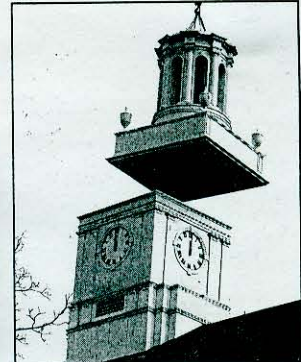
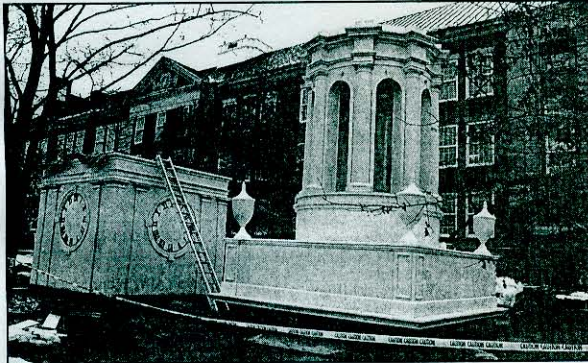


# Time marches on — and up

## Towering achievement



At left, two of the three pieces of the new clock tower sit on the ground in front of the van den Berg Learning Center at SUNY New Paltz on Friday. In the center and right images, the middle piece is hoisted on Saturday to sit atop the clock. A top piece was added later in the day.  
Freeman photos by Bill Madden

■ A new clock atop the van den Berg Learning Center at SUNY New Paltz is part of a broader renovation project.

By **JESSE J. SMITH**  
Freeman staff

**NEW PALTZ** — The project is still 11 months from completion, but work on the van den Berg Learning Center at SUNY New Paltz took a symbolic step forward on Saturday with the hoisting of a new clock tower to the top of the building, which will house nursing and business programs once completed.

The replacement of the tower caps Phase 1 of a two-part, top-to-bottom renovation of the 67,770-square-foot building.

The \$11 million project includes gutting the building, restoring historic windows and other fixtures and

installing modern “wired” classrooms.

The work is to be completed in December and will double classroom and lab space for the college’s business program.

The new clock tower was built in Kentucky by Campbellsville Industries Inc. and includes four working clocks, each 5 feet in diameter, on the four sides and decorative elements including a spire, cornices and columns

inspired by the original tower, which was destroyed in a 1990 fire.

The restoration of the tower alone cost \$495,000, campus officials said.

The building, which dates to 1930, is named for Lawrence H. van den Berg, the last principal of the college’s predecessor, the New Paltz Normal School, and first president of State Teachers College at New Paltz, as the college was known until 1943.