needed to support the heavier structures. When roof foundation recommendations provided by others were deemed unrealistic the developer, Devcon Construction, turned to Lowney Associates.

The Solution

Lowney developed a constructible and cost-effective solution: build a foundation around the Center's existing base to support the heavier roof. Lowney recommended deep, concrete caissons to support the new roof. In addition to making the project feasible, Lowney's foundation design recommendations reduced costs by \$60,000. Lowney also saved the client additional soil import and export costs by approving the reuse of the soil generated from the caisson excavations.

Future Construction

Future construction phases will include an entryway and plaza, interior improvements such as new locker rooms and exercise facilities, 25,000 square feet of additional office space, 1,200 spectator seats, and a new outdoor aquatic center. The \$11.75 million remodel will hold 5,000 spectators by its 2002 completion.

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Founded in Santa Clara County in 1969, Lowney Associates provides geotechnical and environmental engineering services. The firm specializes in earthwork construction, environmental site assessments and cleanups, and construction services. With office locations in Mountain View, Oakland, San Ramon and Fullerton, Lowney provides services throughout California and the West.