

# NEWS

## Bush announces new strategy *Six years later, a nation remembers continued*

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President Bush has recently announced a new strategy for the return of troops serving duties in Iraq. Bush stated that he will call for a gradual reduction of soldiers based in the progress in Iraq. In his address at the Oval office on Thursday, Sept. 12, Bush said, "The principle guiding my decisions on troop levels in Iraq is: return on success. The more successful we are, the more American troops can return home."

Immediately after the address, many political figures began to feverishly debate the president's decision, claiming that there was no direct answer to the end of the war and that Bush has been very ambiguous about his plan.

Sen. Jack Reed (D, RI) spoke for the Democratic side of the debate. As a for-

mer army ranger, Reed felt it was necessary to find a more solid answer from the administration. "Once again, the president failed to provide either a plan to successfully end the war or a convincing rationale to continue it," he said.

Following up Bush's plan to reduce troops, the administration has planned to send over 5,000 troops home by the winter holidays. Gen. David Petraeus, who has worked with Bush on the issue of reducing troops has recommended that Bush send five combat brigades (approximately 21,500 forces) home by next July. Bush's administration announced that they will approve Petraeus' recommendation.

Bush, who still has strong interest in Iraq, said, "Some say the gains we are making in Iraq come too late. They are mistaken. It is never too late to deal a blow to al-Qaida. It is never too late to advance freedom. And it is never too late to support our troops in a fight they

can win."

He has repeatedly made a call to each political party to join forces and come together in support of the troops activity in Iraq. "Whatever political party you belong to, whatever your position on Iraq, we should be able to agree that America has a vital interest in preventing chaos and providing hope in the Middle East," Bush said. "Let us come together on a policy of strength in the Middle East."

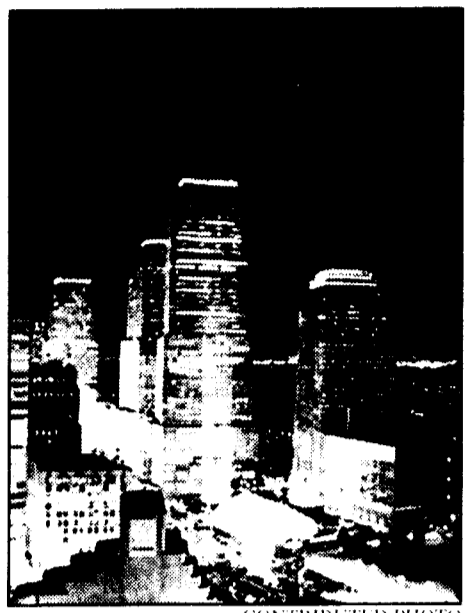
Some members of Congress say that this release by the Bush administration has nothing to do with new plans. Senate Armed Services Chairman Carl Levin (D, MI) claims that the reduction of troops is a natural occurrence. "The reduction to a pre-surge level is not a change in course," said Levin. "It's something which will happen anyway, just because of the rotation of our troops and the limit of 15 months for that rotation."

become more paranoid than safe since then. Ellenberger stated, "People are now more paranoid and politicians have received a good rallying cry from these events; it's still being used today."

Many places have improved in terms of security. Johnson stated, "Security in airports is a lot tighter, it takes forever to get to your final destination. The measures taken since September 11<sup>th</sup> are probably part of the cause for this delay."

Not all of the aftermath lies within the United States. These terrorist attacks caused President Bush to deploy troops to the Middle East. This has spurred further hostel feelings from the people of the Middle East

towards Americans, but it worked the other way as well. Dzikiy stated, "It worsened our relations with the Middle East; Americans today tend to assume that because someone is from the Middle East they are associated with some kind of danger. Also, people from the Middle East dislike Americans because we keep meddling in their affairs when they don't want our help."



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Evidently, people hold a range of views when it comes to the attacks of September 11, but one thing is definite: most will not forget them, and they are still a predominant issue today.

## Turnbull Hall: home sweet home for psychology lab

**By Molly Bonavita**  
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Brain wave studies, behavior experiments, and development studies are only a few areas that the psychology students study, but already they do not have enough space to study these few things in a lab setting.

For the past fifteen years, the psychology department labs have rented space from Lawrence Hall below the common area of the dorm. The lack of space can be noticed by anyone who simply walks in the door and sees that access to the space is limited. Also due to the various amounts of stairs in building, it is not ADA (American Disability Act) compliant, which requires lab buildings to provide different options to access buildings such as an elevator and ramps. Because of that, some of the studies that would like to be done that involve elderly people cannot happen due to limited accessibility. This makes it difficult for Psychology majors to complete their required study with few options for different kinds of studies.

At long last, the wishes of the psychology department have been answered and the psychology labs will have a new home in Turnbull Hall. "The new central campus location is undergoing some transformations such as new ramps, special rooms for the department's newer equipment which includes a machine that reads brain



Keegan McGregor/THE BEHREND BEACON

Turnbull Hall will now house the new Psychology Lab on campus.

waves, and we're even having an elevator installed" head of the psychology department Victoria Kazmerski exclaims. The new building will be ADA compliant so more studies can be done. This means that more studies can be done, and a greater involvement with the students can take place as more volunteers can help with the studies. Psychology majors will be able to complete their studies, and even more students will have the opportunity to present their studies to local and national conferences.

Also the labs have a better atmosphere for students to control and manipulate specific variables in their experiments. Along with new lab space, Turnbull hall has room for the department to grow in, and there will be extra space for more equipment to be gained in the future. "The central location of the space makes it easier for the professors to access as well because professors don't like climbing the hills just as much as the students," Professor Jennifer Trich Kremer points out. She also said, "Not all the Psychology professors' offices are in the same building; some are in Kochel, The Carriage House, and still others are in the far science buildings." As the Behrend campus expands, the Psychology lab can proudly say that they have the room to expand with it. So as the excitement builds for the big move, which is scheduled to take place in January before the spring semester starts so that it will be in use by the start of the new semester, the whole campus can be excited for the change for a greater students involvement and hope to be part of a new study that may one day affect our own lives.

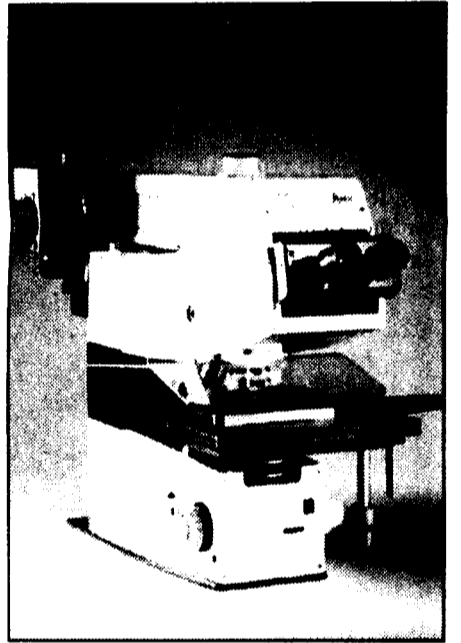
## Behrend to house region's first confocal microscope

**By Rachel Reeves**  
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Coming to Behrend is Erie's very first, long anticipated and very expensive confocal microscope. The grant was finally secured by the Lake Erie Research Institution, and beginning the summer of 2008 this quarter of a million dollars, state of the art piece of machinery will be available for every undergraduate student, faculty, scientist and physician in the region. Until this point, the nearest confocal microscope was located in Pittsburgh, which was very inconvenient for anyone who needed to use it. Erie's own microscope will be housed in Behrend's Bensen building, where it can have the necessary vibration-free workspace and adequate ventilation.

A confocal microscope is expensive and high-maintenance for a reason. It uses multiple lasers to illuminate layers of a sample at a time. Then it can collect the images and stack them up to make a three-dimensional representation of that sample. This way, biologists and chemists can see the inner workings of an entire cell, which is a huge advantage in the biomedical realm. Since Erie is sup-

posed to have a promising future in biological science, this microscope can mean only good things for our school and our community.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Pictured above is an example of a confocal microscope, like the one that Penn State Behrend will soon house.

## Behrend tennis courts get summer face lift

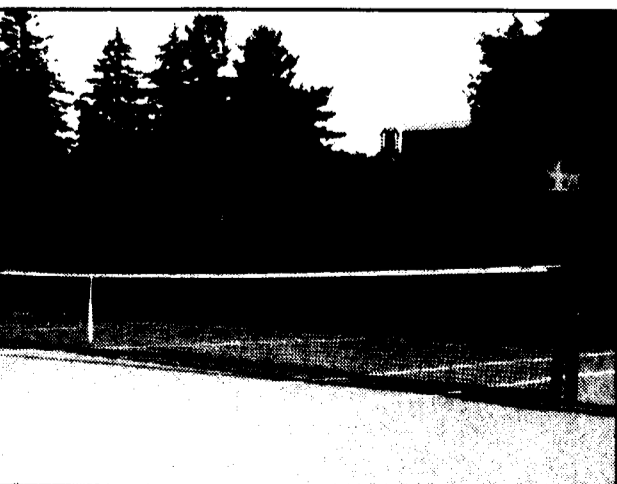
**By Brittany Sexton**  
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What can a quarter of a million dollars get you at Penn State Behrend? A quarter of a million dollars can get you a state of the art tennis court! In this case Behrend spent that large sum of money on new tennis courts for campus.

This past summer, Brian Streeter, Director of Behrend Athletics, and his colleagues decided to renovate the tennis courts here on campus. The project started in May and concluded in August right before the fall semester started. The last time that such renovations were made was over a decade ago, in the early 1990's. Most tennis courts should get a new paint job every five years and new flooring every 10 years, so these courts were in dire need for repair. One of the main reasons for restoring the courts

was the basic fact that difficult to play on, and it was unsafe, the cracks in the floor could cause anyone to break an ankle or a leg, so it was crucial that this University had to do something to fix that.

The financing for repairs came from the University. The restoration for the courts included milling the pavement; after milling the work-



Keegan McGregor/THE BEHREND BEACON

The tennis courts were reconstructed during the summer break.

ers resurfaced all of the courts which included four different layers of product to prevent future cracks.

Not only did the University resolve the flooring for the courts but they also added a new lighting system. These lights are more of a convience because the old ones were more of a spot light whereas the new high-tech lights improve evening play. The lights are censored, so when the sun goes down the lights turn on, but when actively playing the students or who ever using them will need to use a light switch to turn them on every 90 minutes, and they will immediately shut off at 11 p.m. The installment of these lights are what caused the most time in finishing the project.

Many of the tennis players are ecstatic for these new courts. Last year, due to the sad state of the courts, the team had to rent out courts at an indoor facility close by, which in turn cost more. Brian Streeter is one of the many people who proposed the idea of bettering the Behrend community. He is one of the reasons why the tennis courts got renovated in the first place. He and his colleagues have some more upcoming projects that are in the making to help the campus a better place to stay. Such ideas include a new admissions Welcoming Center, a theatre for performances, a soccer complex and more renovations to the campus book store. In order for these projects to continue Brian Streeter and others involved must first propose and plan for the idea, then pass that along to his boss, John Reeme, Director of Operations, who then furthers the ideas to the University personnel for Behrend and University Park. The process for any work on campus takes very long; the very fact that the tennis project was proposed about six years ago is proof enough.

**The last time that such renovations were made was over a decade ago, in the early 1990's.**

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