

News

Gym trades shuffling for squeaks

By Fritz Wenzel
Of The Print.

Shuffling is out, squeaking is in. The gym at the College will never be the same.

After a rash of injuries to athletes, mainly in the area of sore backs and twisted ankles, and a sporadic thinning and deterioration of the rubber-based tartan surface, the College Board of Education approved an \$85,822 expenditure to have a maple floor installed on top of the tartan.

Activity on a tartan floor sounds a lot like a sock hop, while activity on a wood surface sounds like a beginners violin lesson.

The work was completed last Friday and soon the school and community will be squeaking their way up and down the freshly-varnished hardwood floor.

The College made the decision to cover the floor with wood after considering three options explored by a gym floor committee. The options included putting a 1/8-inch-thick covering of tartan down on the floor at a cost of \$54,000, covering the main basketball floor with maple and leaving the tartan on the sides of the gym at a cost of \$70,000, or covering the floor completely.

Royce Kiser, basketball coach and a member of the gym floor committee, said he



STEVE BIGELOW OF Ryerson Hardwood Floors in Portland lays custom cut wood for threshold

Photo by Jeff Meek

thought the school would have made up the difference between the cost of putting a new layer of tartan down and installing the maple flooring would be made up in just three or four years.

"Of all the criteria we looked at," Jim Roberts, dean of student services and floor committee chairman said, "the only area that a total wood covering of the tartan

did not rate the best option was in the versatility of use. We won't be able to bring sand onto the floor, but we can do just about everything else that we did before. We have enough floor covering material to cover about two-thirds of the floor, and that ought to take care of any activity."

He added, "We are realistic though, that there may be a

need to restrict some activities and we will make those judgements once the installation is complete and we have a copy of the proper maintenance procedures and limitations."

Kiser said the tartan surface was wearing out the players shoes and the team's basketballs a lot faster than normal. "It's like playing in a sandlot," he said.

Kiser added that the surface was really too hard on his athletes, and that they often had to stop in the middle of a practice session to let the players rest from sore joints. "It got to the point where we couldn't make any kind of cuts or sharp moves because the shoes would dig into the floor instead of sliding or

simply gripping."

Kiser said that the college had planned to spend \$10,000 just for upkeep of the tartan floor this year, compared to an estimated cost of "around \$2,000" for the new maple floor. "Even at that, we couldn't get a sealer that lasted on the floor for very long," he said. "They were putting a new coat of sealant on the floor every thirty days or so."

The committee, made up of nine representatives from many areas of the College, including public safety, maintenance, the athletic department, etc. plan to meet again to set policies on the gym usage once maintenance instructions are given to the College by the installer.

Palacios, continued from page 1.

meetings listed in the explanation took place before school started, three of which were optional meetings, according to Shawn Waterburg, ASG vice-president. "I didn't attend any summer meetings myself," Waterburg said. Waterburg also said that Palacios did not receive the notices of the summer meetings due to a change of address. "There was no forwarding address left by Palacios, so his mail did not get to him," Waterburg said. The explanation also cites a

meeting held Oct. 2 between Hiltz and Palacios in which the two agreed to work together despite their personality conflict, but it notes that the next day Palacios was not in attendance at what Waterburg said was a critical planning meeting for a dance that week.

Waterburg said that the position left vacant by Palacios will remain that way until after the ASG retreat this weekend. Applications for the post will be accepted at that time.

Sophomores:

Scholarships available

By Loretta Carter
Of The Print

If you have a 2.5 grade point average, are enrolled with 12 credits or more and you have earned at least 45 credits at the College, you could be eligible for one of five scholarships.

The Financial Aid Office has applications for the "Outstanding Sophomore Tuition waiver." This scholarship opportunity is for a tuition waiver for a full academic year which is valued at \$600.

The purpose for this scholarship is to recognize and encourage academic achievement and community service by sophomore students, said Kathy Scheer, financial aid specialist.

To apply, submit a com-

pleted application and all supporting documents to the College Financial Aid Office located in the Community Center no later than 5 pm on Friday, Oct. 18. Scholarship winners will be notified within 10 days of the deadline. Selections will be made by the Scholarship Selection Committee.

The two supporting documents needed include two letters of reference from instructors or employers and a copy of your transcript.

Scholarship winners must attend a Scholarship Recognition Ceremony November 7 in the Fireside Lounge in the Community Center. One winner may also be asked to make a speech at the Recognition Ceremony.

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