Fallon Still Playing for the UAlbany Team

By MARY FIESS

A top partner in a leading international law firm, John R. Fallon, Jr., B.A.’77, M.P.A.’81, has mastered the art of handling major transactions, acquisitions and financings.

Whether it is managing a refinery acquisition for one of Europe’s major oil and gas producers or handling the financing of American hospitals and nursing homes for health care providers and real estate investment trusts, Fallon brings to the table the legal, communication and organizational skills that lead to success.

Now, he is also putting his skills and his generosity to work for the University at Albany. One of his aims is to further bolster the success of UAlbany’s men’s lacrosse team, which earned an NCAA tournament berth for the second time in a row this past spring.

A four-year lacrosse player himself as a UAlbany undergraduate, Fallon is contributing $250,000 to help finance a new all-weather lacrosse field for the men’s and women’s teams. His enthusiasm for the project is clear.

“I feel very fortunate that I’m in the position to contribute back to the University,” says Fallon, who today is a partner in the New York City offices of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene and MacRae, LLP, and a senior member of the firm’s corporate department.

Fallon’s been contributing his time and energy to the University since 1998, when Gov. George Pataki appointed him to the University Council. One responsibility of the Council is to organize presidential searches and submit recommendations to the State University of New York chancellor and trustees; Fallon is a member of the Presidential Search Committee charged with recruiting a successor to Karen R. Hitchcock. He is also a member of the board of directors of the University at Albany Foundation, which is UAlbany’s philanthropic arm.

Fallon spends his “free time” with his 3-year old daughter, Kiley, and his wife, Elizabeth. A former banker, Elizabeth worked with UAlbany major gifts officer Mary Johnson to plan the barbecue event which the Fallon family hosted for Long Island alumni at their East Hampton summer home August 21st.

Alumnus John Fallon, right, has contributed $250,000 to help finance an all-weather lacrosse field as the teams played on for the NCAA championship,” notes Fallon. “On our current grass field, in the spring, you can’t do anything on it. There’s too much water, too much snow, too much residue. But when we have the new all-weather field, the teams can get out there practicing sooner and we could have some of the early season games played here — as opposed to playing on the road.

“The field will have the same synthetic turf as the teams played on for the NCAA championship,” notes Fallon. “On our current grass field, in the spring, you can’t do anything on it. There’s too much water, too much snow, too much residue. But when we have the new all-weather field, the teams can get out there practicing sooner and we could have some of the early season games played here — as opposed to playing on the road.”

The University is developing a master plan for improving athletics facilities over the next five to ten years. The all-weather lacrosse field is the first of many projects, says Director of Athletics and Recreation Lee McElroy, that he envisions to strengthen the University’s athletics programs.

“The athletics facilities master plan will enhance institutional pride, tradition and excellence. We are immensely grateful for John’s support. We have done well with our existing facilities, but if we are going to compete at the national level, we have got to have better facilities. Private support is vital for accomplishing our goals,” said McElroy.

When the field is completed, it will be named after Fallon in recognition of his gift.

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John R. Fallon, left, says it is the first of many projects that will help University athletes compete at the national level.

David Perkins
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The Excelsior Circle
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