

# Dubuque Five Flags Center open

The Dubuque Five Flags Center opened last week. The new convention, sports and entertainment complex adjoins the city's historic Five Flags Theater.

The 27,000-square-foot main arena will accommodate conventions, trade shows, assemblies, symphony and rock concerts, stage shows and sports events.

Seating capacity for basketball games will be 4,700; for stage shows, 5,200.

The ballroom will seat 650 at banquets and there are four other large conference rooms.

Hockey, ice skating and ice shows will fit on an 185-by-185-foot ice sheet, available some 100 times a each year, according to Steven Peters, manager of the center.

A grand opening ball and disco were held the evening of March 24.

Some of the coming attractions at the complex are the Festival International Du Cirque De Monte Carlo on Tuesday and Wednesday; Bob Hope on Saturday; local hockey games April 17 and the World's Toughest Rodeo on April 27, 28 and 29.

Peters said the center will attract groups of 600 to

1,000 for trade shows and meetings. "That will be our forte at this point. We can serve them extremely well."

The area has about 1,100 hotel and motel rooms available, and a new Midway Motor Inn, with 160 rooms, will open in Dubuque this spring.

The city's plans for a DubuqueFest this fall will be announced later, Peters said.

Map by JIM SELZER

