

REBUILDING BRODY

Brody Hall undergoing face-lift during next 2 years; \$49M major renovation 1st since construction in 1952



KATIE RAUSCH/THE STATE NEWS

Brody Hall is currently undergoing a complete remodeling. While most of the amenities formerly offered by the hall will be available for next fall's residents, the project isn't scheduled to be completed until 2011.

"The intent is to create a more inviting entry point because Brody does look dated."

Bruce Haskell,
associate director
of Housing and
Dining Services

By Marissa Cumbers
THE STATE NEWS

Brody Complex, sometimes unaffectionately called "Grody Brody" or "The Projects" by some of its almost 2,500 residents, might need a new nickname after upcoming renovations. The complex will undergo a series of renovations beginning with a \$49-million makeover to Brody Hall, which hasn't had major renovations since its construction in 1952, said Vennie Gore, assistant vice president for Housing and Food Services.

The project will include updates to the current 130,000 square foot main building with an addition to the east side of the build-

ing, said Bruce Haskell, associate director of Housing and Dining Services.

"Brody is really the entry point for the west side of campus," he said. "The intent is to create a more inviting entry point because Brody does look dated."

To compliment the refurbished main building, residence hall improvements will begin in May 2010 with a \$15.5 million Emmons Hall renovation, Gore said.

"One of the important parts of our campus is the residential experience of living and learning," he said. "As we look at the age of these buildings, many are at a point when we really need to renovate."

Sustainable face-lift

The Brody Hall project includes classroom, office and cafeteria renovations to the current building, a 50-foot extension on the east side of the building, upgrades to the utility system and the development of a transitional cafeteria to be used during construction, project manager Bob McCurdy said.

"The main reason the renovation is important now is to bring the buildings to code compliance for the safety and well-being of the occupants," he said. Renovations to the main building began in spring 2009 and will take place over a two-year period

See BRODY on page 2

For an interview with Bruce Haskell, who talks about Brody's changes, visit stateneews.com/multimedia.

OBITUARY

MSU freshman found dead in apartment

By Brittany Shammis
THE STATE NEWS

Friends remember communication freshman Alivia Peterson as genuine, energetic and always able to brighten a bad day.

"You may not know her name, but you see her face and you know she's a friend," friend and packaging junior Vincent Davis said.

Peterson, 19, was found dead at around 12:30 a.m. Tuesday in an apartment in The Club at Chandler Crossings apartment complex by an employee, Bath Township police Chief Scott Rose said.

Investigators determined she

"Any time you got down, you really felt like you'd have a better day if you'd seen her."

Vincent Davis, packaging junior

died from natural causes, he said.

A Kalamazoo resident, Peterson came to MSU after graduating from Central High School.

Friends of Peterson said she was the "perfect friend" — always able to make a bad situation better. Davis said her energy could always turn a bad day around.

"Any time you got down, you really felt like you'd have a better day if you'd seen

her," he said. "She was really uplifting."

Criminal justice sophomore Erica Adams, who considered Peterson to be one of her best friends, remembered Peterson as the person who comforted her after she lost a friend.

Peterson was generous and always willing to help her friends, she said.

"We were both broke," Adams said. "If she had \$5, \$2.50 was mine, no question about it."

Adams recalled a time when Peterson arranged a surprise birthday party, complete with balloons and a birthday cake.

"She pulled that all together so I would feel special on my birthday," she said. "She was like the perfect friend. I never had a bad memory with Alivia. Never."

Davis, who said he will always remember her smile and laugh, said Peterson will be missed by the many friends she made while at MSU.

"A lot of people loved her," he said. "She made a lot of good friends."

Editor's Note

WHITNEY GRONSKI

Changes on way for TSN following break



Next week, we're taking a break, but you can still look to stateneews.com for all the breaking news affect-

ing our community. If it's happening, we'll be on top of it.

We'll be back in the racks July 6, but we'll be doing things a little differently. Our print paper will hit the streets two days per week — Monday and Thursday — but we'll be updating stateneews.com throughout the week with as much (or more) news as you would find in our regular print edition.

Come fall semester, we'll be back to printing five days per week. If you're still not following @thesnews on Twitter or if you haven't become our fan on Facebook, now is as good a time as ever, as we'll be sending out updates when news breaks.

We'll always be here when you need us, no matter what form we decide to take.

Whitney Gronski