

# Adam McGuirt – Episode 18 transcript

## **Intro**

You're listening to Beyond 1894, a podcast dedicated to updating you on research, innovation and Campus Life happening at Louisiana Tech University.

## **Tom Soto**

Few people have been more busy or had more responsibility on campus these past two years than Adam McGirt, Louisiana Tech's director of disaster recovery and strategic initiatives. In late January, with the new athletics facilities nearly complete, Adam visited with Teddy Allen of Tech's Office of University Communications to talk about his mission since the April 2019 Tornado, the teamwork it took to bounce back better than before, and how he feels about the future of our 21st century campus.

## **Teddy**

Sir, would you please, for the ladies and gentlemen of the jury, state your name and your occupation?

## **Adam McGuirt**

Yes, sir. Adam McGirt, Director of Disaster Recovery and Strategic Initiatives.

## **Teddy**

And do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth is long and won't get me or you in trouble so help you Les Guice?

## **Adam McGuirt**

Yes, sir.

## **Teddy**

Good deal. Now, if I ask you where you were on the morning of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 until now, a good bet would be you would say I was on this campus at one of these facilities not far from a hardhat. Is that true?

## **Adam McGuirt**

I would say so. In fact, thinking back May 1st, I was probably on the baseball field because we were still looking at trying to take down the damaged items that were of concern. So, light poles were still coming down.

## **Teddy**

We'll take you back to that late April, when your job was what before you were given...

## **Adam McGuirt**

I was the Associate Athletics Director for Internal Operations.

**Teddy**

Okay, and that was on April 25<sup>th</sup> and by May 1<sup>st</sup> you were in your new job as a disaster recovery and special initiatives.

**Adam McGuirt**

Correct.

**Teddy**

What's the first thing you did? And of course, Dr. Guice appointed you to that job? Your answer was "Yes, sir" if I recall?

**Adam McGuirt**

That is, exactly right. Yes.

**Teddy**

And, why did he choose you for that job?

**Adam McGuirt**

We'd been in conversations, you know, Tommy McClelland, our Athletics Director, and I, before the tornado, and then Dr. Guice and myself and Dr. King, just looking at what a new opportunity might look like for me. And, you know, what my skill set might, how that might work on the University side, and just didn't know what that was going to be, you know, what, there was a need for somebody to do kind of what I'm doing, but just didn't know that it would be at the pace that it is now, and in the, I guess, the scope has changed, obviously. But that was kind of the backstory and then obviously, when the tornado came through a week later, it was pretty clear what it was going to be.

**Teddy**

Somebody was going to have to be the point man. As Associate AD for Internal Operations, I don't know anything about ball, how would you tell me your, what would you say your job was then?

**Adam McGuirt**

So I was on the senior staff with the other Senior Associate Deputy Athletics Director and Associate ADs. So my responsibility was game operations for all of our sports, overseeing the facilities for all our sports. I also was overseeing our Adidas partnership from the athletic side, and then working through football scheduling for the past year, prior to moving over. So kind of a, it was an administrative role. I had the opportunity in that role to oversee the construction projects in the end zone in the press box there at football plus turf projects, locker room renovations. So, lots of experience there. That kind of helped prepare me for this role.

**Teddy**

I see you have on an Adidas jacket, it looks very nice. Is that a size large?

**Adam McGuirt**

It is.

**Teddy**

I may need to borrow it in a little while.

**Adam McGuirt**

We can work something out.

**Teddy**

I don't know if, how long, I'll have it. You're not a certain age when you decide, "Boy one day I hope to be the" you know, "in charge of disaster recovery over at Louisiana Tech. I mean, when you were going to see Burt in Shreveport this is not what you envisioned.

**Adam McGuirt**

Right.

**Teddy**

But somehow I get the idea from talking to you, you know, you got a wonderful wife and three little girls, you're at a place where you can go play golf if you need to, get away and go fishing this turned out pretty good, hasn't it?

**Adam McGuirt**

It has. It has. I did not know, and I told you this before, I still don't know exactly what I want to be when I grow up.

**Teddy**

Join the crowd.

**Adam McGuirt**

(The) philosophy has kind of been work hard, you know, do a good job at what you do. Others will eventually take notice of that and then the new opportunity will present itself. And I think that's proven to be true for me and in ways I never would have expected. So, I think that's Divine Providence in a lot of ways, but I think that's just a mentality I've had and something I want to keep pushing forward with is just do the best you can do and excellence will show and others will pick up on that.

**Teddy**

Well you already had a hardhat when you got this job at May 1st because of the South endzone and the facilities over there you'd already been involved with. But once Dr. Guice said, "Okay, this is what you're going to do" so on May 1<sup>st</sup>, who's the first phone call? How do you get started?

**Adam McGuirt**

Well, May 1<sup>st</sup> is kind of a trigger point for officially moving over. But if you go back to the morning of the tornado, it just, it all flows together. It was really neat. I mean, you see teamwork immediately start to

take place, and you didn't have to tell people what to do. And so point being, I got the phone call at 2:30 in the morning, and Malcom Butler called me and said hey, it's pretty bad.

**Teddy**

This is the morning of the tornado?

**Adam McGuirt**

Morning of the tornado, and "it's pretty bad, do we need to call Tommy, our athletics director at the time, and I said, No, let's don't do that, it's early. And he sent me a picture. And I said I, I'm on my way. And, uh, I came up here had to go a different route because I couldn't get here the way I would normally come. So then we call, and started, the process started to unfold. And you know, at that time, I look around across campus and seeing Wallace is walking campus already taking pictures. Uh Dr. Guice is out, we have our first meeting. Backup, Randall Hermes, Bill Davis, they're directing traffic trying to secure spaces, check on students. I mean, priority is, priority number one is life safety, and regardless of buildings or anything else, so everybody was doing their job, our housing folks were doing their jobs. And you just, you don't have to tell them, right? And so that's a cool thing to look back on and see is, you know, we talk about the Tech family and it was, it showed up in a big way that day. And so that morning, we had our first meeting at 6:30, and then we started talking about who was doing what. And so, it just, from then on, it just kind of manifested in a way that I can't go back and point to what I was exactly doing, but it just started, and I, and those... I will say that that morning, our architect team, Tim Brandon architects, architecture came over. They were helping us do damage assessments, not knowing that they'd be a part of these projects. They were helping us. Structural engineers from Shreveport came over to look at the baseball stadium to see hey, it's not safe to be in this thing. Lincoln builders came out here, I talked to Patrick Ramsay and Jerry Brasier, Clint Graham, they're trying to find ways to help us, um, and again that's pride in our University, pride their hometown, and just being good partners. And I think that's shown throughout this whole process is we just have some really good people we're connected with, and they, they take pride in what they do, and are proud to be associated with this University. And it's, it's continuing to show today.

**Teddy**

If I can, uh, help people remember if you've forgotten that you mentioned Malcolm Butler Associate AD for Athletic Communications. He's coming, um, south down Tech Drive and by Miss Jan Chevron at the top of the hill, he goes around a big piece of concrete and doesn't know what it is. But it was a part of the baseball roof that had just thrown itself way up the street.

**Adam McGuirt**

Correct.

**Teddy**

If you, and I told people, the cameras and what you saw on television or on the newspaper pictures, just didn't do justice to what a mess it was. That's two years ago, not quite. And if you go out and look now, it's uh, if you spend any time in Ruston, it will almost bring tears to your eyes...

**Adam McGuirt**

Correct.

**Teddy**

... at what your University's been able to do. And speaking of tears, that morning of April 25th, Dr. Guice had the um, you know, unfortunate job of addressing the media. And he had to stop a couple times, uh, to not you know, openly just weep. This happened in literally his front yard...

**Adam McGuirt**

Yes

**Teddy**

... of his, of his house and we all know how much the campus means to him. So, uh, it was inspiring to see student athletes and students picking up stuff, you know, where it was safe and trying to help. And it does seem like everybody got on board and because of that, it has to take a massive team effort to get that far in this little amount of time.

**Adam McGuirt**

It does. And it, and it started...

**Teddy**

And you've seen it, you've seen it every day.

**Adam McGuirt**

I have. I have and it started that weekend. I mean, that was Thursday. We had to, students were out just wanting to help and that happened immediately. We had to make it safe for them and not let them in certain places but we had the big event that weekend. And to see the response from our students and our folks in Ruston just to come out and support the University, that that's where it all began. And then, then you go into the, you know, the real mechanics of this thing and which is working with your state agencies, the federal government, just the you, you do a deep dive at that point.

**Teddy**

Right, give us some of these acronyms. FEMA we know.

**Adam McGuirt**

Oh goodness, FEMA is one that we've all heard but facility planning and control is FPC. That's who we are working with. They are technically the owners of these projects until we get done. They're the, they process everything for us. Big, big partner in this. Sara McCann out of Shreveport is huge in how she's helped us with this. But you have ORM, Office of Risk Management. So that's insurance. You have GOSEP, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. And they've been phenomenal. I mean, I can't, I can't understate or overstate what they've done for us. And the Deputy Commissioner now, he's was up here with us and has walked with us hand in hand through this process and in fact, Sam Wallace and I got a text from him a few weeks ago, his name is Casey Tango, and he just said, "Hey guys, I see some pictures, looking great!". And you know what those guys have

been through these past few years. So... it's just, it's encouraging when you go through this to see all the people willing to help you get there.

**Teddy**

Yeah, an in, in government, it often moves slow and I can understand that. There's a lot of tape and "supposed to" make sure thing gets done right. But I think, from talking to different people like you and Sam Wallace, they've bent over backwards, in a real trying a couple of years, to do all they could do to help the school.

**Adam McGuirt**

They sure have. And I think we, we feel like it's been years and years and years because we're in the middle of it. But like you said earlier, you step back, and you look. We're here today, it's February 3<sup>rd</sup>, uh, this happened April 25<sup>th</sup>, so we're not quite two years into it and we're sitting here about to complete projects that would typically take, if you were planning these, and fundraising, and identify, you know, doing the drawings to completion, bidding, all of that, these projects are typically three and a half to four year projects, so when you step back and look at what's accomplished, it really is amazing.

**Teddy**

It's, there's no doubt about it. Uh, we can't appreciate yet, um, you know a lot of stuff that we don't, so if you're trying to walk people through these three facilities, that'd be softball, soccer, baseball, can you tell us some stuff that the average person may not have thought about yet that they're going to experience, fan experience and student athlete experience?

**Adam McGuirt**

Yeah. I'll start at the at the softball and soccer complex. You, you have, there were some challenges with that site. And so, looking at planning for these, just to give people an idea of what we did, we didn't just automatically know where these places we're going to go. We stepped back, I sat in a room with Brooks Hull, our VP for University Advancement, Dr. Jim King, who at the time was our Executive VP and Tommy McClellan. And we sat in a room, we pulled up a big map and said, okay, this is, these are 50, 75, 100 year decisions we're about to embark upon, so let's do it right. And this was at the direction of Dr. Guice. He said, You guys get together and come present me a plan. And so we looked, what, you know, we have opportunities: Does housing need to go where baseball was? Does baseball go, uh, where housing is currently on the south side of the railroad tracks? Does softball and soccer go back where they were? Do we look at Hideaway Park as a potential option for you know, one of a kind facilities? And so, we just looked at what are the needs of the University, and how can we best address those as we go along? And so where we landed was, we needed some parking for the University to be used and athletics needed it. But that's where we landed in the old softball and soccer site. There were some challenges with drainage and water issues as well that made that not a great place to go with. So, you see now, there's a new parking lot there, which I've never seen people get as excited as, uh, over a parking lot? But it's clean. And it just, it changes the view of things, and it's functional so... So then we looked at building the Women's Complexes as referred to softball and soccer there at the football stadium because we replaced the parking across the street. But what we were dealing with there is a 30-foot difference in terrain, from up at Tech Drive in the corner, down to the football stadium. So the architects had a pretty tall task, and "How do we make this work"? And so, thankfully I'm not an

architect, I've learned a lot, but I was saying, "Hey, maybe we don't put the building in the middle. Maybe we move it over by the track. We can do some other things, maybe incorporate more into that building". And they said "Just, just let us work on it". And thankfully their eyes, they see things in a different way. And Tim Brandon is the owner and sets the tone for his company and Clint Whittington, I can't say enough good things about him. He's the VP of Operations for them but our lead architect on these jobs, and he said Adam, "Just, just let us work on it". So what you see now is, they tied in the building, the support facility, so that the soccer coaches and student athletes overlook their field and spill out onto their field, which is essentially the second story of the building, but it doesn't look that way as you enter in on Tech or down on Stadium Drive it looks like it's ground level but softball, that student athletes are on the ground level, and spill out towards their field on the first level, the softball coaches are on the second level overlooking their field. So, very very intentional on the design and shape of that building, because you had to be...

**Teddy**

They used that elevation...

**Adam McGuirt**

Perfectly. Perfectly and that's, um...

**Teddy**

I would have never seen that. I don't know how they, their mind works.

**Adam McGuirt**

Yeah, you go back and look at what was before and look at what's there now and it's really creative in how they incorporated all of that. So, that's something you wouldn't see. What you'll, what you will see when we're done is you will see the new campus standard for lighting incorporated around these facilities. And then we are planting Shumard oaks down the boulevard, as you turn down into the stadium, so we'll create a real grand entry into that area. Um, so that's, that's kind of a general idea of what, what to expect it you haven't seen these things and kind of get a feel as you come in.

**Teddy**

It looks like it'll be cozy softball, and soccer looks more wide open, but am I misreading that?

**Adam McGuirt**

No, I mean, soccer's field is, is very large. And so uh to, to make it cozy, is just not, not... I don't know that it's possible. So, uh, there's, their field and stadium is the last part of the project, and just the way that it's being built, and non, in a non-COVID year, which is when we were designing these things, they don't compete until the Fall and so, we had more time to grow in the grass and get their field ready to go. But, um...

**Teddy**

And it won't be enclosed, right? The stands will be up on the North wall?

**Adam McGuirt**

Correct, they'll be on the bank, the hill that's over there... There will be a fence around it and a brick retaining wall. So you'll tie in the red brick all throughout that complex as well. So that's kind of a feel, you know, if you can start to visualize that and then maybe, when folks look at the pictures, they'll see what's happening. So moving over to baseball, you know, the biggest thing that people have said to me is, "Wow, that's a big building". And so it's about 17 to 18 feet taller than what we had. And it's right there at the intersection, so there's an imposing presence to that building as you, as you enter in. But we had a, we had land issues there, you know, we had to really expand, we focused on expanding our site so that we could create some more amenities, expand the distances on the field, which has been quite interesting to see what they were, pictures could have told us that already.

**Teddy**

The numbers on the outfield wall may not have truly been exact back in the day.

**Adam McGuirt**

They were not. They were not. They are now. I mean we, we measured it out. We got about 10 to 12 feet all the way around the park and added distance.

**Teddy**

Yep.

**Adam McGuirt**

And that's through working with the railroad to use some of the right of way.

**Teddy**

If this is confusing, by the way, you can't have a 240 foot leftfield fence. I mean, that's not feasible. But you couldn't just make the apartments out there go away. So you had to tilt the field a little bit.

**Adam McGuirt**

Right. Right, that's why it's not uniform and it's not all or our property.

**Teddy**

Which is good. Which is great.

**Adam McGuirt**

So softball, for those that don't know, softball is pretty standardized. You got 200 down the lines and 220 to center for new construction. And that's just what they, they tell you to build it at. Baseball, they give recommendations. But you rarely look at the baseball fields and there's no standard anywhere, you know. People have nuances and little characteristics...

**Teddy**

Charmed different parts.

**Adam McGuirt**

... that add different charm to the complex. So we have the same thing here. But, um, you know the baseball site, if you, when you're coming down Tech Drive and you hit the intersection of Alabama and Tech Drive, you'll notice the large brick wall that's there that obviously wasn't there before. That adds a visual presence, it adds some, some class as you come in to our campus, but what it functionally did was give us more terrain to work with and expanding that area down the right field line. We couldn't come back much further with the stadium because DOTD right of ways. So, again, the architects did a fantastic job of taking the site, matching it with what we wanted it to be, you know, from a capacity standpoint, um, the functionality is something that can't be overstated in these spaces. The student athletes will have it outside of their academics, which they'll have some spaces that they can do that in if needed. But they will have everything they need at these sites and that's just not something you see elsewhere, at our, amongst our peers.

**Teddy**

And again, they can hit in there now. Long wanted a hitting area indoors and you got that. And from a fan experience, unless I go to the bathroom, I can turn around over my shoulder if I'm getting a coke or something, and see the game.

**Adam McGuirt**

That's correct. That's correct.

**Teddy**

I mean, I don't ever have to leave the, leave the park as you did in the old one. So, it'll be here before you know it. And I know our baseball coach sweating it out but I talked to him day before yesterday and if he does not self combust, he's got a good shot a coach in there on February the 26th. Do you own your own hardhat? Do you have your own personal...

**Adam McGuirt**

I've branded my own, but it's been borrowed by others and I just wear whatever I find it in the back of the truck. My children, um, kick them around on the way to school every day. So...

**Teddy**

Speaking of, your three little girls: There's Lily.

**Adam McGuirt**

Yes.

**Teddy**

And the middle one is...

**Adam McGuirt**

Is Sophie.

**Teddy**

Is Sophie and then there's Emily.

**Adam McGuirt**

Emily is the youngest.

**Teddy**

And the mom is April.

**Adam McGuirt**

Yes.

**Teddy**

The puppy dog's name is?

**Adam McGuirt**

His name is Sach.

**Teddy**

And you told me he's a male

**Adam McGuirt**

He is

**Teddy**

Because... was that by design?

**Adam McGuirt**

It was. We have a lot of females in my house, as you just mentioned so a male dog creates a balance there.

**Teddy**

A little more testosterone. Not a lot, but a little bit. You've also picked up, it seems it's so strange that you've picked up this other title during the year of COVID's are. So on top of the... What was your initial reaction to that? I mean, I know, you know, "Tell us to do something and we'll do it". But that seemed a little over the top...

**Adam McGuirt**

Yeah...

**Teddy**

... that you would get saddled with that.

**Adam McGuirt**

My initial reaction was, I went on a fishing trip. And I came back and Dr. Guice said, "Hey, this is your new job", or your new responsibility. And I said "Well, I'm not going on a trip again because I don't know

what I'll pick up". But, initial reaction was, um, "What am I doing? You know. "I'm not prepared for this." But none of us were, just to be quite honest.

**Teddy**

Sure

**Adam McGuirt**

And it's evolved in a way more than I think anybody ever anticipated.

**Teddy**

Yeah. Every day at 4, what are you doing?

**Adam McGuirt**

I am visiting with the National Guard here and getting releases from them for those that have tested and then reporting that information back to the state.

**Teddy**

Fortunately, they're doing that over at Argent Pavilion, which is close to one of the facilities. So you can kill two birds with one stone.

**Adam McGuirt**

And I do. Quite often. And, um, so it, it works in that regard.

**Teddy**

So if I'm correct, we'll all, a lot of people have responsibility. You're, you were responsible to be the point man for these disaster recovery. And to be the point man on our virus reaction.

**Adam McGuirt**

Correct.

**Teddy**

Although you have a lot of people helping.

**Adam McGuirt**

Yes.

**Teddy**

But, if I had a question and I didn't know how else to call, you would generally be the guy I would call and then you'd funnel me to somebody else, right?

**Adam McGuirt**

Yes.

**Teddy**

Unless you get help. Bless your heart. Thanks for all your, thanks for all your work. When you show up in the morning, do you often have a list of "I'm going to do this", and then that changes?

**Adam McGuirt**

You know, every morning I report some information to Dr. Guice and some others, kind of tracking where we are. And we're very intentional in keeping up with the numbers, knowing what's happening with our student body and our faculty and staff, so that we can make the appropriate decisions as needed.

**Teddy**

Okay.

**Adam McGuirt**

So that's every morning. And then, it just depends.

**Teddy**

It just depends

**Adam McGuirt**

You know how it is with emails and phone calls, what happens, but that's every day, checking that.

**Teddy**

Yes

**Adam McGuirt**

You know, you mentioned that I'm the point man. I would like to give recognition to Stacy Gilbert. She has been unbelievable in her leadership in regards to our Student Resource team.

**Teddy**

In our COVID response

**Adam McGuirt**

In our COVID response, yes, just working with all of our students, helping them navigate the process, working with our faculty and staff as well, as far as helping students gain accommodations as needed. But her work has been one of the main reasons we've been successful in keeping face to face classes. And so she has been, she's worked way more than any anybody wants to or needs to, but her passion for this University is, is impressive.

**Teddy**

It's unmatched. A lot of times when people ask me something, I'll say, "Well, have you talked to Stacy Gilbert?"

**Adam McGuirt**

Yes. Yes, I've used that one too.

**Teddy**

Well, Adam grew up in Shreveport, went to Byrd high, um, he went and got a job in the business world after getting his Business Administration Degree. I, you know, the only time I was ever in the business building, when I was a student here, was when I replaced the furniture one summer, I think in 1980, working. Otherwise, they wouldn't let me in and same with Carson Taylor Hall. Otherwise, if I was in there, they'd tell me to get out. But thank goodness he wound up back at Tech. He got LTAC going. Corre Stegall hired him, our, she's Emerita. Vice President Emerita.

**Adam McGuirt**

Correct.

**Teddy**

She saw something in him: "There's a guy who seems to be able to take care of his business." And I'm glad she hired him. We've got to have him. Couple more things and I'll let you go. It's good, isn't it perfect that you would have a President at this time in the University's history, who not only really genuinely loves the school, but he's an engineer and an architect?

**Adam McGuirt**

It is.

**Teddy**

What a break.

**Adam McGuirt**

It is quite interesting. I've had a lot of pleasure of taking him through the sights multiple times. And whereas I'm looking at one thing, he's looking at something totally different, and looking at the angles of the building, the way the materials come together, you know, there's an appreciation there that, that I would say that not a lot of presidents may have, because of his training and knowing the work that goes into it and, uh, the effort of our architects and our engineers and our contractor team, just to, to make it happen. So yes, it's very, it's very interesting.

**Teddy**

Yeah. And when I saw him looking at some of these early drawings, and he's, you know, you see his brain working and he's like, "You know what, that would look better with red Tech brick." And it looked great like it was, but then once he says that, well you go "Of course it would".

**Adam McGuirt**

Yeah, his, his leadership in this has been great. And it's, it's been a challenge, I guess, from, you know, you have all these projects going on at the same time...

**Teddy**

Sure.

**Adam McGuirt**

... and try to maintain some consistency. And, and I think we've done that. We've had to make some adjustments here and there, but there's been, it's, you know, for the fan and for the alumni that come through and know that there has been intentionality and everything we've done and that's at his direction.

**Teddy**

Well, can't wait for you to see the facilities. I can't wait to get in there and see them myself and watch some ball and cheer and root and have fun and appreciate what our University has been able to do. And wrapping this up, um, do you have any idea how many manila folders you have with pieces of paper in them?

**Adam McGuirt**

You know, I'm one of those that don't, I don't print stuff out if I don't have to, I kind of file it in electronically.

**Teddy**

Wow.

**Adam McGuirt**

I do print out from time to time, but you know, it's mostly trying to track it in email and other PDFs and that kind of stuff.

**Teddy**

Do we need to thank anybody? We've, you know, we can't thank, I mean, Sam Wallace enough or Tim Brandon, Lincoln Builders, the list goes on and on. But just know that the University appreciates everybody that's been pushing the rock uphill.

**Adam McGuirt**

Yeah. I told you this in our previous discussions, that the team work through this has been, has been probably unmatched anywhere. And I think this team that's been assembled was tasked with, really, an impossible task. And it is, it's been from the leadership of those organizations you mentioned down that, "Hey, we're gonna get this done. We're gonna figure it out. We know that this is not the normal timeline. But we're committed to this University". and there's pride in what they do in their trade, but there's pride in being in this hometown and working here on this campus and so, yeah, if I started naming names, I don't know that I could, we be here for a long time. But it's been, it's been quite impressive to see.

**Teddy**

Yeah. And again, jus the guys, the hands on guys, when you go by the stadium, I know everybody's getting paid, but I mean, people are always out there getting jiggy with it.

**Adam McGuirt**

They are.

**Teddy**

And I think there's pride in it and what they see and how nice these facilities are gonna be.

**Adam McGuirt**

For sure, for sure. And I get daily reports, along with others. I mean like today, I looked at it, we're three weeks from opening, which makes people kind of shake a little bit over there. But you know, yesterday there were 140 people working on the site at the baseball stadium, and then another 60 or so at the softball complex, so, there's a lot of people working a lot of hours to make this happen.

**Teddy**

There'll probably still be a little bit of work left to do once the facilities open, I'm sure, cosmetically. But hopefully ball is going to be played at left field on February 26 and the women's softball Lady Techsters will open up on March 5 with their own tournament at Dr. Billy Bundrick Field. And, soccer will get going in the Spring. Go to [latech.edu](http://latech.edu) to catch up on all things academics and [latechsports.com](http://latechsports.com) to read more about these facilities. Wrapping up, got anything else?

**Adam McGuirt**

No, sir. No sir.

**Teddy**

Thank you Adam.

**Adam McGuirt**

I appreciate the time and I can't wait for all of our folks to see these things and interact in a way that we just haven't been able to do in the past. And so, these projects have corrected some inequities...

**Teddy**

Yeah.

**Adam McGuirt**

... and then have also catapulted these, these sports, into a new realm that we really didn't dream would even be possible. I think our coaches have a general understanding of what they're getting, but until they live in it, I think, there will be a new appreciation for that. And they've been, they've been fantastic don't get me wrong. I just mean once you start to live in it, it's going to be, it's that next step that we all want to take.

**Teddy**

Yeah, you're gonna be getting chocolates and roses for weeks for those people once after this stuff. Sach is the puppy's name?

**Adam McGuirt**

Sach is the puppy' name.

**Teddy**

Tell Sach and the girls we said hello, ok?

**Adam McGuirt**

Will do.

**Teddy**

Go fishing, buddy.

**Adam McGuirt**

Yes, sir. Thank you Teddy.

**Teddy**

Court adjourned, very good.

**Commercial**

I'm Freshmen Communication Major Kelsey Horath of Winnsboro with a word of opportunity for all of our Louisiana Tech family and friends. I'm in school now so I don't have the opportunity to do this yet. But you do. For as little as \$50 a year, you can become a member of the Louisiana Tech Alumni Association. Through the Alumni Association, you stay connected with our University and with alumni and friends from all over the country in world. You can also stay connected with other graduates in your area through one of Tech's local alumni chapters, receive Tech's quarterly newsletter "The Tenant", enjoy "1894" your University Magazine. Stay involved. You don't have to be a Tech Grad to join. Faculty, staff and parents are all part of the Tech Family and encouraged to join the Alumni Association. It keeps us closer to each other and to our University. For more information, visit [latechalumni.org](http://latechalumni.org) or call (318) 255-7950. Go Dogs and Ever Loyal Be!

**Outro**

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