Case History: Biola University

On-line "Quick Quote" starts the process, saves thousands

Situation: ***Biola University is a private Christian university located in La Miranda, California (near Los Angeles). The telescopic bleachers in the University's Chase Gymnasium and Fitness Center had seen better days since they were installed over 30 years ago. Originally manufactured by Hussey® Seating Co., the wood seating was worn, scratched and shabby-looking. What's worse, the understucture was showing signs of structural fatigue and sagging. Patchwork repairs over the years had put "bandaids" over problems, with no real solution. Bleachers would not open or close properly, lacked safety equipment and had large gaps between sections. When researching telescopic bleacher repairs, the university came to the Bleacherman website and filled out a "Quick Quote." The rest, as they say, is history. A case history.***

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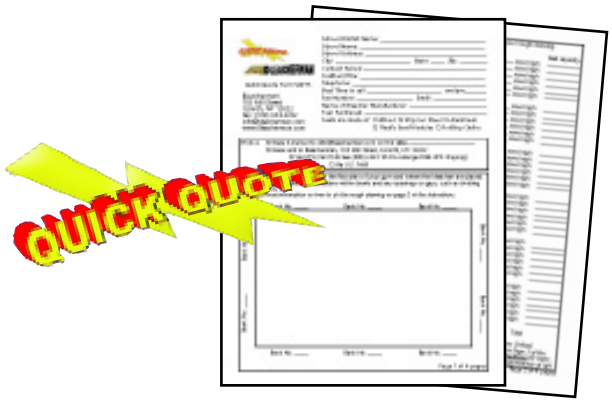
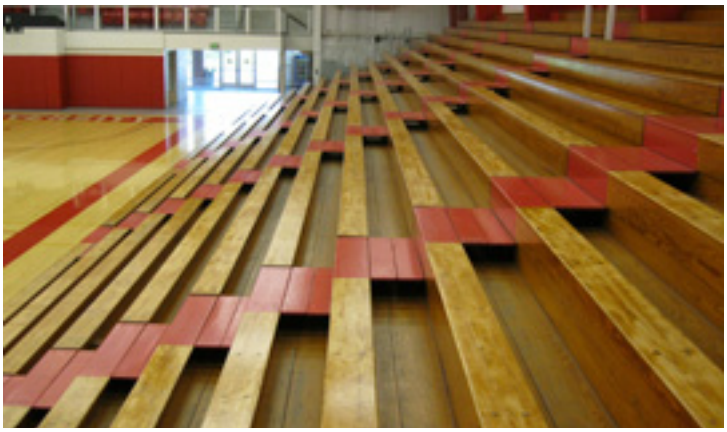
Biola University was founded in 1908 and continues today as a non-denominational Christian institution of higher education.

The wood bleachers in the Chase Gymnasium showed their age. Note the gap between sections.

Outdated bleachers lacked proper safety equipment required to be code-compliant. Other serious problems are hidden from view, underneath the bleachers.



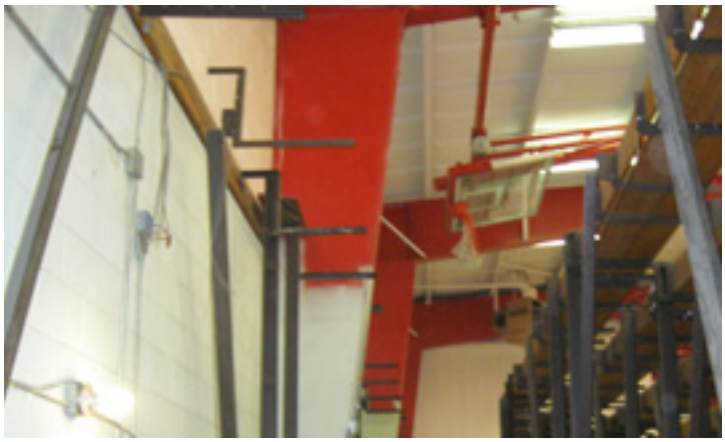
Biola University filled out a "Quick Quote" form on the Bleacherman website and received a preliminary quote. This qualified them for a $2,000 rebate from the Bleacherman. *For more about the Quick Quote rebate, see page 5.*



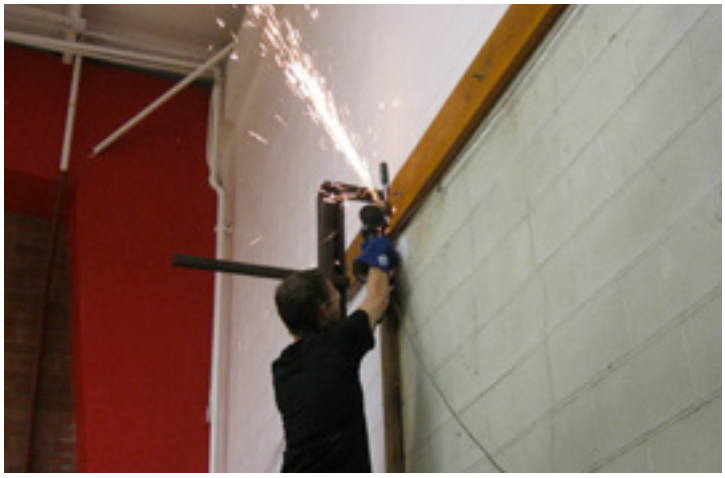
Before refurbishment: bleachers in open position. Note the lack of "P-rails" on the aisles, no non-skid material on the intermediate steps.

Original row ties shown here do NOT close the gap between sections, which requires that the bleachers be unbolted from the wall and pushed together to fit flush. Note wheel on footboard does NOT provide continuous support like the Century Design® system does.

First, the Bleacherman crew unbolted the old bleachers from the wall, in order to join the sections together flush and remove the top row.



These brackets were the only thing holding up the top row. If this row was packed with spectators, would it be strong enough to support them? This potential hazard was corrected by the Bleacherman.



The original bleachers were too close to the basketball court lines. The top row was removed so that the bleachers had the correct set-back.

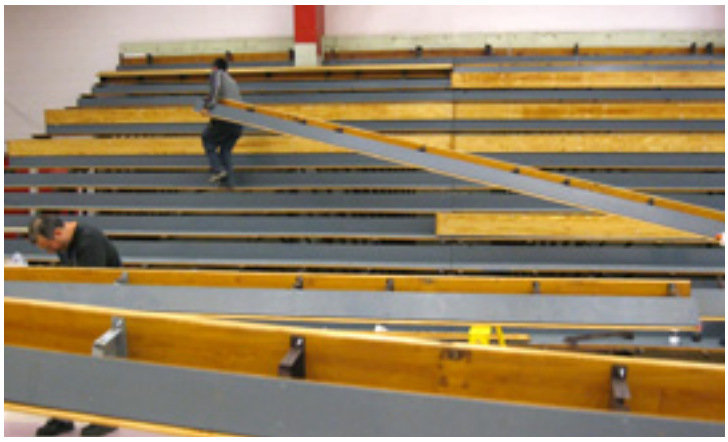
Seat boards and risers are removed for planing and edging. Heelboards and footboard remain in place for refinishing.

Heelboards and footboards are painted a contrasting color of wear-resistant enamel. Note flush fit (no gaps) between sections.

Bleacherman's sanding/edging/refinishing equipment set up outside at Biola University. Seatboards and risers were recycled and refinished on-site.

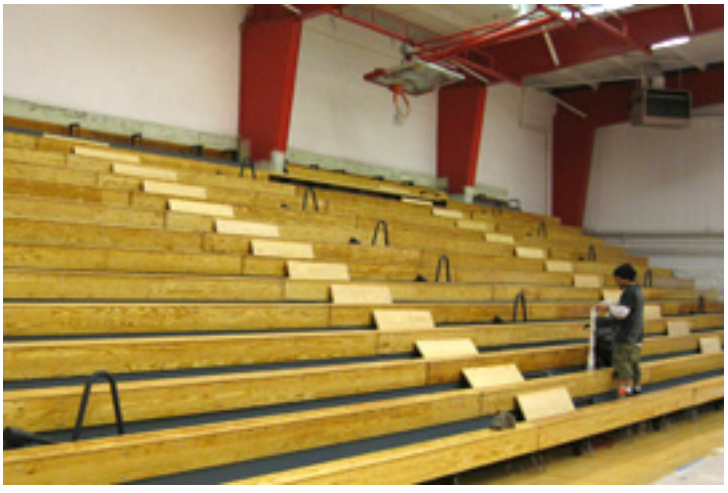
Floor is protected with plastic, when refinished wood is brought back into the gym for reinstallation.

During refurbishment, the Bleacherman worked with the owner to schedule work around the University's schedule.

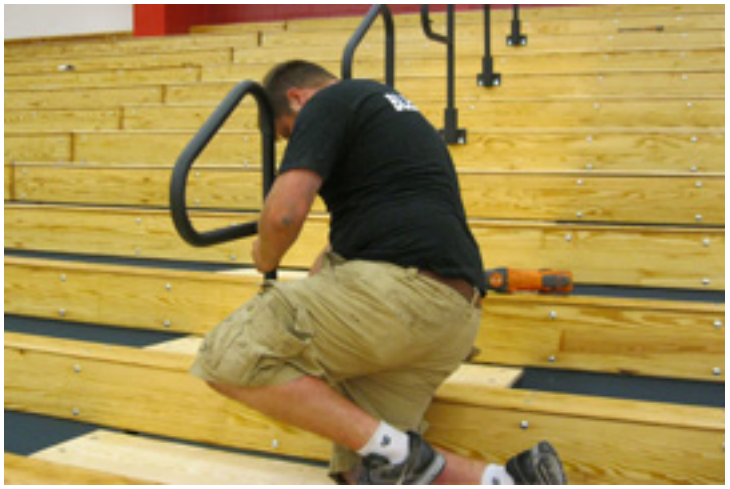


Refinished seats and risers being installed.

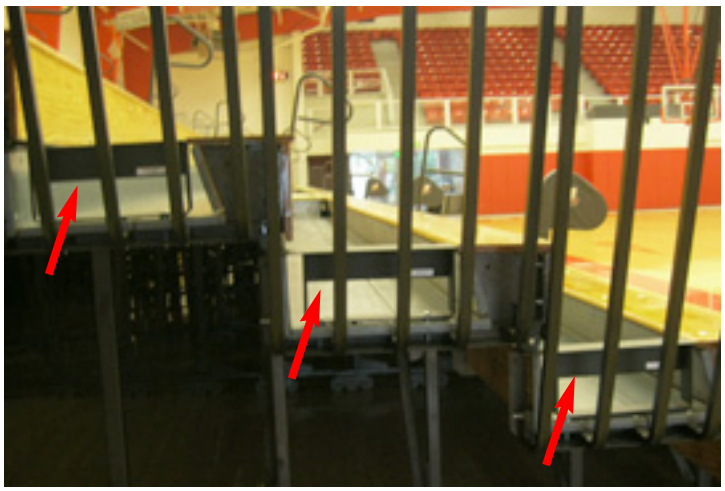
What a difference. after the original wood is planed, edged, sanded and sealed. It's hard to believe it's the same wood!



Here the intermediate steps and P-rails are "staged" for installation.

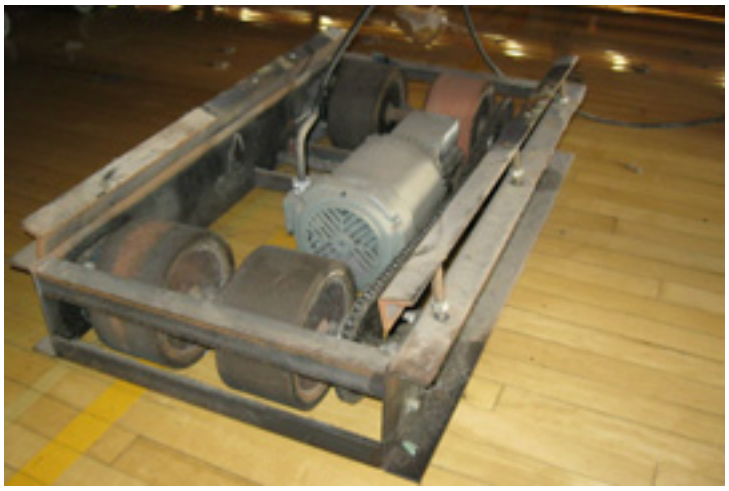


Bleacherman crew member installing P-rails in aisle.

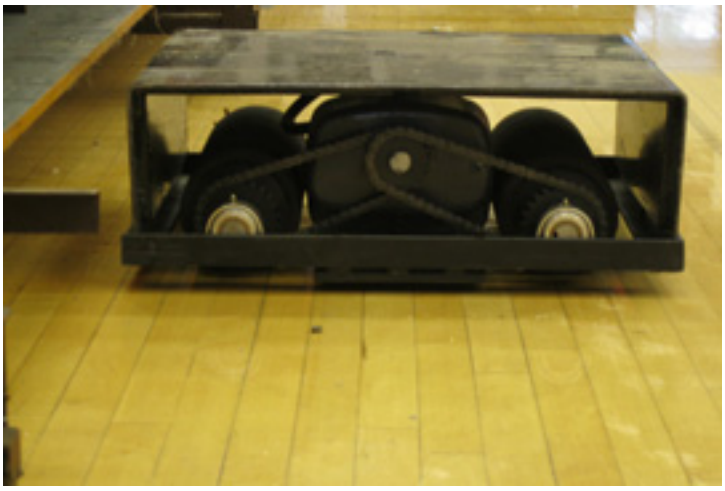


Patented Century Design® no-sag system has “runners” installed at the end of bleachers.

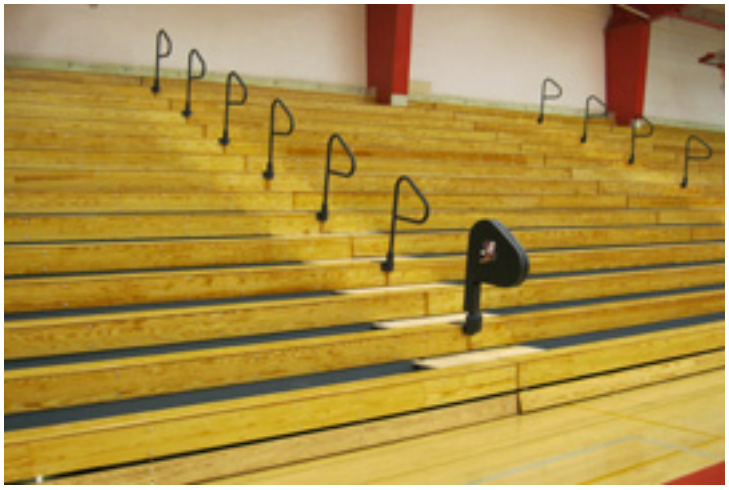
Close-up showing Century Design® system wheel on runner. This patented system prevents sagging because it supports the bleacher structure in any position.



Original motors with four 4-inch drive wheels are not as powerful as Bleacherman motors. Note pink discoloration of wheel at top right -- a sign it is starting to decompose.



Massive Bleacherman motors with 15 2-inch wide drive wheels replaced old motors on one side of gym. More wheels, combined with a heavy duty shroud, means better traction.



P-rails in place. Note padding on first P-rail, customized with school mascot.

Refurbished Bleachers in closed position. Note padding on ADA rail at end, also customized with the school mascot.

The end result: better-than-new bleachers that will not sag, and thousands of dollars saved.

SUMMARY

Besides being a real-life example of how the Bleacherman works, five things stood out on the Biola University telescopic bleacher project:

1. Location is not a problem - The Bleacherman repairs and remanufactures bleachers in place. We bring our crew and equipment to you to complete the job as quickly as possible. When you want the patented system to prevent bleachers from sagging -- and the expertise to fix your bleachers so they stay fixed -- call the Bleacherman.

2. Don't discard your old bleachers - No matter how bad they look, chances are the Bleacherman can rebuild the understructure and recycle the wood to like-new condition. Or convert the seats to plastic seat modules for a completely new look.Then we add all the code-required safety equipment so they are "better than new." The result is bleachers that are stronger than the new bleachers being sold today. They will last longer than the new bleachers being sold today. The best part is, they cost thousands less, compared to replacing your old bleachers with new bleachers. The savings generally run in the range of 30% or more.

3. Start with a Quick Quote - Biola University contacted the Bleacherman through this website and "cut out the middleman." A Quick Quote gave them the information they needed, fast. When the job was done, Biola University applied their $2,000 rebate to their bleacher refurbishment costs. Schools have the option of using the rebate any way they want: scholarship fund, sports equipment, charity, or just putting it back into the general fund. Our exclusive Quick Quote rebate is just one more way the Bleacherman helps schools save.

4. Keep using your gym - Even while repairs were underway, Biola University continued to make use of the Chase Gymnasium for church services and other activities. The Bleacherman works closely with schools to coordinate work on the bleachers with as little impact on your day-to-day activities as possible.

5. Safety, safety, safety - Biola University's bleachers are not only stronger (remanufactured to last 20 years or more), they are also much safer. End safety rails now extend all the way to row 2. No more gaps between sections. P-rails and padding protect spectators and players. The top row is now supported properly (see photo 2 on page 2). The list goes on.