INTRODUCTION
The Student Recreation & Wellness Center (SRWC) provides a new destination for Ball State University Students to socialize and interact while engaging in team or individual sports and recreational activity. Creating new opportunities for the university community to engage in a healthy regimen, the new facility was designed and constructed to simplify and enhance the former Irving Gymnasium Complex. The new facility offers much more than its predecessor and is easier to navigate. The result is a recreation & wellness center that has been embraced by faculty and students alike. The curvilinear design is aesthetically pleasing and provides functionality for the many spaces housed within the structure. The SRWC features a 3-tier fitness center, 5 court gym, indoor turf field, 3 multi-purpose rooms, ⅛ mile running track, indoor climbing wall and outdoor center, massage & wellness rooms, 3 student lounges and dedicated academic & athletic spaces. In addition, the center offers Quiznos kiosk as well as a Grab ’N Go convenience store.

COORELATION TO CAMPUS MASTER PLAN & MISSION
The SRWC is the first 100% dedicated activity building intended for the student population on the Ball State University Campus. As part of its Strategic Plan, Ball State committed itself to creating a university community that is nationally recognized for its vibrant, supportive atmosphere and to improving the university community’s quality of life through participation in a coordinated wellness program.

INTENDED & ACTUAL IMPACT TO YOUR RECREATION PROGRAM
Over the last several years, campus recreation participation rates have increased dramatically. During the thirteen-year period ending with the 2006-2007 fiscal year, use of recreational facilities by the university community increased from an initial 200,000 annual users to 533,000 annual users (167% increase). As a result of this increase in participation, new and dedicated space was needed. The SRWC as projected attracts and retains students, faculty and staff. Within its first year of existence, the new SRWC has become the new hub for student activities as indicated by record participation numbers totaling over 870,000 users in 2010-2011.

UNIQUE AESTHETIC OR ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FEATURES
The SRWC has two main entrances and each showcases design features. The south entrance is enhanced by full wall to ceiling windows highlighting the 3-tier fitness center. The east entrance promotes the 36 foot / 1,500 sq ft. climbing wall. The limestone art panels from the original Irving Gymnasium were repurposed and installed within SRWC’s 5 court gymnasium. The open air concept of the gymnasium gives the facilities a field house feel and look.

FACILITY FUNCTIONALITY
Like most facilities on campus – the SRWC is a multi-purpose facility. While it serves its primary function as a recreational outlet for its users, it also provides the university a location for other functions. Dinners, seminars, meetings, conferences, high school sporting events, health fairs and graduation ceremonies are only a few activities that have utilized the facility. The building is a connecting hub for campus traffic for varsity sporting events and physical education classes or as a “cut-through” facility to other locations on campus.
**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FACILITY DESIGN & STAFFING**
The facility's design revolves around aesthetic appeal, open planning & low maintenance. Nearly all of the spaces have open sightlines, allowing supervision with limited staffing. In many places walls and floor plates disappear creating large exciting spaces where boundaries are non-existent and spaces flow without interruption. Dynamic interior spaces are further enhanced by large exterior windows allowing the students to connect with the beautifully landscaped grounds. Natural lighting is abundant throughout the interior and encourages student/facility interaction. Construction materials were selected for both beauty and purpose. For example, ground-faced block with a clear anti-graffiti coating is used throughout as a wall finish, providing functionality, aesthetics and durability. Both athletic wood and rubber flooring products complement epoxy terrazzo and sealed concrete floors.

**USE OF TECHNOLOGY & HOW IT BENEFITS STUDENTS, STAFF & BUDGETS**
The entire Recreation & Wellness Center is technologically enriched. Wi-Fi and wired Internet access, HD information and video monitors (67), including Cardio Theatre, Sirius/XM satellite radio and numerous multi-media sources saturate all of the student areas. The SRWC has become a location for many students looking to study or meet for group projects. The department’s website serves a dual role: (1) advertising programs and services and (2) online registration/payment processing. To enhance the 400 student employees, www.whentowork.com was incorporated to alleviate staff scheduling. Prior to construction of the SRWC, the point of sale system (POS) was overly antiquated. Innosoft Fusion was brought onboard to assist POS, equipment check-out and facility scheduling.

**SUSTAINABLE/GREEN FEATURES**
The facility was designed to LEED 2.0 standards for new construction and is currently seeking LEED silver certification. The SRWC was designed and constructed with environmentally sound and sustainable practices in mind. In addition to the previously mentioned day-lighting, the facility benefits from many other energy-saving systems and components including a white reflective roof, high performance insulated glass, sensor-operated faucets (toilets & waterless urinals), and numerous HVAC and environmental system controls/components. All of these elements work together to make the SRWC a comfortable, energy-efficient recreation complex appropriate for today’s 21st century university student.

**INNOVATIVE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS OR METHODS**
Building materials for longevity and ease of maintenance were specified in the design of the SRWC including: brick, block, vitrified terrazzo, hardwood floors, and natural anodized aluminum. Over 91.8% of the original gym’s building materials were recycled. Of the total 8,100 tons of construction debris, 7,435 tons were diverted from landfills. During construction soils insufficient to support the new facility were discovered. The design and construction team reclaimed 393 tons of concrete from the original gym to enhance the poor soil conditions. Using salvaged steel components from the Irving Gymnasium a “concrete grinder” was devised to pulverize the concrete so that it could be used as the sub-base of the facility.