

9. Recreation Deck (Renewal and Enclosure)

Goal B7

- B7. Examination of adequacy of current commitment to Athletics/Physical activity space including:
- A. Future of Recreation Deck.
 - B. Improved Functioning of Current Gym Support Space.
 - C. Expansion of Aerobics/Dance/Weight Space.

Problem Statement

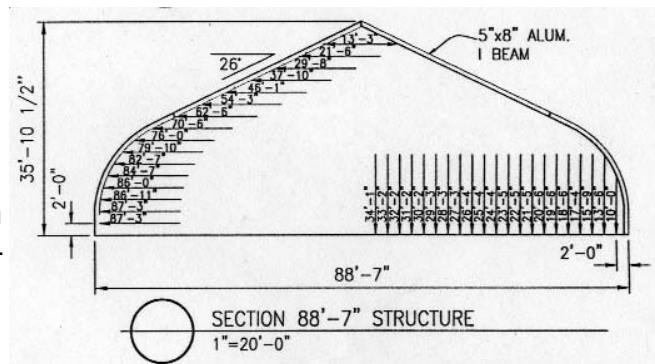
The College's Athletic programs are currently impaired by several deficiencies in facilities. Several of the College's outdoor sports team, including baseball, softball, track and soccer, do not have adequate practice fields in easy adjacency to the College. The College's Recreation Deck, which was developed in 1985, has a surface which is worn out, constitutes a safety hazard, and will require an investment approaching one million dollars if it is to be replaced with a new surface capable of meeting the current programmatic designs for the Recreation Deck. The Recreation Deck is further encumbered by the fact that it is an outdoor deck atop a Center City office building, meaning that the Recreation Deck is viable for use only approximately 33 percent of the time. The remainder of the year either temperature conditions and/or inclement weather keep it from being usable. The Recreation Deck also is deficient with respect to vertical transportation access, and the permanent nature of the standards which have been installed for basketball and tennis make it difficult for the Recreation Deck to function in a multi-sport capacity supporting practice activities in such areas as baseball and soccer. The College's gymnasium, which opened in 1992, has an inadequate amount of space devoted to aerobics and dance. Current student demands in that area would warrant an expansion of space devoted to lifetime physical fitness activities. In addition, there are deficiencies in the design of the locker rooms and coach's areas within the gymnasium. Of particular concern is the size of the visiting team locker rooms, which are inadequately sized to allow reasonable usage by a visiting team.

Proposed Solution

Potential strategies to enhance the College's Athletics/Physical activity space include the following: (a) redesign of the 60,000 square foot outdoor Recreation Deck to



support softball, baseball, soccer, track, cross country and tennis practice as well as recreational use of the Recreation Deck by student at times when the College's sports teams are not taking advantage of the Recreation Deck. Ideally, this would include enclosing the central portion of the Recreation Deck to create an indoor field house environment which would facilitate 12-month use of the Recreation Deck as opposed to the current three-to-four month usage which is now feasible given weather conditions. The field house would be surrounded by an exterior ten-foot track. Design considerations for the field house make an exterior track desirable. This will set the building back from edge of deck and reduced its street visibility. It also brings the building within maximum span allowed for constructing the building without special engineering considerations. The existing locker rooms and staff support offices will be retained but upgrade as necessary. The existing elevator will require replacement.



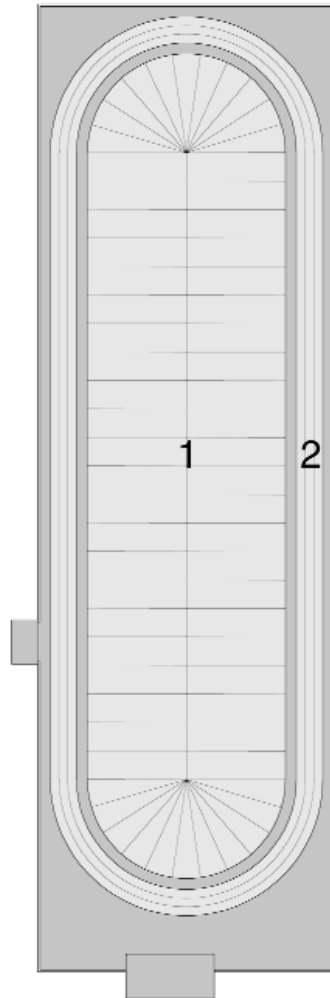
Section through Sprung Structure shows approximate dimensions of cross-section

Cost Estimate

Recreation Deck Total Construction Cost: \$6,083,380.00

(Note: All estimates are in 2003 dollars. On average, construction costs increase 1% to 2% per year. See detailed cost estimate prepared by Turner Construction in Appendix A)





Recreation Deck

- 1** Covered Recreation Area
- 2** Outdoor Running Track

