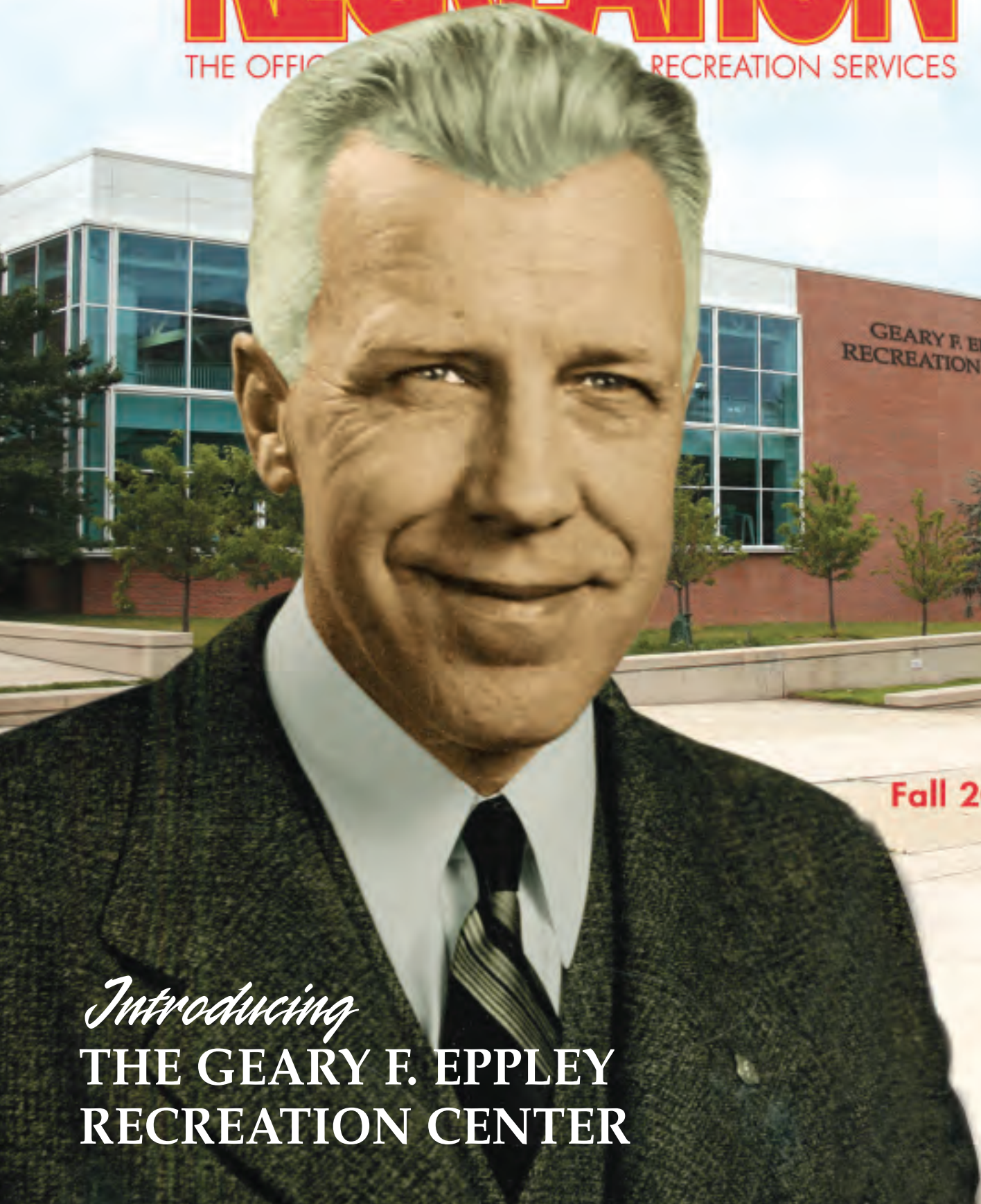


UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

CAMPUS RECREATION

THE OFFICE OF RECREATION SERVICES

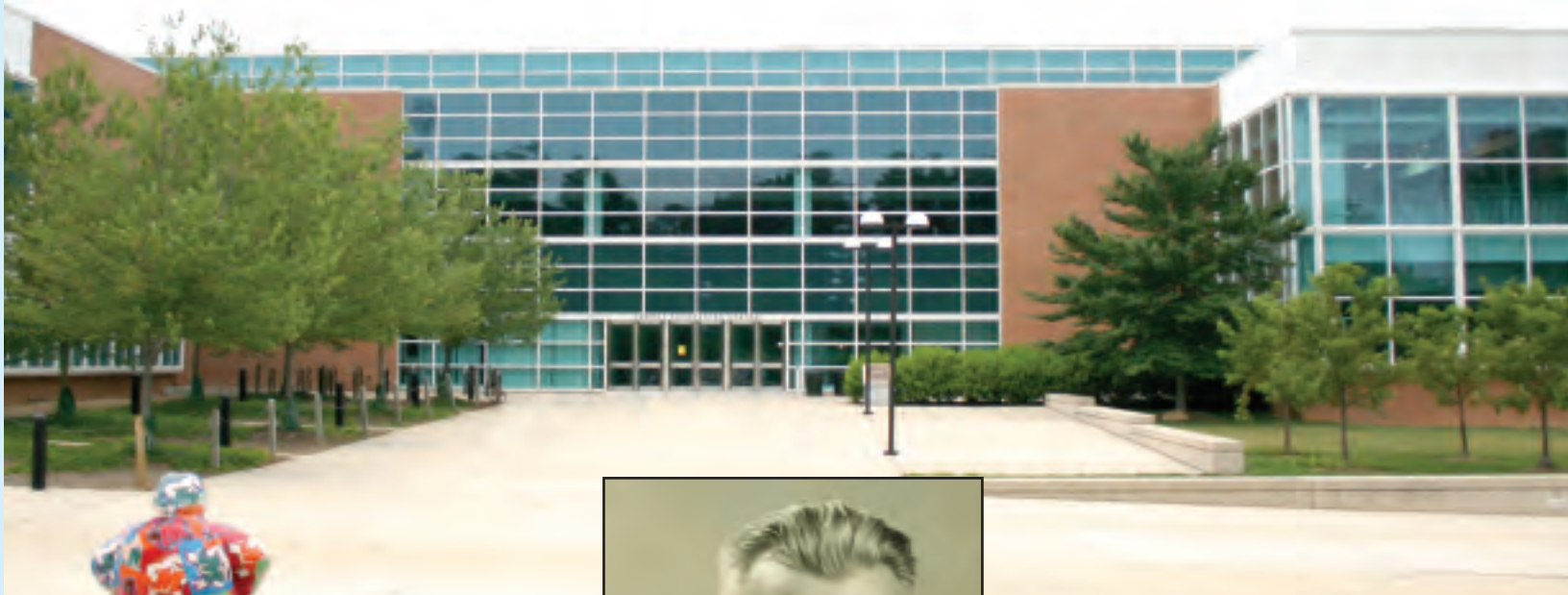


GEARY F. EPPLEY
RECREATION CENTER

Fall 2006

Introducing
THE GEARY F. EPPLEY
RECREATION CENTER

FROM LANDMARK TO HALLMARK THE GEARY F. EPPLEY RECREATION CENTER



On October 20, 2006, the University of Maryland's Campus Recreation Center will officially be renamed, and dedicated as **THE GEARY F. EPPLEY RECREATION CENTER**. The naming/dedication ceremony will take place the Friday afternoon of Homecoming Week 2006, which will allow for returning alumni who were impacted by Eppley during his many years on campus to participate.

The naming of the recreation center is a fitting way to honor Geary F. Eppley (1895-1978). He was a part of the University of Maryland community for more than fifty years; starting as a student in 1914, and retiring as Dean of Men in 1964; serving many other roles in the interim years. Dean Eppley had an immeasurable impact on the campus and its students during those years, and his legacy continues today.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING THE TOTAL PERSON

Eppley recognized the importance of the development of the total student/person. He wanted students to have a balanced experience, involving both the classroom and outside activities. Physical fitness and leadership were two qualities he embraced, and worked hard to promote among students. Being concerned with every phase of campus life, he was one of the busiest of the University of Maryland's faculty members. His office became the "Union Station" of campus, and he spent many evening and weekend hours in the office assisting worried students with their problems. His efforts were instrumental in developing student oriented facilities such as the Student Union and Memorial Chapel.



Born in Washington, D.C. in 1895, Geary Eppley matriculated to what was then Maryland Agricultural College, in 1914. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1920, after interrupting his studies to serve as a U.S. Army Second Lieutenant, in France, during World War I. While a student, Geary also earned letters in football and track, playing end on Coach Curly Byrd's football team and establishing the university pole vault record.



GEARY F. EPPLEY WAS TRULY A MAN OF THE UNIVERSITY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITY. SOME OF HIS MANY ACTIVITIES AND HONORS INCLUDE:

LETTER WINNER — FOOTBALL & TRACK

FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE M CLUB

MEMBER OF HONORARIES — PHI KAPPA PHI, OMICRON DELTA KAPPA, PI DELTA EPSILON, PHI ETA SIGMA, SCABBARD & BLADE, AND PERSHING RIFLES

MEMBER OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY

US ARMY LEGION OF MERIT AWARD — SERVED HIS COUNTRY WITH DISTINCTION AS AN US ARMY OFFICER IN TWO WORLD WARS

TWICE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE (1949-51)

JOINT FOUNDER OF THE ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE AND FIRST PRESIDENT (1953)

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME (1982)

INAUGURAL MEMBER OF UM ALUMNI HALL OF FAME (1995)

BOARD MEMBER OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CHAPTER OF AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

A DIRECTOR OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOY'S CLUB

MASON

ROTARIAN

MASTER OF THE COUNTY GRANGE

MEMBER OF THE COUNTY WELFARE BOARD

ACTIVE MEMBER OF ST. ANDREWS CHURCH

"...TRULY A MAN OF THE UNIVERSITY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITY."



Returning to the now University of Maryland in 1922, Eppley, known affectionately by friends and faculty as "Swede", began his career of service to the campus as an assistant professor of Agronomy. He received a Master of Science degree in 1926, while also coaching the track team, a role he held from 1924 to 1941. In 1935 he was made Director of Athletics, a position he held until 1947. In 1936 he was additionally appointed Dean of Men. During World War II, he was taken away from campus to serve with distinction as a Colonel in the office of the Army Chief of Staff.

A LEGACY AND A LANDMARK

The end of the war brought Dean Eppley back to Maryland with an ever-expanding role – Chief of Staff to University President Curly Byrd, Director of Student Activities and Welfare, Chair of the Athletic Board, and performing the functions of Provost were all added to his portfolio of responsibilities. The population of students doubled almost overnight with the huge influx of veterans attending under the GI Bill, and it was important to attend to their needs.

Current, and future, students at the University of Maryland will be informed of Geary Eppley's legacy through a permanent display, which will be unveiled on the weekend of October 20, 2006, in the lobby of the recreation center. Campus Recreation Services is proud to join the University in honoring an individual who had such a positive impact on this campus for so many years.