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RAMAPO COLLEGE TO DEDICATE BILL BRADLEY SPORTS AND RECREATION CENTER

(Mahwah) – The newly completed Bill Bradley Sports and Recreation Center at Ramapo College of New Jersey will be dedicated Wednesday, April 13 at 4 p.m. Senator Bill Bradley will be a guest speaker at the program, which will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the arena. New Jersey Acting Governor Richard J. Codey confirmed today that he will assist Bradley in cutting the ribbon for the Center and will offer greetings.

"This is an unexpected but wonderful gesture on the part of Ramapo College, a fine New Jersey institution," said Senator Bradley, who added, "I'm grateful to them for this honor." The Bill Bradley Sports and Recreation Center provides Ramapo athletes with an 18,000 square-foot, NCAA-regulation main arena with a state-of-the art flooring system and seating for 1,600-2,200. The new home for varsity sports also provides up-to-date and spacious team rooms, fitness and training equipment and an atrium that serves as a public event area and home to the Ramapo College Athletics Hall of Fame.

Other features of the Center include the Sharp Fitness Center, equipped with state-of-the-art weight training circuit and aerobic fitness machines; Inserra Family Student Lounge; Konica Minolta Photo Imaging Spectator Lobby; the 50-seat Sony Skybox; the Adele and Reuben Thomas Swimming Pool; the Edelman Climbing Wall; the Sodexho Concession Area; and the Frank and Becky Kraus Welcome Center. Additional major donors include the Bergen Barracudas, Daniell Family Foundation, Prestige Family of Dealerships, and the Fred J. Brotherton Foundation.

The Center is named in honor of Bradley, who has a long-standing and supportive relationship with Ramapo College. In 1976, he visited the campus to dedicate the former athletic center and later made his first public speech as a Senator in the Ramapo College gym. In 1983, he delivered Ramapo's commencement address and in 1988, was awarded an honorary doctorate. In 1996, Bradley and former Governor Tom Kean debated "The Future of American Politics" in an open forum sponsored by the Ramapo College Business Network. Bradley participated in the new Center's groundbreaking in April 2003.

Bradley is a managing director of Allen & Company LLC. He served in the U.S. Senate from 1979–1997 representing the state of New Jersey. The Senator played for the New York Knicks from 1967-1977.

Designed by GBQC Architects, the Bill Bradley Sports and Recreation Center meets standards of accessibility for the disabled, energy conservation and "green" sustainability practices, in keeping with Ramapo College traditions. Damon G. Douglas Construction Management and Century 21 Construction Company oversaw the construction of the Center.