by De Ellis
A convocation of 1300 students last night, predominately from St. Mary's, agreed to boycott classes. The decision came after an hour long meeting with St. Mary's President Sr. Alma Peter, and Sr. Alma's denial of the collapse of the ND-SMC merger. The vocal and firm protest of the Notre Dame student body in pressuring the St. Mary's Trustees into reversing their half of the decision not to merge with Notre Dame.

Another convocation was called for 11 a.m. today in O'Laughlin Auditorium, scene of last night's meeting.

Sister Alma's meeting, held against a background of boos, cheers, and hand-clapping, during which Sr. Alma once threatened to walk out, saw considerable student anger over both the Board's decision and the manner in which it was made.

Two policemen were seen outside the auditorium during Sr. Alma's speech.

Student Government Secretary Nancy Christopher argued with Sr. Alma that while SMC is run on the principle of Community Government, neither the students, the faculty, nor most of the administration was consulted in the decision.

"What grounds," she asked, "Do we have to place our trust in this college?" Another student asked, "Who's manipulating the merger?"

To this, Sr. Alma answered, "To my knowledge no one is manipulating it."

Sr. Alma argued that the Board of Trustees had made a mistake in ever agreeing to the merger with Notre Dame. When asked by a student what good that did, Sr. Alma said, "What harm does it do?"
Farley

Father Hesburgh: under fire at Meeting with students at Farley Hall

Hesburgh withholds details

by Jerry Lukas
Observer News Editor

University President Rev. Theodore Hesburgh refused to answer student questions concerning the reason behind the Notre Dame-St. Mary's decision to stall the unification of the two schools while blasting the student boycott of classes as "sillything to do," last night at Farley Hall.

Hesburgh spoke before a packed crowd of approximately 250 people in the Farley chapel. The crowd was relatively polite, but intermittent cheering, booing, and grumbling permeated the atmosphere. Continuing throughout the meeting were cries of "Why!" from the crowd.

When asked to explain why the merger was cancelled, Hesburgh left it upon "financial and administrative reasons," refusing to go into further detail.

"The chairman of the executive Board of Trustees felt that it would be counter-productive if we released the why. The Board agreed with him and we are abiding by that," Hesburgh commented.

Hesburgh did not agree with the idea of a student boycott of classes. "It costs $200,000 to open this place up every day. It's for one, purpose—far education. Education is the only thing in the world that people will pay for and not get."

The University President constantly repeated throughout the meeting that there was no blame to be placed over the cancellation of the merger. He said that "we are not going to take cheap shots at St. Mary's."

"I don't want to place blame," Hesburgh said. "We all tried very hard to get everything together. But it didn't work. We're confident though that it will all work out in time."

Hesburgh noted that the whole action was a "Clearing of the decks."

"It has become perfectly clear that we cannot have now one institution and one administration. Therefore, we must build as many bridges as we possibly can," he added.

When pressed further by students for the why, Hesburgh said, "I'm not going to get into a recounting of details. If I do that I'll have to take a stand—I'll have to lay the blame."

He claimed that Notre Dame had their list of priorities and that St. Mary's had theirs. No one could change any of their priorities, so they could not get everything together. "I'm not going to get into the shell game—they're wrong, we're right. No," he said.

"It's easy to see this all as a sinister plot but it's not. It's a two-sided argument. We've gone as far as we can and it's not agreeable to either side," Hesburgh said.

Hesburgh finally ended the discussion of that point by saying he had commitments as a "human being and a gentleman" not to lay blame and refused to answer further questions on the matter.

Hesburgh continually referred to "building bridges" between ND and SMC. Claiming that we have already built many of these, he said that it would be foolish to destroy them.

"We have made progress into unification, the actual putting together of the two schools. We have made much positive

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Indiana Bell
No merger made official

Continued from page 1
Several students, especially freshmen, complained that they had come to Saint Mary's under the assumption that they would be Notre Dame students and get Notre Dame degrees.
When Sr. Alma denied that the SMC admissions office had ever used that information in recruiting students, three letters were produced. One, quoting from an SMC press release of last year, was sent to the freshmen before they got to SMC, and mentioned the merger and Notre Dame degrees. Sr. Alma dismissed all three, to a series of groans on the part of the students.

Sr. Alma said that she would "put nothing in the way of students trying to transfer from St. Mary's."

Then she said, "I would advise wou if you do not wish to stay, not to." And, she added, "I wouder if it would not be a good thing for the majority of freshmen to return."

This statement was greeted with cheers.

Later, the Acting President apologized to the freshmen class for her comment.

Sr. Alma described three areas of concern that slowed down the progress of the merger and eventually led to its demise. The three were financial, administrative, and academic. The financial problems, believed by many people on both campuses to be the major ones, received no comment from Sr. Alma.

She said, "You couldn't possibly understand. I don't even understand them in their entirety."

Finally, the discussion settled on the question of the Board of Trustees, with most students wanting to talk to the Board, rather than the Acting President about the situation.

Sr. Alma recommended that the SMC Student Government write to the board and request that they come to campus.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board is December 18, the last day of final exams for the first semester. Immediately after Sr. Alma left, SMC Student Body President Kathy Barlow took over the meeting, saying that "this is the last straw."

She complained of three aspects of the situation that were particularly upsetting to her. First, the fact that everyone on the campus was kept in the dark about the reversal of the merger decision. Second, she said that the students were not being treated like women. Finally, she contended that at the moment, the students were speaking with the wrong person. Miss Barlow said that they should be talking to the Board of Trustees.

During the meeting without Sr. Alma, students suggested union with Notre Dame students in the protest. Notre Dame Student Body President John Barkett said that ND students would probably not get too excited about the problem, since they are not affected.

He said however, that the best thing for SMC students to do would be to keep pressure on the administration.

"I hope," he said, "that most students at Notre Dame will act as they see fit. Saint Mary's students have a legitimate complaint."

Student Union Social Commissioner Don Mooney and WIND SMC News Editor Barb Allen argued that the best course of action would be to start the action and then have Notre Dame follow, if they were so inclined.

Notre Dame Stay Senator and SMC Assembly representative Barbara O'Neill spoke in favor of the merger and proposed a motion that the students would initiate the action and then go to ND and get the guys to follow.

The vote for a boycott was near unanimous.

Kathy Barlow
A steering committee was set up afterwards by the Student Government of Saint Mary's. Several faculty members were present and expressed opinions identical to the students.

Charity b-ball a big success
The results of the charity basketball game, played the Monday before Thanksgiving vacation, had Heartening results not only for the varsity basketball team but also for the needy families of Saint Bend.

Rod Braye, coordinator of the game, declared the event a success. Businesses in Saint Bend contributed $475 and $400 was received at the gate. This money was sufficient to purchase and distribute 60 turkeys to needy families in Saint Bend.

In addition, a panel truck filled with clothing was donated to El Centro, a South Bend organization. Braye termed the game a success, saying "More importantly, I think the families would say it was a success."

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Answers to a Broken Promise

"I wonder if it would not be a good thing for the majority of freshmen not to return (to St. Mary's)?"

Sr. Alma Peter, C.S.C.

We wonder if it would not be a good thing for a majority of administrators not to return to St. Mary's. And perhaps a majority of Notre Dame Administrators, too. A collection of administrators, trustees and potentiates managed to botch a bright and promising merger and ruin academic careers of hundreds of St. Mary's students. Instead of the merger, the potentiates substituted a broad comedy at St. Mary's and a melodrama at Notre Dame.

Sr. Alma was the star of the farce. She, as expected, performed well in the role. Appropriately, the thing was staged in O'Laughlin Auditorium, which had just finished showing "the Cage." Sr. Alma, primly threatening to leave if the kiddies got too ram-bunctious, several times gathered up her skirts as a prelude to departure until she realized that the threatened departure wasn't particularly discommoding her audience.

Beyond her choreography, the Acting Head Nun said that the mopps "couldn't possibly understand" the financial problems involved in the merger because "I don't even understand them in their entirety"—hardly a fair standard; pretend that three letters the SMC publicity mill sent out promising a merger didn't exist; and replied, when asked what good her Monday Morning Quarterbacking on the original merger moves was doing the St. Mary's students, "What harm does it do?"

A little while later, over in Farley Hall, a real tearjerker was under way as Father Hesburgh played Gentleman and Human Being in refusing to reveal who was responsible for the disastrous collapse of the merger program. In a lecture filled with pitiful generalities, Fr. Hesburgh took time out to sniffle in stentorian tones that after all back in the old days when Notre Dame was so poor they didn't have anybody to darn the students' socks and who would want to hurt such a nice old order anyway.

The Observer hereby offers to darn any number of Notre Dame socks Fr. Hesburgh would care to specify in return for a controlling voice in the University's long-range policies.

So that was the essence of a tragi-comedy in two acts; the sock-darners messed up the merger. The question remains: What are we going to do about it?

**Boycott**

A solid, massive action will remind the Trustees and Administrators of both schools that we're thinking of 'em. It will keep the issue fresh—it'll show the necessary people that the Notre Dame-Saint Mary's student body is aware of the situation and isn't about to take it.

When Sr. Alma suggested that Freshmen leave St. Mary's she inadvertently indicated a form that action could take. One-day boycott of classes—at both institutions—would make the potentiates massively aware of the fact that the student body wants to add a third act to the dreary two-parter that took place last night.

**Pressure the Trustees**

There are two other courses of action we urge all SMC students to take and take quickly.

First—get on the phone to Western Union or go over to the office at the ND administration building and send a telegram to Sr. Olivette Whelan asking her to convene an emergency meeting of the SMC executive Committee of the Trustees. Several hundred such messages might get the good nun upset-upset enough to call the meeting on a week's notice.

Second—get on the phone to your parents today; tell them that a group of myopic, incompetent nuns are throwing away your chance for a Notre Dame degree. Ask them to send a telegram to Sr. Alma protesting the decision and telling her that they are not spending 3700 dollars a year to send you to an institution destined to become a third rate finishing school.

The latter action will inform the good sisters that if they persist in their obstructionist tactics they will be inviting an assault on St. Mary's Holy Grail—the dollar.

**Negative Recruitment**

But if the student body really wants to put the hurt on the nuns, St. Mary's student government ought to develop a negative recruitment program. The College's official propaganda mill sends lackeys out to tell what a great place St. Mary's is and will be (how it's going to merge with Notre Dame, etc.,); why can't representatives from student government to out and tell the real story?

That'll be a presentation destined to drive away any sane prospective St. Mary's student possessed of an IQ in triple figures. If St. Mary's is determined to become a finishing school for morons, they ought to get the job done and be damned.

Yes, the real story will do the job. For it's not a particularly good story. Not a particularly Christian story - full of broken promises. Just a disengenous and miserable and cheap story - a typical ND-SMC production.

**************************************************************************

**Staff**

Night Editor: Gene Slason

Lect. Soccer at Nike: T.C. Treasuir, Mike Baum, and (in a return engagement) Jim Donaldson, Joe Abell

Office Help: Corso, Ellis, Lutkus

Nite Controller: John Brady

1. enjoy your sleep, Maria?
College CROC plan underway—white knight may get the shaft.

College students across the country are being asked to support a movement to try to ridicule irritating and obnoxious television commercials off the air.

CROC was formed in September in Minneapolis, and now has more than 1,000 members from coast to coast. The organization hopes to improve the quality of television commercials by calling attention to the bad ones, at the same time recognizing some of those which CROC members feel are good.

Main activity of CROC will be a balloting by members in the spring to name the "11 Biggest CROCs" of the Year— the 11 worst TV commercials of the season. Croc award winners will be nationally publicized.

Membership in CROC costs $1.00, and all college student members get eight "Your Commercial is a CROC" protest cards to send to companies sponsoring bad commercials to let them know they may be heading for a CROC award; a membership card; a Let's Get CROCoed Together button, and a "Crock Revolutionarily Obscure Commercial" poster; plus the right to join in the spring voting.

To receive all CROC material and get on the spring ballot list, students sent $1.00 to College CROC, Box 1022 C, Minneapolis, Minn. 55440.

College students also are being asked to participate in a "CROC art" contest to create a new poster for the organization. The "CROC art" competition is open to any college student and has a first prize of $100.00 for the best poster capturing creatively and imaginatively the goals of the organization. Second prize is $50 and third prize, $25.

Judges for the "CROC art" contest will be Jay Belloli, assistant curator, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Mrs. Howard Kasewe, former lecturer at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and instructor of art history and culture at the University of Minnesota; and Evan Maurer, assistant to the director, The Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Posters should be done in black and white. Choice of media and size is open, however consideration should be given to possible photographic reproduction and use in a 17 x 22 inch size.

For his income tax the student should be sent to CROC art, Box 1022CA, Minneapolis, Minn. 55440, postmarked no later that Dec. 15, 1971 and arriving no later that Dec. 20, 1971. Winning entries become the property of CROC and other entries will not be returned unless accompanied by a postage paid self-addressed envelope. Decision of the judges is final. Winners will be notified by January 31, 1972.

russell baker

The tinkling fun skies

Washington—American Airlines is putting piano bars aboard its 747 jumbo jetliners. This gives it a momentum lead in the fierce competition among airlines to have the number one in sky fun, but the lead will not last long.

A competing airline is already flying tests with a 747 that has not only a piano bar, but also a zoo.

The reptiles, particularly the larger snakes, tend to wriggle free of their seat belts after the captain has put the seat-belt sign on, and consequently several have suffered bruised coils during rough landings.

On a test flight the other day, a crocodile that had escaped from the zoo turned up at the piano bar, inside the piano. Nobody would have known it was there if the piano player, who had had three martinis, had not made such a botch of "Down Among the Sheltering Palms," the crocodile's favorite song.

The crocodile's heckling cries inside the piano prompted a stewardess to lift the lid. Fortunately, U.S. sky marshals surrounded the piano immediately and seized the crocodile for questioning.

The airline industry will be watching closely if zoo flights succeed. Because they require a great deal of room, zoos would give the airlines an easy solution to the problem of filling up their 747's. Many airline executives, however, do not believe that Americans can be persuaded to go to the zoo any day except Sunday.

The social director of one of the nation's most amusing airlines believes that the typical air traveler wants something more sophisticated than zoos on Monday through Saturday flights. For this reason he has had his airline experimenting with safari flights. On these flights, the pilots of the airplane are turned into a jungle. Passengers who want more active fun than they can find at the piano bar stalk the animals.

No shooting is permitted, of course, because it would disturb passengers who are watching the movies. Instead, the hunters photograph their quarry with hand-held movie cameras.

There are many bugs to be worked out before this concept will be ready to be advertised. One day last week, for instance, there was an awkward scene aboard an experimental safari flight at 33,000 feet over Paducah.

The flight had been in the air an hour and a half, and everything seemed to be going happily. The "G" movie and the "R" movie were both under way. The nonsmokers had been successfully segregated from the smokers, who were halfway through their first packs.

Back at the piano bar, women of incredible desirability were striking photogenic bar poses with businessmen of irresistible expense accounts. The hunt had been under way in the jungle section ever since the captain had turned on the "Safari" sign. It was, in short, an idyl aloft until, just at the moment the people at the piano bar had decided to sing a third round of "Boola Boola," a panicked elephant burst out of the safari section closely pursed by a hunter with hand-held movie camera.

A business executive at the bar, assuming that he was about to be photographed singing "Boola Boola" at a piano bar with a woman not his wife by a detective in the employ of somebody in his company who wanted to ruin him, threw his drink at the hunter.

He missed and struck another drinker, a man who always became sullen and bellicose at piano bars because the piano players never knew his favorite songs. He announced that he would whip any man in the plane and throw a punch that landed on the passing elephant's kneepads.

The elephant, persuaded by the piano-bar singing that he was in the hands of Yale men who would have him stuffed for scholarly display if the plane was allowed to land at New Haven, charged through the "G" movie section, the "R" movie section, the smoking section, the nonsmoking section and into the cockpit.

The pilot, surmising that the elephant would kick the piano bar to splinters unless he was delivered to Burma, agreed to the beast's demand.

The passengers, none of whom had ever been to Burma, though it was the most exciting new concept in sky fun since macadamia nuts, but the airline's executives agree that it would be very hard to duplicate on four flights a day. Does anybody remember, "Coffee, tea, or milk?"
No consultation: SMC faculty members

A hidden wound festering for some time among faculty at St. Mary's College was brought Monday after Mother M. Oliviette Wilson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees called the attempted merger with Notre Dame a mistake and apologized at a faculty assembly.

The wound, according to the consensus of nearly 60 faculty members who remained in Carrol Hall after Mother Oliviette's statement, is caused by St. Mary policy makers who allegedly have no concern or need for faculty viewpoints or input.

The impromptu meeting, which lasted nearly an hour after Mother Oliviette and SMC President Sr. M. Alma Peter left, resulted when the Trustee chairman refused to answer questions in the interest of fairness to the audience. She urged the assembly to wait until after December 18 when the board will meet to specifically discuss the merger problems.

After the meeting, Mother Oliviette urged the faculty to have their Academic Affairs Council (AACC) present their views, goals and objectives for how they think the new school should be set up so that they could present them to the Trustees. She also urged consideration of potential candidates to guide SMC in "a new and promising era."

February first as usual. She also said before leaving that she foresees no drop in enrollment or quality of SMC students on the basis of applications.

As the administrators left Paul Messbarger, chairman of the Faculty assembly, took the podium hoping to read a personal, prepared statement to Mother Oliviette. However, disorder in the auditorium prevented him from doing so.

Order restored, Messbarger prefaced his statement by stating that a floor microphone had been requested, but was vetoed by Sr. Alma.

Calls for new administration.

In the prepared statement, which is expected to be published in the faculty mailboxes this morning for those who want to sign it in support of Messbarger, the English chairman says, that "no rational opinion can be made on the merger decision because there is no way to get all facts of the negotiations, and even if there were there is no way to establish their truth."

According to Messbarger, time for "radical change" has arrived including a new administration that can keep the confidence of the faculty and students, and be legally and corporately distinct from the order of Sisters of The Holy Cross.

Those who remained for the discussion agreed on several points in addition to agreeing that no trust can be placed on SMC power structure. Among the points are:

-Notre Dame is responsible to an undetermined degree, for the lack of communication surrounding the merger.

-Students and student body of both schools should hear the other side’s viewpoints.

-Only a strong, unified effort by SMC faculty and students with a high degree of publicity will help change the present decision making process at SMC.

Alumnae apologize.

One faculty member, Sr. Elana, who attended St. Mary's in 1975, says, said the basic philosophy has not changed and that the decision makers are "committed to one view of reality." She said it is maintained out of desire to control, particularly the lives of the students.

According to Sr. Elana, the school has a history of "traumatic events" because of the basic philosophy, "all things will pass," and "we will prevail." has remained.

Noting that she has sought and received "very direct answers" from high Notre Dame administration about the merger, Sr. Elana, as an alumna and faculty member, apologized in a choking voice for Mother Olivette's refusal to entertain any questions.

Washington. American Airlines is putting piano bars aboard its 747 jumbo jetliner.

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'Digger' debuts versus Michigan

by Vie Ther '74

Last spring, when Richard "Digger" Phelps was named as Notre Dame's new wrestling coach, everyone was pleased with the appointment, and everyone knew that he was the man to fill the void that Phelps had finally reached his "dream" of coaching at Notre Dame.

But now, on the eve of the 1971-72 collegiate basketball season, Phelps is faced with possibly the toughest 26-game schedule in the program's history, and he knows all too well that every team on that schedule will be trying to turn his traditional winning team into a losing one. "Well, this is going to be a try," the Michigan coach said tonight, the Michigan Wolverines will be trying.

The team that the Irish coach will send against the Wolverines tonight is short on size and experience. Phelps' starting lineup—the same one he used in last week's varsity-freshman game—will consist of five sophomores. Bob Vallitus (6-2, 175) and Tom Hansen (6-1, 170) will be the guards, while the trio of Tom O'Meara (6-6, 190), Gary Novak (6-7, 190), and Chris Stevens (6-6, 190) will make up the front line for the Fighting Irish.

When—and if—they need it, the starters will be helped by a fairly experienced season trio of freshmen. John Egar (5-11, 165), the only returning letterman, the team will fill in at either guard slot, while Jim Regelan (6-4, 195) and Don Silhavy (6-3, 183) will stand ready to relieve the starting forwards.

Phelps' efforts to revitalize the Irish basketball program suffered a pair of serious setbacks earlier in the year. First, captain-elect Doug Gemmel fractured his leg in a motorcycle accident, and was lost for the season. Then, little more than a month ago, 6-8 center John Shumate was stricken with thrombophlebitis, and he too was lost for the year. But now, with the addition of Willie and Mike Townsend to the team the Irish have achieved a good deal of strength, and will be able to field a competitive team.

"We're as ready as we're going to get," said Phelps, as he looked forward to the opener with the Wolverines. "We've been working our team and half weeks now, and the kids have pretty well learned our system. We're going to stress defense, and our defense will have to be our offense. But I know the kids are ready. They're just flying now. They want to play."

But the Wolverines' youthful squad "wants to play" against will provide the Irish with a stiff challenge, to say the least. Even without the services of 6-10 Ken Brady, who has been lost at least until January because of knee surgery, the Wolverines figure to be a potent bunch. They will be led offensively by big Henry Wilmore, who Phelps labeled as "one of the finest players in the country."

The Wolverines won't lack anything in the way of board strength, either. Egan is expected to take all of his free throws, because of his height.

"They (the Wolverines) are a professional team," admitted Digger. "They have great size, and good rebounding strength. They'll try to play inside, but they'll run on us if we get the chance. Defensively, they can play either man-for-man or zone."

"Yes," continued Phelps, "Brady will be out for our game, but they will still have five guys out there who are pretty good. They're a well-coached team, and an experienced team. And I think Johnny Orr has done a good job with their talent."

But while Michigan is experienced, Notre Dame is not. The Irish have been practicing for around-a-half, but their only game experience came last Monday, in a scrimmage against the freshman team. The varsity came out on top in that game, 62-32, but they did not appear overpowered. Still, Phelps was not discouraged.

"That was just one of those nights," said the Irish coach. "I mean, Tom O'Mara doesn't usually go one-for-eleven. We were getting the good shots, but the ball just wasn't dropping. And there were Michigan scouts there, so we weren't showing much of our offense, and we weren't showing much of our defense. The team that played in that one is not the same team that you'll see out there against Michigan."

"The kids know our system, and they believe in it," he repeated. "But we have to get them to execute. To get five guys to execute properly is the name of the game."

But despite his confidence in them, Phelps admitted that he still had some worries about his opener. "We've got confidence in ourselves," he said, "but we need the confidence of the students, too. The student body has to be behind him 100 percent. This season is going to be a test for the team, sure, but it's also going to be a test for the students. To me, a good home crowd is worth 15 points anytime."

"We may lose by 20 one night," he said, "but if we do, the students have got to be back out there pulling for us the next night. It won't be as easy as going out to cheer for Austin Carr."

"Tipoff for tonight's home opener will be at 8:00 pm, and the varsity contest will be preceded by a fresh game-also between ND and Michigan. The freshman game is scheduled to get underway at 5:45 pm.
Hesburgh breaks the news

Continued from page 1

female students would make the College of Arts and Letters nearly 50 percent female.

Major changes in the financial arrangements between the two schools were also revealed. Both institutions will now operate on a "pay as you go" basis under unified operations. This includes the co-ex class program, which will be coordinated.

Even though students will begin to pay tuitions directly to the college of university to which they were admitted, each school will charge the other an amount agreed upon rate for the co-ex credit hours. Hesburgh announced.

Continuation of administrative and academic unifications which have already been initiated will be evaluated individually by the administrations of both school based on recommendations of the inter-institutional teams. Four inter-institutional committees composed of representatives from the students, faculty and administration of both schools have been formed, and a steering committee was announced last May. Hesburgh praised the work of these teams as he announced the merger agreement.

"I have thought as a general principle that whatever can be done together, more economically than separately we ought to do so together," he added, noting that "Whatever can be done to provide a better education for men and women we ought to do. As far as we are concerned, we are completely open to many possibilities."

The question of ND degrees for present St Mary's students is not fully settled.

Any St. Mary's student currently enrolled in a program that leads to a degree available only at Notre Dame will participate through Notre Dame, Hesburgh released. "As far as Notre Dame degrees in other areas I think that's a matter for open discussion. As far as we're concerned, we're open to it but I don't know what St. Mary's would think about it because if haven't had a chance to talk with them. I do want to make it clear that we are amenable for qualified girls to get Notre Dame degrees and this is a matter for discussion with St Mary's," Hesburgh said.

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SMC students meet, list demands

The Saint Mary's Boycott steering committee met last night and drew up a rationale and list of goals and demands for action against the SMC Board of Trustees. The text of the statement, distributed to Notre Dame students early this morning, is printed on page one today. At the meeting, students and faculty members expressed their anger at the method of decision-making process, since the wishes of both were supposedly not consulted.

Faculty members were especially upset at the refusal of Acting College President Sr. Alma Peter, C.S.C., to answer questions at her meeting with faculty yesterday afternoon.

Freshmen at the meeting all favored merger as the goal of the protest, although Mary Ellen Stoltz, Scholastic co-editor and an organizing student, said that this was an unrealistic goal. Other students said that they could not support the merger in their education if there were a merger.

The steering committee met last night and drew up a rationale and list of goals and demands for action against the SMC Board of Trustees. The text of the statement, distributed to Notre Dame students early this morning, is printed on page one today.

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THE OBSERVER

Hesburgh in Farley Hall

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progress and we must preserve as many bridges as possible," he commented.

The President of the University said that Notre Dame is perfectly willing to give degrees to St. Mary's girls, but he cautioned by saying "It's not our decision."

Notre Dame will accept 125 women transfers next year, not necessarily from St. Mary's. They will go with the 125 fresh-

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Hesburgh noted that a dorm will be set aside for them on this campus, but he said that not a particular dorm has been chosen as yet.

When questioned about the finances, Hesburgh spoke of the cost of the co-exchange program. In the past years, he claimed, the co-ex program has come close to balancing. At least, he said, the imbalance was never too great. Next year, however, the two institutions will be making up the imbalance by paying each other off on an institution to institution basis.

The students in attendance pushed Hesburgh by claiming that tuitions would climb because of this, but the President claimed this would not be the result.

Students questioned the timing of the announcement. Hesburgh said that they hoped to have the faculty merged by December 1 and have them under one budget.

It became clear that this was not possible, so, Hesburgh explained, it was necessary to tell the faculty that the unification was not coming off. Hesburgh again emphasized that "We would merge tomorrow if all the details would be worked out, but we're stalemated. We have gone flat out for coeducation because this is what the students want and this is what we are trying to do."

A final question was forwarded by a student who claimed that St. Mary's would die in four years. Hesburgh answered that "That is a prediction. I don't know if it's true or not. Only time will tell."