

## Introduction

The University of Cincinnati Athletic Center is an 8 story, 220,000 ft<sup>2</sup> multi-use facility currently under construction and is located in the heart of University's "Varsity Village" athletic complex. The building is designed to house virtually all of the support services for the University of Cincinnati's intercollegiate athletic program. It will function as the social link and architectural centerpiece of a multi-stage athletic expansion plan. As such, it is situated between two main sports facilities, the Nippert Football Stadium and the Shoemaker Center, with easy access to other sports fields and areas. The Athletic Center contains a variety of spaces to accommodate the UC athletic department, including:

- Offices for all coaches and administrators
- Locker rooms for various athletic teams
- A ticket center
- Computer labs and private study spaces
- New sports medicine and athletic training facilities
- A practice gymnasium with two courts
- A university and sports museum
- New strength and conditioning facilities

This report is the conclusion of a year-long thesis studying the proposed building. It was researched, evaluated, and redesigned. This paper uses the background information and knowledge gained through the research and evaluation to present a redesign of several aspects of the building, primarily its structural system. The purpose of the report is not to mandate changes in the actual construction, rather to simply study and learn from alternative solutions to the challenges which faced the designers.

Note: In March of 2003 a donation by a Cincinnati philanthropist permanently changed the name of the building to the Richard E. Lindner Center; however its original title has been used for the entire report.

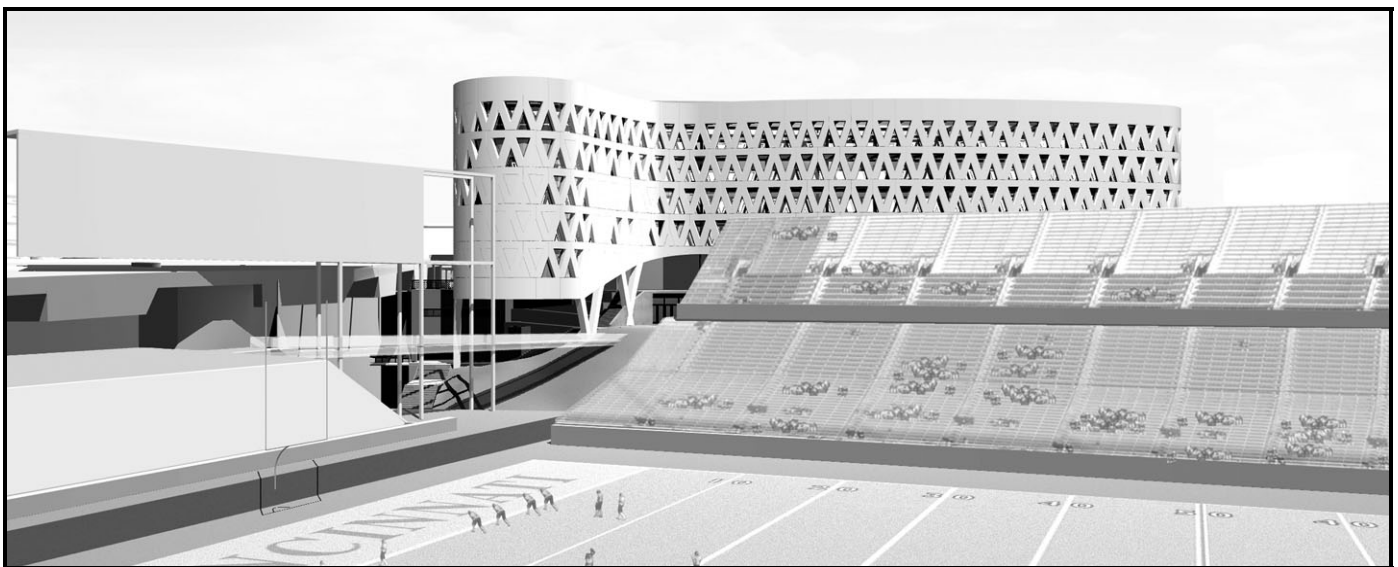


Figure 1: Panoramic view from the west