

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY, WEST LONG BRANCH, NJ

PROJECT CASE STUDY



GEARBOSS® WOOD LOCKERS

“Wenger did an outstanding job installing more than 340 GearBoss wood lockers in our Multi-Purpose Athletic Center. The lockers are first-class – we’re very impressed! The available options were also very attractive; other companies didn’t offer these upgrades.”

– Jeff Stapleton
Senior Associate Athletic Director for Internal Operations



GEARBOSS® WOOD LOCKERS

CHALLENGE

Provide custom wood lockers for 13 locker rooms in new athletic building at Division I university.

WENGER SOLUTION

Offering customer a wide variety of customization options. Assisting with locker room design and configuration.
Installing lockers as member of project team.

BENEFITS

- Enhances locker room appearance with “wow” impact
- Closed-cell, poly-laminated surfaces enable easy cleaning
- Built-in seat saves valuable floor space
- Offers organization and security for personal items
- Open design promotes airflow to encourage drying
- Bolt-through construction ensures durable performance

HIGHLIGHTS

“We wanted recruits and players to feel good about what they see – it’s a ‘Wow!’ feeling when you walk in – and our GearBoss lockers really accomplish this,” says Jeff Stapleton, Senior Associate Athletic Director for Internal Operations at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, New Jersey.

Monmouth’s new Multi-Purpose Athletic Center features more than 340 GearBoss wood lockers, installed in 13 different locker rooms. The previous facility – with its metal lockers – was over 40 years old; Stapleton says it was built at a different time, with a different purpose in mind.



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“It’s definitely an ‘arms race’ in athletic facilities today,” he explains. “Everyone is always trying to outdo the next new building – within one’s means – and make their facility unique.”

In preparation for this project, Stapleton visited other area universities, to see their recent building projects and to ask what they would do differently next time. He also contacted some other schools with GearBoss locker installations; when Monmouth’s football team played at Old Dominion University, he surveyed ODU’s extensive array of GearBoss equipment.

When evaluating lockers from different manufacturers, Stapleton said the number of available options with GearBoss lockers was very attractive. “Other companies didn’t offer

these upgrades,” he recalls. “Our new lockers are first-class – we’re very impressed!” Monmouth’s Division I athletic program serves between 350 and 400 athletes during a school year. One of the teams appreciating the new locker rooms is women’s basketball.

“Not only is our new locker room larger with more space, these new GearBoss lockers give the room a first-class, professional look,” declares Head Coach Stephanie V. Gaitley. She says that players like having a place to lock their personal items; air vents in the bottom of the locker help dry shoes.

These new lockers include features that help contribute to a more sanitary environment. “Being able to wipe down the GearBoss lockers is very important; cleaning our old metal lockers was very difficult,” states Stapleton. Players are also educated about the importance of turning in their uniforms and equipment for regular washing.

He believes Monmouth’s new facility, including locker rooms, helps athletes feel good because the school is recognizing the contribution their sport makes to the institution’s overall mission.

“Players spend so much time in these facilities, it’s nice when you can give them a little something extra,” he explains. For example, a lounge area was incorporated into locker rooms wherever space allowed. In the men’s and women’s basketball locker rooms, these lounges feature couches, TVs, computers, whiteboard and study area.

Teams use the lounges for film sessions and pregame meetings, along with just socializing or playing video games. “The rooms do take on a club room atmosphere,” Stapleton comments. “There are more amenities so the players feel comfortable.”

To help fund the locker rooms, Monmouth sold individual lockers to donors, along with the naming of each locker room suite. According to Stapleton, the process went well: some teams are sold out, others are still working on it.

From alumni donors to potential recruits, facilities can make a powerful impact. “It’s a huge factor in recruiting,” says Coach Gaitley. “I think your facilities indicate your school’s commitment to excellence and striving to be the best you can be.”

The women’s basketball team now uses their locker room for showing recruits the team’s highlight tape, for the family Q&A session and also as a gathering space.

“The locker room and lounge help present a first-class image, which I think is part of building your team,” she concludes. “I believe there’s a connection between looking good and feeling good that extends to your team’s whole persona; our new locker room certainly complements that.”



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PRODUCT LIST

GearBoss® Customizable Wood Lockers.

