

the FINISHED Product

A look at Ridge Student Center

“Wow, it’s amazing! It’s beyond my expectations.” When the students returned to campus this fall to see the newly-remodeled Ridge Student Center for the first time, these were some of the things they said. The process to convert the former Ridge Gymnasium into a fully-modern, 24-hour student center began in the spring of 2003 and was completed this summer. Construction costs were \$4.7 million. Thanks to the generous support of donors – including loyal alumni – approximately \$4.4 million has been raised so far; the College seeks to raise the remainder, in addition to an endowment for the building.



The new main entrance is located where the stage used to be, and faces south toward the center of campus.



Student mailboxes



The design is careful to maintain elements of the former gymnasium. At left in this photo are exposed bleachers, which display the building letters that used to hang over the Williams Street entrance. Toward the bottom right (with the students at tables), the jump circle at center court is visible in the carpet. And if you look carefully at the seating area in the back (near the staircase), you can see the old, green scoreboard on the wall. The “skybox” meeting rooms (top left) further enhance the

photos by Gary Easter



In addition to a 24-hour computer lab, Ridge is equipped with wireless internet. The building also houses the Career Center, art studios, offices for staff and student organizations, a snack bar, a gourmet coffee cart, and a TV/game room. A variety of flexible meeting space is available for the campus or the community.



Campus Safety



Hickman Board Room