BETTER THAN BINGO

200 students score room upgrades in lottery

By Mike Caputo

Emotions ran high at the room selection lottery on Monday, April 11.

Hosted by the Office of Residence Life, this new lottery took place in the Cavalla Room in front of a tense crowd of approximately 250 hopeful students. What made this lottery different from past years was that many winners would be assigned the suites and apartments located in the new building, which will be opened this fall.

“This is fun and very exciting,” said Associate Director of Residence Life Stephanie Polak. “We have always had a lottery for the suites and apartments that existed already, but it only involved 60 people. We had it in a lounge and it was over in 45 minutes.”

Out of the 250 students that attended the room selection lottery on Monday night, Polak said that about 200 of the applicants would walk away with something. “There will be a lot of happy people who leave this room,” said Residence Life Area Director Dennis Renno. “But there will also be a lot of people that didn’t get what they wanted. That happens every room selection.”

Priority in the lottery was based upon factors such as amount of credits, prompt payment of room deposit and selection of courses. The number of credits in each applicant group was translated into a point system where many groups were rejected from entering the lottery because of not meeting the minimum amount of points drawn out by Residence Life.

Furthermore, students with poor disciplinary records were not even considered for a spot in the lottery.

Renno acknowledged that it was the best system possible for this year. “I think we did this as fair as we possibly could,” said Renno. “We are not perfect though and we are open to any and all suggestions for future years. Hopefully each year this will get a little better, but I look at other colleges and universities. Our rate of increase is competitive.”

The university has not yet posted its latest tuition rates, although sources say they do expect a competitive rate increase.

“An education is a major investment,” said Rozanski. “I’m pleased to see that as we look at other colleges and universities. Our rate of increase is competitive.”

O’Hara said the Board of Trustees at Rider puts a lot of careful consideration into the establishment of tuition rates. “To help students, the university will have a $26.7 million budget for financial aid.”

“Next year, there will be $2.6 million more available for students though financial aid,” said Rozanski.

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