

# Sports

## Erie Hall renovation: A "Band-Aid" at best

by Sue Cepicka  
Collegian Staff Writer

Behrend's inadequate athletic center is getting a facelift.

Erie Hall was built in 1953 from community funds that amounted to \$300,000, and, at that time it was a key addition to the overall aura of the campus. It was also quite sufficient for the needs of the then much smaller Behrend College.

*"Although it's nice that we're getting Erie Hall renovated, it is not what we need and it is not what we planned."*

-Dr. Roger Sweeting

Erie Hall had all the important features. In addition to the basketball facility with a parquet floor and wooden backboards, there were pool and ping pong tables and a bowling alley downstairs. Later on, the tables were removed and replaced and the bowling alley was also taken out so that a weight room could be installed. This project was done solely by students. The materials and extra funds that were needed were provided by Penn State University, but the labor itself was provided by the students alone.

Erie Hall has changed over the years, but all of this is miniscule

next to the facelift that will be completed in the fall. The total renovation has been budgeted at 1.3 million dollars. The project has exceeded this budget, and forced Behrend to go back and ask the University for an additional 125 thousand dollars. The new total for the Erie Hall project has now reached 1.425 million. The funds for the renovation are being paid by the University itself out of a special fund geared for such projects.

The improved Erie Hall will sport a brand new NCAA regulation size basketball court that will be shifted downward to move the court away from the stage. This is being done solely for danger factors, and it will decrease the number of injuries due to insufficient run-off space. Also included in the upstairs renovation will be a concession stand for half-time relaxation, and a handicapped lift to help the disabled to and from the games. Although there are no new bleachers in the plans, there is a possibility more seating will be added later.

The downstairs was totally gutted the first week of demolition and will be completely unrecognizable after completion. There will be new, more bearable, locker rooms, two for varsity and two general locker rooms for the students to use. There will also be a bigger weight room. Although no new equipment will be bought, the room will be more comfortable and will have better ventilation

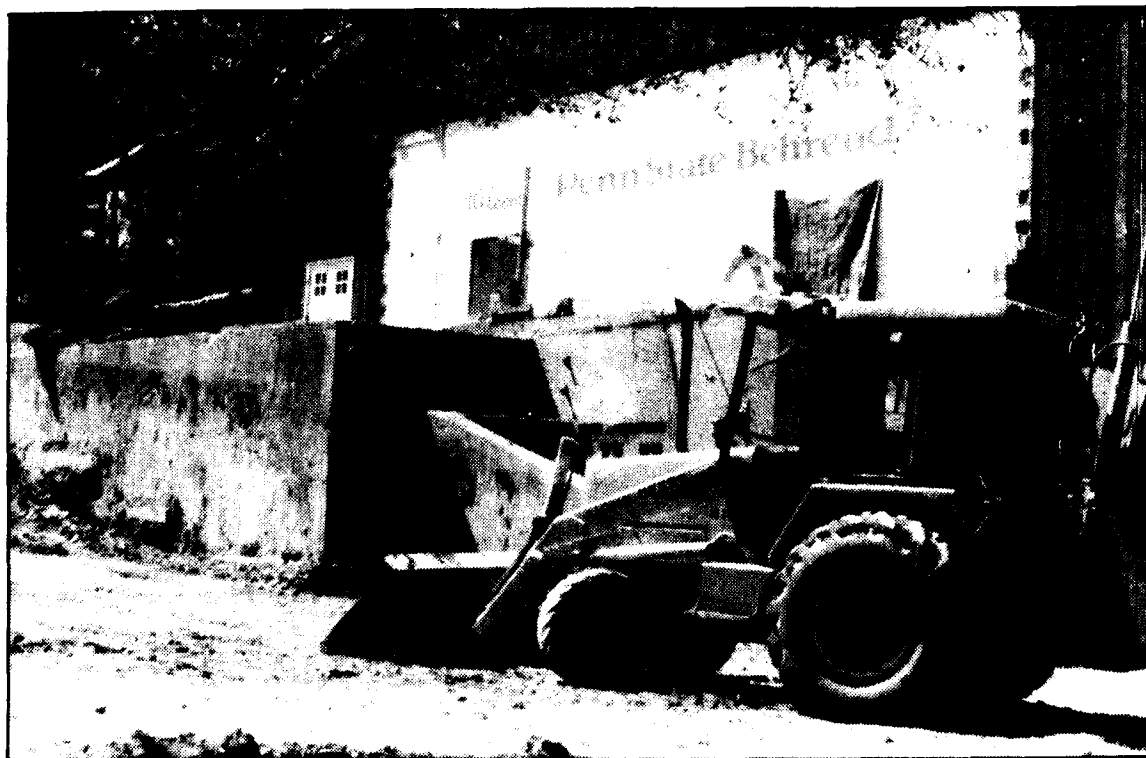


photo by Julie Tibolla

**Getting a facelift:** Erie Hall is getting a much needed change. The only indoor athletic facility on campus, the 47 year old gymnasium is receiving over one million dollars in additions

than before.

About one half of the bottom floor of the new Erie Hall will be devoted to office space. All of the athletic associated faculty will have more comfortable surroundings in the new building.

The Erie Hall renovation will be an improvement, but in the eyes of the athletic staff here at Behrend, it will not even come close to satisfying their real needs. The proposed sports

complex that is waiting to be built will replace the existing Erie Hall, but the construction of that is a long time in the future.

Tricia DeMarco, who is coordinator of public information for Provost and Dean John Lilley said that we are "putting a band-aid on the situation." This feeling is shared by Dr. Roger Sweeting, a 25 year Penn State employee and honored basketball coach, who stated that, "Although it's

nice that we're getting Erie Hall renovated, it is not what we need and it is not what we planned."

The Erie Hall renovation is not expected to remain forever. Athletic director Herb Lauffer, said that it was merely "an interim step" until the badly needed all-purpose complex will be funded and started.

## Softball team keeps playoff hopes alive

*Squad looks to make postseason for second year in a row*

by Robert Kitchen  
Collegian Staff Writer

The women's softball team suffered a tough week, losing three of four games. Their record is 13-9.

The Lady Lions lost both ends of a double-header to the Lady Gators of Allegheny College last week.

In the opener, Behrend lost by the score of 7-2. Melanie Dunn and Darcie Bradley led the offense with two hits apiece. The Lady Lions committed six errors in the loss.

Allegheny tossed a one-hit shut out against the Lady Lions in game two, 1-0. The first six innings were scoreless. In the bottom of the seventh inning, Allegheny scored the winning run with two outs. Michelle Hoover handled the mound chores in the low scoring affair, allowing five hits.

The Lady Lions rebounded on Thursday by splitting a twinbill

with Westminster College.

Behrend dropped the first game in extra-innings, 2-1. Erika Renwick weaved a one-hitter, but still took the loss. The Lady Titans scored an unearned run in their half of the eighth inning to snatch the victory, despite being out-hit by the Lady Lions 5-1.

The nightcap saw Behrend on top, 7-2. Hoover again pitched a superb game, yielding four hits.

On Saturday, the Lady Lions played St. John Fisher. The game was played on the road and Behrend walked away with a 4-0 win in the opener. Erika Renwick pitched a shutout victory in the first game.

The second half of the double-header proved to be St. John Fisher's turn to win.

Behrend lost this game by one run. The final score was 9-8.

The Lady Lions had the tying run on third base during the 7th inning, but they were unable to

get the runner home to tie.

On Sunday, Behrend took on Clarion, an NCAA Division II school. The Lady Lions lost in the first game, 4-1, and came back to win the second game with a wide margin of 13-2.

Monday, Behrend lost to the number one team in the region, Mount Union.

Mount Union has a record of 24-8 and is considered to be the finest team around.

Behrend played them away and took two losses, the first was 11-1, and the second was 4-1.

In the second game, Beth Balizet pitched well, going all 7 innings. Head Coach Brett Banker said, "Of the four runs scored, only two were earned."

Banker's squad still has a chance to get in postseason play for the second straight year. If Behrend wins at least four of their last games, they will be considered for the playoffs. The bids go out on May 5.

## Netters' disappointing season winds down

by John Musser  
Collegian Sports Editor

Men's Tennis Coach Mike Grignol put the 1990 season in a nutshell before Monday's rescheduled match with Indiana (PA).

"We haven't gotten everybody playing outstanding on one day,"

*"We had some real tight matches. It could have gone either way."*

- Mike Grignol  
Tennis coach

said the third year coach. "Some (players) are playing good, and some are struggling."

As an example, Grignol used his top two seeds, Bill Schmitt and Chuck Keenan. "Chuck started out well, and then he struggled," said Grignol. "Bill had a slow start, but he has been coming on lately."

Before the opening of the

season, the team was optimistic about improving on last year's 6-8 record. After suffering a 1-5 start, the Lions have been unable to get on track.

"We had trouble going from indoors to outdoors," said Grignol. "With the (bad) weather, I think we lost our edge. We couldn't hit as much as we liked to."

Although the weather has been nice enough lately for the netters to get their hitting in, it didn't help them Saturday afternoon on the road in Nazareth.

The Lions won two of the six singles matches. Schmitt (6-1, 6-1) and Steve Smith (7-5, 4-6, 6-3) collected wins for Grignol's squad.

One factor in singles play was the absence of third seed Ken Gierl. "I didn't know if we were going to play," explained Grignol. Because of weather conditions, there was a possibility that the match would have been canceled. Gierl had a commitment to a class, and the

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