By David Hukamania
Staff Writer

Atlanta, Sydney and now, Lawrenceville? No, that’s not a typo. In an extremely surprising move, the International Olympic Committee voted earlier this week to move the 2004 Olympics from Athens to Lawrenceville, more specifically, to here at Rider University.

“We just felt that Athens was not adequately prepared for the coming games,” said the President of the International Olympic Committee Joel Marion. “And besides, with the torch already starting in Athens, it wouldn’t really have any place to go at all. I love the torch lighting ceremony, and I felt that it would be very boring.”

What does this move mean for Rider University itself? For starters, several of the residence halls are already being cleared out to make room for the athletes that will be arriving in 2004. Massive renovations are set to begin on Lincoln, Gee, Hill and Kroner as soon as possible to improve the conditions and make the rooms comfortable for the athletes staying there.

As for the students staying in these halls, they have either moved off campus or left Rider entirely.

“I can’t believe they would make us move,” said freshman Josh Hedger. “First they have fire drills at four in the morning, now this. I just don’t trust anyone right now.”

Rider’s athletic facilities are also undergoing many improvements to accommodate the tens of thousands that will be descending on the campus in 2004. The main concern of the Olympic Committee is Rider’s very small lake, which is where most of the aquatic events are set to be held. To solve this problem, the Rider community is not only cleaning, but also expanding the lake to make room for such events as rowing, canoeing and the very popular sailing event.

Due to the expansion of the lake, Poyda Residence Hall is also being renovated to make room for the larger body of water. Half the building is being removed, and those students still living in Poyda will be charged an extra fee for having a lakefront view.

Many of the remaining students at Rider are taking the arrival of the Olympics as a reason to start up many new sports. Olympic recognized sports such as handball, judo and even badminton are beginning to form teams and include many students who felt there were no sports before that they enjoyed.

Beer pong team dominates

Morris Crew
Person who gets ads and stuff

Rider will finally be joining the New Jersey Collegiate Beer Pong League (NJCBPL) this coming fall.

Tryouts were held in February and eight co-ed pairs were chosen based on their shooting and drinking skills.

“I think we are going to have a strong first season and really put our name up on the board,” said Head Coach, Harry Bird.

“Captains Jake Foster and Jenny Adams have really taken the initiative to bring the team to the top. They are having the team spend weekends together going around and challenging beer pong players at local parties and bars to gain some experience.

“We are a very dedicated team and have been practicing on our own without our coaches even being there,” said Adams. “The team really wants to succeed and will do anything.

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The official Beer Pong table at the fraternity houses where the NJCBPL will be practicing their skills.

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