

Convenience Store

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most vital thing students would value most and we can finally give it to them."

Burger added that a variety of toiletries as well as other supplies would be helpful in cutting down on student's frequent trips to the local Wal-Mart.

The million-dollar construction project will take about six months to complete according to Randy Geering, Director of Operations for Penn State Behrend.

"We're in the early design phases right now, but we have big plans," Geering mentioned.

He also added that the new structure will be adjacent to Bruno's and students

will find themselves very pleased with the results.

Ken Miller, Director of Student Affairs took the ideas for the new store to University Park and returned with a new way to "green up" the Behrend campus.

University Park has granted Behrend with \$20,000 to do just that as trees and flowers will surround the outside of the store upon completion.

Also outside dumpsters and the new loading dock will be concealed and hidden behind paneling to make the space more appealing.

The project is expected to be complete by late spring.

Copy/Multimedia Center moves to Erie Hall

AMANDA STETZ
news editor

After space became available after the Bursar and Registrar offices moved to the Metzgar Building, the Copy and Multimedia Center has been happy to call Erie Hall home.

Formerly located in the Kochel building, the Copy and Multimedia Center moved to Erie Hall early August.

The Copy and Multimedia Center was separated into different locations across over the summer due to construction and renovations in Kochel and Erie Hall.

While the separation of offices presented a challenge to the Copy and Multimedia Center over the summer, manager John Fontecchio believes that all the changes were made for the better

and has improved their work environment.

The area was designed for us and everything is new" said Fontecchio. "Our workflow has improved with our production because of our new machines."

Along with the new office, Fontecchio appreciates the central location.

"There is more foot traffic here," said Fontecchio. "The central location allows for more students to pass by and see our office, as opposed to the old Kochel office."

The only negative to the move was the limited space in Erie Hall in comparison to Kochel. With the move, the Copy and Multimedia Center lost the garage where paper was delivered.

While Fontecchio says that the paper delivery is now more of a challenge, the "set up is more efficient".

OBS renovations delay labs

BY ERIC PIERCE
news editor

Behrend students have seen their fair share of construction around campus. One of the more recent projects undertaken is the reconstruction of the OBS building.

The Otto Behrend Science Building, more commonly known as the OBS, began reconstruction on April 4, 2010. The project will include newly updated Intro to Chemistry and Organic Chemistry labs, new HVAC systems, and a new roof with top air handling units.

But why begin reconstruction now? "The need arose from outdated labs from the 1960's," answered Randy Geering, Director of Operations. "The planning of this project probably started many years ago from the chemistry faculty asking to have the labs upgraded."

The major companies involved in the project include Scobell (HVACS), Spaeders (Plumbing), Connecto (electric), and VWR (casework).

Students will soon see the results of the construction, according to Randy Geering. "Two labs will start having classes on Sept. 7, while two other labs will also start having classes on Sept. 10 and roof construction will continue through September."

The reconstruction will cost approximately \$6.3 million. This is not the first time the science building has had reconstruction: The school of nursing office complex was renovated and one of the classrooms (Room 101) was also upgraded.

Soon, Behrend students will enjoy the new facilities to help further their education.

Idol: a shot at fame

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and positive, plus I sang it for my cousin who was killed in May."

Bass was in a group with three other men. The other three auditioning were stopped 10-15 seconds into their songs, not long by most standards, but long enough for the judges to make up their minds. The last of the four to sing was Bass.

"I knew I had to nail it immediately after 15 seconds," said Bass. "I thought they would've cut me off, but they didn't."

No, they sure did not stop him. Bass kept singing until the judges asked for another song.

"They let me sing about 20-30 seconds of my second song, then asked me to step back in line."

The judges talked amongst themselves and finally asked to Bass to sing again.

"They asked me to sing something to 'showcase [my] range, something we know."

So Bass gave them "Halo." After singing the chorus, Bass was once again told to step back in line. At this time, a third producer was called over to help judge and Bass was asked to sing "Halo" one more time.

"As I started they said, 'No, from the good part,' meaning from the

high part of the song without allowing me to build to it and that's where I cracked," said Bass. "I knew then that I had blown my opportunity. I didn't expect to sing so many songs in the first round," said Bass.

While Bass said the female producer wanted to send him through, "the male didn't. He didn't even look at me when I sang. What really hurt was the fact that there was another guy in my 'demographic' nailing his audition. When I messed up, he went onto the next round."

The female producer told the four guys that none of them were going through this time, that for season ten the bar is set really high.

For Bass, she had something more to say.

"She looked at me directly and said 'But you have a lot of potential, I see a lot, a lot of potential in you. Keep working and try again.'"

Anyone in Bass's position would have been drained by the end of the day. Spending all that time auditioning, thinking you were getting closer with each song, only to hear a 'no' at the ending would give anyone a dejected feeling.

"I feel that I sang my heart out the first three times," said Bass. "I don't know how I managed to pull it off. Must've been God helping me," said Bass. "I only have two regrets: not

having a third song already prepared so I wouldn't have had to sing 'Halo.' I should have sang 'So Sick' by Ne-Yo. And my other regret is not skipping the line to audition earlier, because maybe then I would have made it through."

Besides wishing he could have done some things differently, Bass has been lifted by this experience and can only move forward with his singing career. He does, however, feel that the audition process was not in any way perfect and that it had its pros and cons.


"Pros: you meet talented people and you can network," said Bass. "And many people owe their success to Idol. Cons: there were many great singers that did not get through. People that if it were a choice between them or me, I would have chosen them. And yes, there were gimmicks and they let them through. But the show is meant for entertainment and talent."

Singers who don't get through might be bitter and refuse to ever watch the show again. Bass, though, has decided that he will tune in to the Jersey Auditions.

Does he also plan on auditioning again?

"I'm considering it. God willing something comes along before then."

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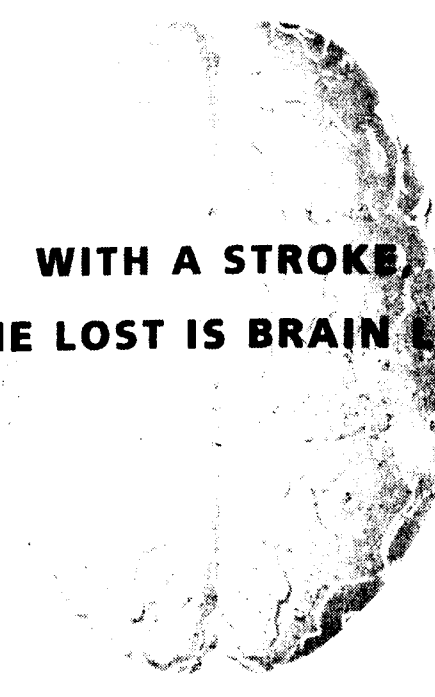
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The Office of Educational Equity and Diversity Programs welcomes all students, faculty, and staff to a new and exciting academic year!

Together we can continue to create an environment that promotes respect for differences while fostering caring relationships and cross-cultural understanding throughout the campus.

Best wishes this semester!

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