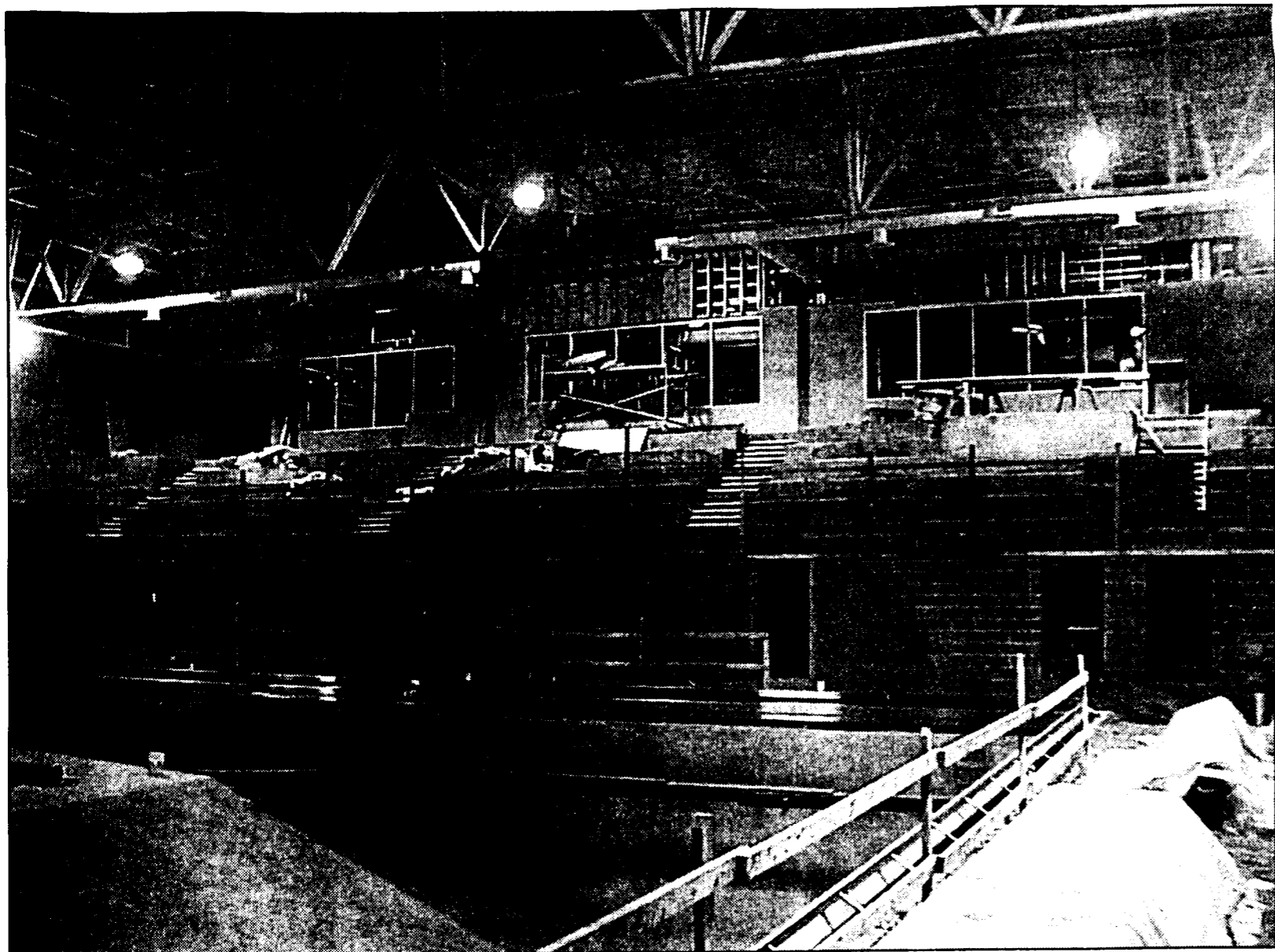


ARC continued from front page



TAKING FORM: The inside of the new Athletic and Rec Center shapes up.

PHOTO BY BECKY WEINDORF

As it is a state-funded building, the University must follow strict guidelines on when the building is considered ready for use: all aspects of the building must be as complete as possible before it can open its doors. In other words, if only the gym floor is done but the pool, indoor track, or locker rooms are not complete, state regulations do not permit the building to open its doors to the public at large. The only exception would be if the gym floor is not completely finished and everything else is, the ARC may open, Streeter speculated.

Some features of the ARC will include a bigger and better gym than the campus currently has in Erie Hall; an indoor swimming pool complex; an indoor track; and a bigger, more user friendly weight room.

Several new sports have been added to Behrend's roster, and a few more are being considered for

the future. Already, in anticipation of the swimming pool, Behrend has formed a varsity water polo and a varsity swimming team. Right now the water polo team is practicing at Harborcreek High School, and the swim team hopes to use the local YMCA. Streeter would also like to add a varsity men's volleyball team, but is waiting a year or so to see what the basketball teams' usage of the gym will be, so that the school can be certain the teams' practices and games will not overlap.

Due to the extended space provided by the ARC, times when students will be able to use the facilities will also be extended. Currently, the plan is to use Erie Hall for team practices so that facility and equipment usage will not be tied up. The plan is have open gym hours from 5:00 p.m. to midnight on weekdays, with more hours on the weekends.

Probably more noticeable to

students is the construction occurring along College Drive, just east of the Reed commuter parking lot and the tennis courts. In preparation for the highway that will be bisecting the campus in a few years, the baseball, softball, and soccer field configuration had to be changed.

According to Streeter, the highway would have passed directly through the existing softball field, so it had to be moved. While the plans were drawn for this relocation, the field also had some improvements added, such as more solid dugouts. And since it is difficult policy-wise to greatly improve the playing circumstances of one sport while not improving those of another, plans renovating the baseball fields were made as well.

The two fields should be completed within about three weeks, well before the baseball and softball seasons. However, the new turf will need time to root, so the fields will

not be used until the season after next, spring 2002.

The former soccer field, which was also located beside the tennis courts, will not be replaced in the same area. Right now the soccer teams are using the Behrend Playing Fields, which are located on the northeast side of the campus (to get to the Playing Fields, a bridge was erected several years ago by the far right corner of the Reed parking lot; by crossing the bridge and following the paved path through the woods students can access the Fields).

For the foreseeable future, these fields will be the new home of the soccer teams. The Playing Fields were constructed three years ago and have not gotten as much usage as Streeter would like: "The Playing Fields are just now coming into full use. Hopefully, by having the soccer teams use these fields, we can tie in varsity athletics with Intramurals, getting more exposure for both."

Voting continued from front page

Congress and in the PA state legislature. It makes no sense for a voter registration office to stop students from voting for local offices, when the U.S. government includes them in the population represented by those offices."

A second phone call was then made on Tuesday to the ECVRO asking the same question. This time, the question involved one student asking for one form to get registered in this area. A different woman answered the phone and gave a different answer. She informed the Beacon that students living on campus could vote for local officials and was helpful in giving information to do so.

On Wednesday, the third phone call was made. Supervisor Sharon Drayer took the call and said that anyone in the office could have answered that question. The question was proposed again with the same answer as the first call. "College students are supposed to vote in their home district," said Drayer.

On Thursday, a final phone call was made to the ECVRO, specifically Sharon Drayer in hopes to get a final statement about the situation. Drayer said that no one in the office should have said that students living on campus can vote in this district.

She said that students can't vote for local officials because "they don't live at the school," despite holding residency there for nearly eight months out of the year. The phone call ended with Drayer saying that she would call the state solicitor and call back Friday. The Beacon will report on the result of that phone call next week.

A call was then made to the State Voter Registration Office. The answers given there were much more helpful. Spokesperson Stephanie Rimer said that students that go away for school can vote for the officials in that area. However, the state office does "strongly encourage students to vote where they are from."

However, Dr. Speel feels students should take advantage of the opportunity to vote for officials in this area. "It is important for students to register to vote at the location where they live two-thirds of the year." He added, "students are greatly affected by local government decisions and local court decisions in Erie County and Harborcreek Township. This might include any local land use and development decisions in the campus area, and decisions made by local judges."

"If students do not vote here, local elected officials can feel free to ignore the wishes of the student community," Speel concluded, "if most students did vote locally, they would have great influence over the environment in which they live."

However, if students are already registered elsewhere in Pennsylvania, that registration will be cancelled if they register here on campus.

Next week, Behrend's College Republicans will have a table set up outside of Bruno's for students to get registered. The table will be running from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. next Monday thru Friday. Women Today will also have a table set up on Monday.

Shortly before the voter registration deadline about October 9, the Beacon will hold a rally as a final attempt to get Behrend students registered to vote in the November elections.

The Beacon is also planning a number of political activities to boost interest in the Behrend community. 115 students signed a petition on Thursday showing interest in registering to vote. The petition will be available to sign at the Beacon Office all weekend.

Get Registered!!!

Your Vote Counts!!

Shirley continued from front page

The project that Shirley seemed most fond of was the Sojourner Rover, which landed on Mars by way of the Pathfinder lander. She commented that the Rover was still on Mars and that she hoped someday it would be recovered by a future mission so that she could "put it in her living room."

Shirley also commented on the Mars Millennium Project being

sponsored by the White House. The project involved school children and encourages them to learn and discuss the various possibilities of human habitation on Mars, a phenomenon she believes may happen by the year 2030.

This new Speaker Series is meant to highlight people who have succeeded both personally and

professionally, inspiring others to do the same. Funding for the series has been provided by the John Nesbit Rees and Sarah Henne Rees Charitable Foundation, the Student Activity Fee, and the Office of Student Affairs. Future speakers will include U.S. Women's Soccer star Brandi Chastain, jazz great Ellis Marsalis, and civil rights activist Cornel West.

SGA to hold freshman senator elections

by Amy Peffer
staff writer

What is life like at Penn State Behrend? Does the campus offer enough club and career choices? Are there enough quality entertainment and activities to pick from on the weekends and in the evenings? Should students be able to pick from a wider selection of intramurals?

The Student Government Association (SGA) is looking for a few good men and women - three to be exact - to take on these and other important campus issues in the SGA. But before

these issues can be tackled, Behrend students must go to the polls and elect freshman senators.

Beginning next Tuesday, September 19, students will be able to vote for freshmen senators to fill seats on SGA. Voting will take place from 10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m. on the lawn between the Turnbull Building and the Glenhill Farmhouse. In case of rain, the booth will be moved to the lobby of the Nick Bulding. Elections will also take place outside of Bruno's on Wednesday, September 20. Once again, voting time is 10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m..

There are several requirements that

senatorial candidates had to meet in order to be nominated. First, candidates must be full-time, freshmen undergraduates at Penn State Behrend. Each senator must also be a member of at least one committee, such as the new Web-page committee or the staff review committee. Senators are also expected to be voting members of the Student Senate, to perform at least two hours of service each week in the SGA office, and to attend all SGA and appropriate committee meetings.

SGA meetings are held every Wednesday at 5:15 p.m. in room 114 of the Reed Union Building.

Housing continued from front page

place to be completely trashed. Professional cleaners had to be called in to clean the apartment, which caused the students to not be able to move into for an additional two weeks. Palermo then refused to prorate their rent for the time that they were not able to live in the apartment.

Palermo is also blaming students living in their Brookwood townhouses for parking problems in the complex. Because of what they say is the "high volume" of students being rented to, all vehicles not parked in a driveway will need a parking permit. In a letter to residents dated 8 September 2000, Palermo states, "...we will never allow this many college students at Brookwood again." Students living in Brookwood said that the real cause of the problem is long time residents who use visitor parking for their vehicles instead of their driveways.

Dianna Malinowski, Student Activities Staff Assistant and Coordinator of Off-Campus Housing, said, "The Office of Student Activities was notified of issues pertaining to Palermo Realty. Student concerns about this property have been documented and an Off-Campus Housing Survey has been completed. The Office of Student Activities notified Joe Palermo of the student issues brought to our office in the hope that he could find an easy remedy to the situation at hand with the students involved. The Office of Student Activities is unaware of the outcome to this particular situation at this time."

Palermo Realty did not return two phone calls regarding the matter.

Karl Gressley, president of Commuter Council, said, "I am disappointed to hear that Penn State students are being treated unfairly and

are encountering problems finding reliable housing. We at Commuter Council are here to help off campus students and we are investigating solutions to make commuter life easier." Commuter Council is also looking into creating a database about local rental properties available to students, so the students will be forewarned about problems like these with various other rental companies. Anyone who would like to help with this project should contact Commuter Council at x6452 or attend Commuter Council meetings Wednesday's at 1PM in Reed 112.

Also found at the Office of Student Affairs is the Off-Campus Housing Manual and Apartment Listing. It is prepared to provide students with information pertaining to off-campus living in the Erie area to assist students in finding off-campus housing.

Police And Safety

REPORT:



9/06/00	20:40	Coordinator reported someone parked in her space. Vehicle was towed.
9/08/00	07:35	Staff member reported a traffic accident on Campus Drive. There were no injuries reported.
9/10/00	01:40	Officer suspects DUI in B lot.
9/10/00	10:10	Officer found one of the "No Parking Along the Roadway" signs that had been stolen from the Reed Lot.
9/11/00	07:40	Staff member reported that a beech tree was damaged over the weekend.
9/11/00	20:33	Report of a three car accident at Jordan Road and Kochel Drive. Later found that it only involved two cars. Student affairs notified.
9/11/00	23:10	Report of students sliding down the hill between Reed and Perry Halls. Upon checking the situation, found it just to be a couple using a tarp from the pig roast. They stopped upon our approach, and put the tarp away.
9/11/00	18:33	Found one of the "No Parking" fire lane signs along the north side of the lower tier of the Ohio Hall lot lying on the ground. Took it to

COMING SOON: THE BEACON ONLINE