

The Montgazette

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Students Hone Leadership Skills at Annual Retreat

By Asif Malik, Advertising Manager

The Student Leadership Retreat was a college-hosted event that took place this past September in the new Advanced Technology Center (ATC). It was an open event, not just for student-leaders. It was held on Friday Sept. 27, 2007, from 2:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., and then again on Saturday Sept. 28, 2007. This event also had another motive: to have student-leaders from both the Central and West Campuses come together and become familiar with one

another, as well as meet administrators from the college. Such administrators included Katherine Swanson, Eric Almonte and Alana Mauger.

There were many guest-speakers who came and gave workshops to the students there. However, there was one key-note speaker who spoke on Saturday. Jack was his name and "Jacktivities" was his game. That's right! "Jacktivities" (no there is no typo). The main focus of his workshop was to get everyone involved, someway, somehow. He was very enthusiastic



Photo by Asif Malik, Advertising Manager

Students leaders complete an exercise on community need and teamwork at the annual Student Leadership Retreat.

Dedication Makes ATC Official

By Asif Malik
Advertising Manager

The College hosted the official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the new Advanced Technologies Center [ATC]. It took place on October 16, 2007, at 10:00am, in the ATC lobby. Dr. Stout gave an outstanding speech, thanking all of the visionaries who helped give life to this spectacular building. Also, a couple of student-leaders were given the honor of delivering a speech to the faculty, commissioner, the Board of Trustees, and their fellow student-leaders. John Riley gave an wonderful speech winning the hearts of his audiences. Then came Elizabeth Neuman, a mother and wife, as well as a full-time student. She, too, gave a moving speech and thanked her fellow instructors who helped her achieve her educational goals.

Towards the conclusion of the event, balloons rained down on us, as the ribbon was being cut. Such a miraculous site it was. The thunderous applause followed, as the Advanced Technologies Center became an official member of the Montco Family.

Soon afterwards, Dr. Stout began to talk



Photo by Asif Malik, Advertising Manager

Cutting the ribbon are (from left) Students John Riley and Elizabeth Neuman, Commissioners Tom Ellis and Ruth Damsker, President Karen Stout, Commissioner Jim Matthews and College Trustee Tony DiSandro.

to students about the future plans of the college, where the college was headed, and their intellectual input of where they believe the college should go. This just comes to show you that Dr. Stout, President of Montgomery County Community College, does care about what the students want. What more can you ask for, from the President of the college being open-minded to the thoughts of students.

about his work and had a few comical lectures. Overall, his activities, I mean "Jacktivities," were very astounding. The way he ran his "Jacktivities" was like having fun while learning. Such "Jacktivities" included good communication skills, leadership skills, and managing a large group. Yes, they do sound boring, but sounding and doing are two different things.

I was one of the students present on both days for the Student Leadership Retreat. My overall experience attending these workshops was very beneficial. It sparked a few ideas in my head that I will use for the student clubs/organizations I am in. Also, the advice for managing my time with such a packed schedule proved useful. Plus, it was a great way for me to meet other student-leaders that went to this campus, but never knew they existed. Also, I was able to meet some great people from the West Campus.

After the conclusion of the Student Leadership Retreat on the first day, participants went bowling. This bowling event was sponsored by the Office of Student Activities for the students. The competition grew so intense that Brian Brendlinger decided to get in the action. Once he entered the ring, the game was over. Strike after strike, he pulverized his competition game after game. This just comes to show you, the administrators have some skills!