A GRAND OPENING

By Stephanie Mostaccio

When the doors opened and a mass of people swarmed in during the grand opening of the new Student Recreation Center (SRC) on Wednesday, Oct. 19, it marked a new beginning in recreational activity at Rider.

President Mordechai Rozanski and several other individuals who guided this project cut the ribbon that stretched across the main entrance at approximately 12:30 p.m., officially unveiling the new SRC to the community.

“The SRC is a fabulous facility that provides much-needed recreation, fitness and wellness space for our students,” Rozanski said. “It will play a vital role in strengthening the community life and spirit of the Rider campus.”

The new SRC is a 55,000-square-foot facility that houses numerous amenities for physical and social activity. The first floor comprises a 3,600-square-foot fitness center, a group exercise room and three multi-purpose playing courts for volleyball, basketball and tennis. On the second floor, there is a three-lane jogging track and a 1,100-square-foot game room.

The facility also includes a conference room that can hold up to 40 people and a 9,000-square-foot atrium that contains a 65-inch plasma TV as well as the snack bar Kaplan Express.

Rozanski said he is pleased with the new facility. “I am delighted with this new state-of-the-art building which is a visible sign of our University’s renewal and our commitment to our current and future students,” he said.

Michael Gurran, an associate professor for the Department of Teacher Education said he is also thrilled with the innovative recreation center.

“I think it is a great improvement to the campus,” he said. “It is a great facility for the students.”

David Oliver, the director of the College of Liberal Arts, Education and Sciences, said this is a “great day” for students.

In his speech, Perry Whiteley, the president of Student Government Association (SGA), said the new SRC will improve the college experience.

“The addition of the new state-of-the-art facility has created a new hub for student life,” he said.

The new facility will unite the campus, said sophomore

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New lobby, another Luedeke

By Valerie Cedeno

The Bart Luedeke Center (BLC), dedicated to the University’s fifth president in 2003, now contains a familiar namesake inside of the building – the newly renovated Linda Luedeke Lobby.

In honor of the former president’s wife and her many years of service to students and the community, the Board of Trustees recognized her efforts with this dedication. President Mordechai Rozanski unveiled a plaque that pictured Luedeke with her husband, and also honored her contributions to Rider.

“This space is meant to welcome students,” Rozanski said. “Linda’s charm makes me feel welcome.”

Included in the lobby was a wall titled, “Celebrating Rider Excellence,” which honours students, faculty and staff for their commitment to Rider.

The wall includes recognitions for the Frank N. Elliot Award, the President’s Award, the Dominick A. Iorio Research Prize and the Distinguished Teaching Award. Donations were contributed for new lighting, carpeting, furniture and suspended ceilings in the lobby.

Linda Luedeke thanked everyone involved in the new reconstruction of the lobby.

“I’m thrilled with this award,” she said. “It was a very nice gesture. This is the first part of the Bart Luedeke Center students will see, and I’m sure it’ll attract many.”

Luedeke has served as a member of Rider’s National Girls and Women in Sports Day Committee. She has hosted many board dinners, admissions receptions and new faculty and staff receptions.

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