

YMCA Opening

When the doors opened at the East Palo Alto Family YMCA on Saturday, January 20, it marked a test phase for the organization, because the Grand Opening will be held on February 10. Sharifa Wilson, who is the Chair of the Board of the East Palo Alto Family YMCA, said the test phase was important as a practice session to enable the public to use the building to test everything in order to find and eliminate any kinks that exist.

Eli Cardenas, the organization's executive director, agreed that there is still fine tuning to do. It is hoped that by February 10, everything will be operating efficiently. But, even in its test phase, Cardenas seemed proud to point out that the current staff had been hired from the East Palo Alto community. He said that the East Palo Alto Y was going to partner with other groups to bring families and young people in to take advantage of the Y's programs.



Community youth try out the machines on opening day.