

## MISSION & VISION OF THE RICHTER CENTER

The \$6.2 million state-of-the-art Sandra A. and William L. Richter Center opened in the fall of 2004 to bring a new level of fitness and recreation to St. Bonaventure University. From the day the doors of the Richter Center opened, thousands of students have visited the Center each month, creating an enhanced culture of student activity that is centered on wellness.

### History of the Center

The center was funded by a \$3 million leadership gift from Sandra A. and William L. Richter and supported by other private gifts as well as contributions from the classes of 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Sandra Richter is an Olean native and graduate of St. Bonaventure, along with her father and uncle. William Richter is a former member of the University's Board of Trustees. He is the co-founder and senior managing director of Cerberus Capital Management LP.

The Richter Center features three basketball courts (including one multi-purpose court that can be used for floor hockey), an indoor running/walking track, an aerobics room, courts for racquetball, squash and wallyball, 5,000 square feet of cardiovascular and weight equipment, locker rooms, and a climbing wall.



### Intramurals and Club Sports

Intramurals and club sports collectively are the most popular student activities on the St. Bonaventure campus. The Richter Center is used not only for many of the competitions, but also for training, practice and group meetings. Intramurals bring together the entire community to participate in friendly competition between SBU student teams. Any student enrolled in 12 credits or more can play on an intramural team.

Club sports require a tryout, and teams compete against other schools and organizations. Club sports are perfect for the more serious athlete who enjoys intercollegiate competition, but who does not belong to one of the University's NCAA Division I intercollegiate sports teams.



"The Richter Center has served as the athletic hub that first allowed me to make friends as a freshman playing intramurals. Those friendships were further developed as a member of the rugby team. Our unity and success was due in no small part to having a state-of-the-art workout facility. It just gets you so much more excited to get active and be fit."

◀ **Charlie Specht** • St. Bonaventure Class of 2010  
Member 2007, 2008 New York State Rugby Champions

### Fall Intramurals

- Basketball
- Dodgeball
- Flag Football
- Golf
- One-day tournaments
- Racquetball
- Rathskeller intramurals
- Soccer
- Softball

### Spring Intramurals

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Floor Hockey
- Rathskeller intramurals
- Soccer
- Softball
- Volleyball
- Wallyball

### Club Sports

- Field Hockey (women)
- Ice Hockey (men)
- Lacrosse (men)
- Rugby (both)
- Soccer (both)
- Ski Racing (co-ed)

# SBU's Center of attention

2004-05	67,687
2005-06	71,629
2006-07	68,240
2007-08	73,583
2008-09	68,817
2009-10	21,685* *through 10/31; up 16% from same period in 2008-09

Since the Richter Center opened in 2004, individual visits to the Center have exceeded 67,000 annually. The highest periods of usage annually are at the start of the academic year in September and in February and March. The number of monthly visits during the academic year (not counting break periods) has never been fewer than 6,000.



## Programs that are paying off

### Ironman Challenge: 90 days to a healthy body

More than 220 people over the last two years have taken The Ironman Challenge, a Richter Center-focused activity for students, faculty and staff held each semester. Participants have 90 days to complete the following challenges:

- 2.5 miles swimming
- 112 miles biking
- 26.2 miles walking/running

Participants log their own mileage and earn a T-shirt at the end of the Challenge if they complete all of the requirements. Many participants choose to use the Richter Center's rowing machines as a substitute for the swimming requirement, thereby enabling the entire Challenge to take place using the facilities of the Center.



### Bona's Biggest Loser: A 15-week road to wellness

Borrowing its name from the popular NBC program, "Bona's Biggest Loser" is a 15-week weight loss and wellness program. Three-person teams — any combination of students, faculty and staff — are required to enter, but members must have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 25 or higher. In the last two years, 168 participants have lost a total of 1,346 lbs.

Features of the program include:

- Health and fitness materials provided to all members on a weekly basis.
- Monthly workshops on selected health, wellness and fitness topics.
- Mandatory measurements of blood pressure, pulse, BMI (body fat), as well as optional chest, waist, hips, upper arms, and thigh measurements.

Students who work at the Richter Center earn, on average, almost

# \$2,400

during the course of the academic year.



### Jennifer Wright, SBU Class of 2010

"The fitness classes that are offered just about every day of the week, along with the Iron Man/Woman Challenge, have motivated me to improve my physical fitness."

## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

# Making a real difference in students' lives

It has been a pleasure to provide leadership for the Richter Center since it opened in 2004. Having served as director of recreation prior to the opening, I can say with certainty that The Sandra A. and William L. Richter Center has transformed student recreation and leadership at St. Bonaventure. I cannot imagine our campus without the Richter Center.

Usage statistics alone could tell the story of an active facility that serves as the centerpiece for extracurricular student engagement, but the real stories are told every day by the tangible effect the center has had on students' lives.

The Richter Center staff supports students in outlining plans for improvement, encourages them when they feel like they aren't making progress, and celebrates with them when they achieve goals they never thought possible. The Richter Center exemplifies the University's Statement of Distinction: It is a premier vitally engaging learning environment.

In 2008, the University established the Center for Activi-



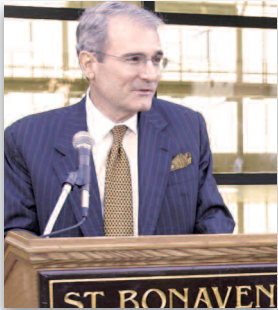
ties, Recreation and Leadership (CARL), a student development program that aims to bring to other areas of student activities the best practices that have been learned and cultivated through Richter Center facilities and programs. We are creating learning outcomes for every activity, helping us to measure the success of our programming and to ensure that everything we do adds value to the student experience.

Alumni visiting the Richter Center lament, without exception, not having such a facility when they were students at Bona's. I, along with my staff,

never miss the opportunity to remind them that the Richter Center was made possible by the vision and dedication of donors who are committed to enhancing student life at St. Bonaventure University.

### **Rob DeFazio**

Director • Center for Recreation, Activities and Leadership



"Giving is a privilege, not an obligation. Each of you, therefore, should embrace the privilege of giving by making a gift to Bonaventure part of your annual budget, whatever it may be, and making it possible for later students to follow in your footsteps."

### **William L. Richter**

September 30, 2004  
Richter Center dedication



**ST. BONAVENTURE**  
UNIVERSITY  
Founded 1858