



Wisconsin BUILDER

May 2009

2008
TOP
PROJECTS

The **A**List

Plumbing and
mechanical contractors
that stood out in 2008

**VOORHEES
HALL ON
CARROLL
UNIVERSITY**

PROJECT
ESSENTIALS

Location:

Waukesha

Submitting company:

Triad Construction Inc., West Allis

General contractor:

Triad Construction Inc.

Architect:

Welman Architects Inc.,
Waukesha

Owner:

Carroll University, Waukesha

Project size:

15,000 square feet

Project cost:

\$620,000

Start date:

Sept. 6, 2008

Completion date:

Dec. 31, 2008

Putting safety first

TRIAD KEEPS DOOR OPEN WHILE RENOVATING ENTRANCE

Building something new to look old has its challenges.

But for Triad Construction Inc., West Allis, the real struggle while renovating Voorhees Hall on Carroll University was keeping the doors open on a new entrance while building it.

Initially constructed in 1900, Voorhees Hall serves as the university's admissions and administration building. University officials wanted the building's entrance to be restored to its 1940s appearance, but needed the building to stay open during construction.

Mike Long, project manager with Triad Construction, Waukesha, said safety of the students and staff who use the building was a top priority.

"Safety was a huge concern with us cutting holes in floors, (demolishing) and removing plaster, remodeling walls," Long said. "We paid a lot of attention to a safe atmosphere,



PHOTOS BY LAURA WATKINS



not only for our employees, but for the people working there.”

To ensure everyone’s safety, Long said crews posted floor plans that mapped out a path of exit in case of an emergency.

Also, hard hats were made available, he said.

“If (students and staff) had to walk through a construction area,” Long said, “they had to put a hard hat on before they walked through that door.”

Along with restoring the look of the entrance, the project included work on the main lobby, stairwell, hallways, several offices and conference rooms.

Long said the team dug up some dirt on Voorhees Hall while tearing out a subfloor.

“In taking that (subfloor) up, we found there was actually a layer of dirt in between sleepers in the floor,” he said. “That was kind of new to me. I didn’t realize they were going to find that.”

Long said the dirt was used to deaden the sound made while moving on the building’s hardwood floors.

Ken Lesnik, director of purchasing at Carroll University, said Triad successfully gave a new building a retro look.

“It looks great,” he said. “Only the people who saw it in the past know the difference.”

— *Janine Anderson*

