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# Friday, August 27, 2004 **Building projects change campus landscape**

### **Senat Hall ready** for students; building continues

Project Name: Senat Hall

Phase: Structure Complete. Additional interior work and the completion of Housing and Food Services offices are still necessary. A foot path on the west side of the building should be finished next year.

**Completion Date**: Summer 2005 Type of Space: Residence Hall and Offices

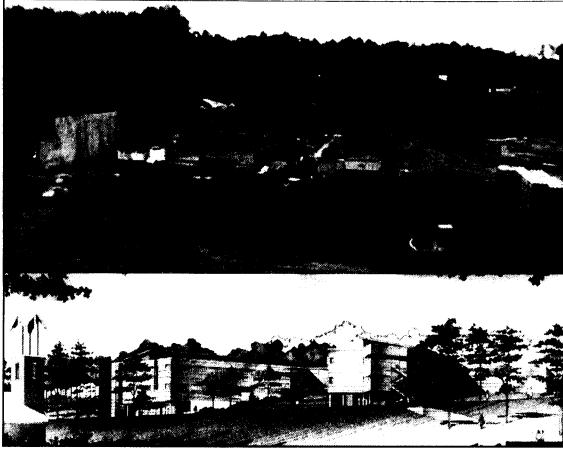
Size: 56,700 sq. feet. A little more than half the size of the Lilley/Kochel complex.

The facility will be home to 149 students.

**Cost**: Along with summer renovations to Perry Hall, approximately \$11 million. **Benefits**: For the first time since Dr. Ken Miller, Dean of Students, started in 1988, there are only 11 students on the waiting list for housing. "Nearly every student who wanted housing go it," said Miller. What's Next?: Housing and Food Services currently plans on expanding and renovating Dobbins Hall next summer. According to Miller, the expansion will "capture the space Housing is leaving" when its offices are moved down to Senat Hall.

That space, as well as an expansion to rear of the building, will result in the the addition of another Bruno's style a la carte restaurant. Dobbins' all-you-caneat service will remain.

The renovated facility will serve the students in housing, but it will also be easily accessible by students, faculty and staff in the REDC. The project is expected to ease the lunch time rush at Bruno's.



Above: Crews work on the first wall at the REDC construction sight, Thursday. The wall is part of the facility's lowest level. Below: An artist's rendering of the REDC. The facility will look something like this in Feb. 2006.

# **REDC** construction in full swing

**Project Name:** Regional Economic Development Center (REDC)

Phase: Under Constuction. Crews have just begun work on the northeast wing of the building. This section of the REDC will serve as the entrance to the first of three levels.

**Completion:** The contract states that crews have 608 days to complete construction of the building, which puts the completion date at Feb. 1, 2006. Students are not expected to be in the building until summer 2006 at the earliest.

Type of Space: Academic, including classrooms, faculty offices and lab space. Cost: \$30 million provided by the state. The money is the largest state finanical allocation the Erie region has ever recieved for a single project.

Benefits: John Ream, Director of Operations, could go on and on about the potential benefits of the building. One thing is for sure; it's going to provide much needed space.

"We are very constrained," said Ream, which means the construction of the REDC will provide the business and engineering schools with more facilities for lab work that is not possible in their current locations.

## **Reed renovations** completed just in time for fall

Project Name: Reed Union Building Renovations

**Phase**: Complete

Completion date: Aug. 24, 2004

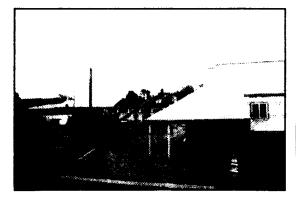
How long it took: 3 Months (May 2004-Aug. 2004)

Type of Space: Student Activities and Mailroom

Size: No new space was added. Renovations included the removal of the Back Room recreational space for the expansion of the mailroom and Beacon offices. Seven club spaces we also added. The McGarvey Commons also underwent major renovations that included retractable, permanent curtains for the arched windows; carpeting; a removable dance floor; and improvements to room acoustics.

**Cost**: Approximately \$260,000. The project was anticipated to cost \$280,000. Benefits: "It will increase usage and effect of office space in the Reed Union Building," said Chris Rizzo, Director of Student Activities. He considers club and their members to be "involvement incubators" that serve the campus by running projects and activities.

Rizzo was especially excited about the renovations to the Commons. With improved acoustics, a dance floor and the retractable curtains, Rizzo said students now have a "truly functional ballroom space." What's next?: Rizzo said right now there discussions, only discussions, of a larger Reed Union Building. The demand for additional activity areas is still exceeding the available space. "We're trying to meet the need right now," said Rizzo of the just completed Reed renovations.

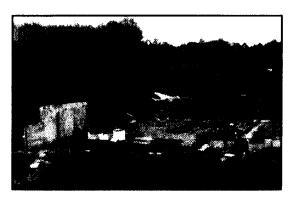


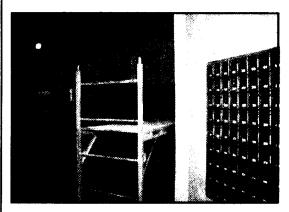
Construction workers add a new room to Perry Hall. Combined with the construction of Senat (right), new and improved residence halls cost \$11 million.

The addition of offices will allow the temporary trailers to be removed from campus and allow the School of Science room for expansion in the abandoned engineering buildings.

Also, the combination of the Sam and Irene School of Business and the School of Engeneering and School of Engineering and Engineering Technologies provides a unique hybrid program. That means, business people and engineers will

be able to learn how the two schools are interwoven in the real world. What's Next: The relocation of the engineering and business schools leaves the Turnbull Building empty. There are currently discussions as to how to fill the building, anything from psychology labs to a center for the performing arts. John Ream, however, said nothing is set as of yet.



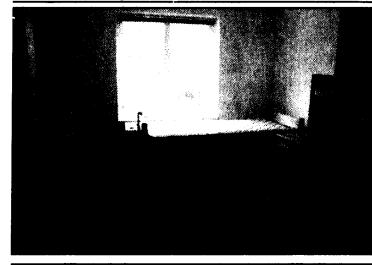


A drywaller slaps plaster on the new mailroom walls in July. The expanded mailroom sits at the center of the new club office loop that was built this past summer.

Btudents begin moving nto Senat Hall today, but there is still much work to be done. Confruction workers here re putting finishing ouches on the enrance to the indoor haircase, which will ovide a slip free climb to Perry Hall in the nter.



Workers in the Perry Hall lobby rush to finish the renovation job, Wednesday. A newly carpeted common area is expected to be completed by today, when first-year students enter their dorms.



Brand, spanking new furniture is just one perk to living in the newly contructed Senat Hall. Though residents only have one person in the same room, a common area with selves joins some rooms (not pictured).

