The change in weather and improper dress (no hats, open coats) have helped to contribute to the recent outbreak of the flu. It already under the campus revealed similar conditions.

**Absenceism approaches 25%**

**Influenza epidemic grips campus**

by Mike Villani

An epidemic, according to Notre Dame biology professor Ralph E. Thompson, "occurs when a large number of a certain area's population are affected by a specific disease.

Such is the case on the Notre Dame campus where classroom attendance dropped 25% yesterday due to the existence of an irritating flu bug. Prof. Thompson, a pathologist, suspects this flu bug to be a new strain of influenza virus. The length of duration have yet to be found.

According to Dr. Robert Thompson, a pathologist, "we would be inaccurate to guess that this was the result of a recent recession and spread on campus with the students moving around and a change in weather. He recommends a moderately high fluid intake and to avoid contact with known sources, whether it be students and faculty or the flu bug itself.

When questioned as to the possibility of administering the flu vaccine in the student body, Dr. Thompson said "there would not be a sufficient time period to allow the immune system to take hold and would therefore result in an ineffective vaccine."

Thompson cited Holy Cross Hall as showing the earliest indication of the influenza bug. He praised the knowledge and that of local practitioners in the area who were among the original cases reported. However, such cases have yet to be confirmed by the university. We are currently in the midst of the flu season and faculty-student contact began with the new semester.

**Preparations continuing**

**Mardi Gras starts tomorrow**

by Mary Rukavina

Staff Reporter

Tomorrow marks the start of Mardi Gras, the traditional winter event for Notre Dame and St. Mary's. Mardi Gras will last until Sunday, Feb. 8.

Mardi Gras committee member Peggy Foran indicated some of the problems they’ve run into. "Mardi Gras has a spirit all its own; but with anything which involves preparation, problems do arise."

She continued, "Our biggest problem right now is getting enough time to do everything and getting enough manpower to do it."

Foran singled out senior John Healy as an example. "John's work has just begun," she said. "He is in charge of bookkeeping and once the carnival begins he will have his work cut out for him."

Another problem Foran cited was the rising costs they’ve had to contend with this year. She believes, however, that the key factor in the success of the event will be student participation, which we need and want.

One reason why student participation is so vital is that it is one of the two major purposes of the Mardi Gras. Foran noted. "This is one of the largest social events of the year where people can get out and have some fun and meet other people."

The other major purpose is to raise money for charity. "Last year we raised $22,000 for charity," she said. "This year we plan to raise $40,000."

Foran added, "This purpose is very important because last year the money and the raffle made it worthwhile as part of Mardi Gras."

"The raffle could have been a success."

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Peggy Foran indicated some of the changes for this year. "The raffle could have been a success."

This year, the cents of the Mardi Gras have been distributed to the students and staff. This was distributed to various charities, such as the World Hunger Coalition and the Neighborhood Study program.

Student Affairs Advisor Board, consisting of six student representatives is being formed "to formalize the communication we have with Student Affairs. A few of us do meet weekly with Bro. Just Pacheco. We want to formalize the meetings to make sure that the communication continues in the future," Byrne explained.

The board will consist of Tom Birsic, Student Union director, Byrne, Elton Johnson, Hall Presidents Council chairman, Cathy Grace, and Jerry Klingenberg. A sixth student representative has yet to be chosen.

A recommendation included in the COUL report concerned the formation of a Student Affairs Advisory Board. The new council includes five hall presidents: Pat Sheridan, Walsh; Dennis Sullivan, Grace; Mike Casey, Pangborn; Jack Hanzel, Zahm, and Donna Crowley, Byrne, Elton Johnson, Hall Presidents Council chairman, Cathy Grace, and Jerry Klingenberg. A sixth student representative has yet to be chosen.

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San Quentin Drama Workshop to present Endgame

By Ann Burnard
Staff Reporter

The San Quentin Drama Workshop, under the direction of Dick Cluche, will present Samuel Beckett's "Endgame" on Friday, Jan. 30, at 8 p.m., in O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's.

This production will be presented at the Royal Court Theatre in London to celebrate Beckett's seventieth birthday in April of this year. The play is billed at Beckett's apocalyptic vision of life in the aftermath of nuclear holocaust.

In "Endgame", there are but four characters - a blind man who cannot walk, his undersecretary who cannot sit, and the blind man's parents, who are nearly vegetables. They present an Embittered yet fascinating picture of life.

Cluche, who grew up in Chica-
gro's South Side, founded the San Quentin Drama Workshop as an inmate at the prison in 1975. A United States citizen, he says, "I don't want the federal government to perform any of his works without payment of royalty. The Workshop has played extensively throughout the United States and Europe, to wide critical acclaim. Tickets for students, faculty and staff are $2. General admission is $2.50. Additional ticket information may be obtained by calling the Programming Office at 284-4176.
Men mass murder mice

by Matt Kane
and Ken Bradford

MASS MURDER IN GRACE HALL!

Thirteen trapped, poisoned and suffocated in week-long spree.

The Rodents, which had invaded the dormitory in early January, were first spotted by Fr. Cosiano of room 1127, on Jan. 15, as a hunched-up carcass that seemed to be under Cosiano's bed. Other residents of the section were reluctant to believe Cosiano's story, but the resident assistant, Pat Desmond, was finally persuaded to buy some mouse traps. The carnage began on Sunday, Jan. 18.

Two mice died of neck wounds received in a mousetrap set in 1127. On that same day, another mouse ventured forth from beneath Cosiano's bed.

"It hid in some papers," Cosiano reported. "I wouldn't believe the way they can hide. So we (Cosiano and roommate Dan Hartigan) flushed it out and Jim Talamo grabbed his pillow and clubbed it to death.

Talamo won the nickname of "Great White Hunter" by bagging a total of three mice in the next week, tops in the section. The majority of the mice, however were killed by traps set in the ceilings at night. "They were so loud they woke me up one night," Cosiano said. "So I got up and put a trap up in the ceiling and 15 minutes later - snap! - unbelievable."

"But none of the section was so happy about the mouse hunt. Jim Twist of room 1120 said he thought the mice were carrying some sort of madness disease. "It seems to be a standing joke around here," Twist said, "But it could be serious."

Twist also complained that the hall rector, Fr. Robert Huneke, was not very responsive to the situation.

"Fr. Huneke said he was aware of the Grace mice slaughter until he was approached by an "Observer" reporter. Grace residents added that they had had no contact with any maintenance personnel concerning the incident.

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British mercenaries go to fighting Angola

LONDON (AP) - Dozens of tough looking British mercenaries, hired to fight in Angola, flew out of London for Africa on Wednesday.

They were bound via Brussels for Kinshasa, Zaire, which backs the MPLA. The U.S. Congress is blocking Ford administration efforts to support the FNLA.

The mercenaries were closely monitored and dodged photographers as they went through security checks and sat drinking tea awaiting their flights.

But some were quoted as saying they had been recruited by a firm called Security Advisory Services in Surrey, a county southwest of London, and were to be paid $300 a week, tax free, by the Zaire government.

Between 40 and 50 men departed on a first flight and about 100 others followed later Wednesday.

"This is a spearhead. There could be a lot more following," one of the many Scots in the group said before boarding the plane. He spoke with a report from Breachands, a news agency specializing in airport coverage.

It was the first reported movement of troops from Britain into the conflict, where South African mercenaries have backed one faction in the south. Some 10,000 Cuban soldiers are reported fighting for the MPLA. The U.S. Congress is blocking Ford administration efforts to support the FNLA.

The British government has remained officially neutral in the struggle, defying all foreign intervention.

The London Evening Standard identified the recruiters as Les Aspin, not to be confused with the Wisconsin congressman of the same name and Frank Perren. Another recruiter, named as ex-paratrooper John Banks, was reported to have taken off with the contingent.

Breachands quoted a 6-foot-6 former paratrooper in dark glasses, leather jacket and jeans who refused to give his name as saying: "We're in it for the money, nothing else."

"We've been told to keep our mouths shut. This is worth hundreds of pounds to me, and there's no way I can get that kind of money doing anything else."

"I found out about the job through a friend who had a friend who knew someone."

Breachands quoted the Scotsman as saying the men had been promised a month's paid leave after six months of fighting and an air ticket "to wherever in the world" at the end of their service.

The mercenaries were closely checked by Belgian state police before they left Brussels for Kinshasa as aboard a charted flight. A man who was wearing dark glasses and was not identified accompanied the group. He said: "These men are going to fight world communism. Since Americans don't want to do anything, some people have to. In a few weeks, I'll be back with pictures of Communist prisoners."

Banks said the men had been recruited by Maj. Norman Hall, an adviser to FNLA leader Holden Roberto, who had also recruited for the Irish Republican Army and was linked to Middle East arms traders. Banks said four other smaller groups of British mercenaries passed through Brussels earlier on their way to Angola.

Drama meeting cancelled today

A discussion meeting with the San Quentin Drama Workshop scheduled for today at 4:30 p.m. in the St. Mary's Little Theatre has been cancelled.

The Friday night performance of Endgames will go on as scheduled, at 8 p.m. in O'Laughlin Auditorium, the ND-SMC Drama Department announced yesterday.

Latest in men's hairstyling - the FREEDOM look!

About 700 players participate in the annual fibers Man bookstore basketball tournament. Another highlight is the famed Ben Har Clarinet Race, in which clarinetists race about the track in a death-defying race for fame.

Further information about An Tostal can be obtained from Quakenbush in room 407, Kansas Hall, or by calling him at 3365.

More Kmseven Photos!

SIGNUP IN DINING HALL
FROM 5:15 - 6:30 pm
OR
CALL 7085 or 7524
from 7pm - 9pm
A Wine 'n' Dine' program on the campus. Each week, a group of students dines with four to six faculty members on standard Texas courses accompanied by an equally good wine.

According to Time magazine, the liquor industry has also noted a need to promote responsible drinking. Time quoted Jack Hook, board chairman of the National Alcoholic Beverage Control Association, saying, "Planning of telling of plans to use "the unmatched power of education to convince every American, young and old, that responsible drinking is the only kind that anyone would tolerate.' LICENSED BEVERAGE INDUSTRIES, etc., the public representative of the distributors, notes $250,000 each year for a national advertising campaign that promotes responsible drinking. Time noted, "One ad urges, "Know when to say when;' and another encourages, "If you can stop drinking, don't start driving.'"

The atmosphere and environment in which students are raised are the places where people take their first drinks. 'This may be the most important one,' he added. The pressures to drink on the campuses, delegates noted, and, because of these pressures and the desire to belong and be accepted, a "responsible decision-making may not occur." Representatives from the University of Wisconsin at Madison pointed out the example of a student, they said, who was being initiated into a fraternity. His blood alcohol level (BAL) reached 0.4 percent during one of the initiation rites, which students from the University of Minnesota offered. A two-year associate degree training program which is structurized like a two-year program for registered nurses. In the program are offered 13 three-credit courses on drugs and alcohol. A recent survey indicates that there are 600 campuses where wine appreciation courses are offered for credit or through extension or continuing education programs. According to the Wine Institute, these courses promote drinking awareness because students recognize overconsumption in the industry. "To understand the history, traditions and technology of wine, it is necessary to devote some thought to the role wine has played in other cultures, to the alcohol content of wine and to the role wine in one's own life," Wine on Campus publicity of the Wine Institute points out. Administrators at the University of Northern Iowa have instituted a "What's the best way to enjoy a drink? ... Slowly"

First, the three average films. Todd Browning's Freaks was released five years ago, amidst a great deal of publicity generated by the fact that the film had been underdog for a virtual two years. Offended by the multitude of deformed physiques in the film (snake-like women, two-headed men, left-overs from Rugby pictures on TV, the censors let the film out ago, amidst a great deal of publicity that turns out, upon examination of the movie, to be a "freak show" rather than a "freak show." With a cast that includes such names as "Magnificent Ambersons" and "The Magnificent Ambersons," the film is an excelling screen tryst ever. "The exciting screen tryst ever," Jeanne Moreau's role in Truffaut's "A Man in the City: Confronting the American Dream" (in which the '76 group pays tribute to the great god bi centennial) stars, perhaps his greatest triumph of director Agnes Moming, it is the "Mann's finest movies, the title mean "I think you've seen it all, they bring to the stage," and Jon Voight as "Joel Buck.""

...the observer

"Exam tomorrow? Let's go drinking! A look at student alcoholism at ND"

Kathy Mills

One way to promote an attitude of responsibility in drinking, delegates said, is to provide alcohol education and awareness programs to all students. "I have just finished a course in alcoholism. Barnum called it "good films". If you haven't seen the "Magnificent Ambersons," it is worth your time."

Humphrey Bogart as a returning convict, it is titled "End Kids" (later the Bowery Boys). The film featured a whole class of social form dramas in the late Depression. Gregor Toliad did not change the character's role in the film, but he did change the final scene. "It was a good film." The film is an "excellent, 2 good, 3 average films"

Fred Graver

The people who meet when trying to rent an apartment are often the places where people take their first drinks. "This may be the most important one," he added. The pressures to drink on the campuses, delegates noted, and, because of these pressures and the desire to belong and be accepted, a "responsible decision-making may not occur." Representatives from the University of Wisconsin at Madison pointed out the example of a student, they said, who was being initiated into a fraternity. His blood alcohol level (BAL) reached 0.4 percent during one of the initiation rites, which students from the University of Minnesota offered. A two-year associate degree training program which is structured like a two-year program for registered nurses. In the program are offered 13 three-credit courses on drugs and alcohol. A recent survey indicates that there are 600 campuses where wine appreciation courses are offered for credit or through extension or continuing education programs. According to the Wine Institute, these courses promote drinking awareness because students recognize overconsumption in the industry. "To understand the history, traditions and technology of wine, it is necessary to devote some thought to the role wine has played in other cultures, to the alcohol content of wine and to the role wine in one's own life," Wine on Campus publicity of the Wine Institute points out. Administrators at the University of Northern Iowa have instituted a "What's the best way to enjoy a drink? ... Slowly"

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Government adds foliage to offices to cut costs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - The government says it's actually cutting costs by "office-landscaping," installing low-cost, aesthetically pleasing plants and trimming costs at the federal offices.

EIGHTY-SEVEN LARGE PLANTS, including eight potted palms, were installed last week in the sprawling offices of the Manpower Administration that occupy the ninth floor of the federal building here. Philip Lawlor, Manpower's deputy regional administrator, confirmed Wednesday Lawlor had a sound system soon to be installed throughout the floor.

The plants were made smaller simply by moving around the portable room dividers and plants.

"We're using this new concept developed for federal agencies so they can be expanded or made smaller simply by moving around the portable room dividers and plants.

"If talking about a little problem keeps it from becoming a bigger problem, call Hotline." 

The committee had agreed to a compromise with Ford in September after a confrontation over secrecy. The panel said it would not disclose any secret information whose disclosure Ford personally declared would be detrimental to the national security unless the committee went to court for authority to do so.

But Pike and the committee majority contended that no such agreement could dictate what the committee could say in its final, official report to the full House.

The action by the Rules Committee put to the full House the decision on whether the secret information could be publicly disclosed.

Earlier Wednesday, a CIA official who attended the meeting should call

"Here we are facing cuts in badly needed job training programs and they're spending $10,000 for plants," said one staff member, who asked that his name be disclosed. "Somebody's got their priorities mixed up."

The plants were supplied by

Courtney Borrecco, owner of the California Street Nursery, who said they cost $57 each, plus another $57 for each ceramic holding pot. Borrecco said he has a $1,100-a-year contract to take care of the plants.

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Controversy is ended
Ford gives Moynihan backing

WASHINGTON-U.N. Ambassador Daniel Moynihan received full public support yesterday from President Ford, who ended the full support of the State Department behind Moynihan after a new controversy arose involving Moynihan.

The ambassador, who was classified as Moynihan to the last week complaining that elements in the United States policy is being carried out by the U.S. mission to the United Nations.

"The President called me at midday to express his complete confidence in the manner in which United States policy is being carried out by the U.S. mission to the United Nations," Moynihan said in a statement.

At the White House, Press Secretary Ronald Reagan said Moynihan's complaints: "It is routine exercise in Washington bureaucracy that not everybody always agrees with what someone else is doing."

At the State Department, spokesman John Tratter read a statement to reporters which said "he had been approved by Kissinger, saying: "Newspapers must not ask themselves what their responsibility is when they consider public policy."

Late last year Moynihan all public charges against Moynihan in the United States. He has been "committed but candid" in his talks with Kissinger, Moynihan said yesterday.

The secretary and the President said they had full confidence in Moynihan. Moynihan made his intended to resign in protest and agreed to stay only after Ford and Kissinger publicly pledged their support for him.

Kissinger also said he was fully behind Moynihan, "who is doing an outstanding job in the United States." He spoke with the full support of the President and Secretary of the State and the Department of Commerce.

In New York, Moynihan said he had received Ford's go-ahead to continue "committed but candid" American participation in the United Nations.

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Irish win gang war against DePaul

by Ernest Torriero

They looked like the roughness, meanest bunch the city of Chicago could send. It was the Blue Demon gang, the vengeful group which controls the collegiate basketball underworld in the Windy City. They came to Indiana to make a hit on the proud, arrogant Irish. But somewhere the plan went jimmies and the men from the west were driven back to sleep with the fish in Lake Michigan.

"It's a very physical game," said a man named Digger whose mob had just buried the roughians from DePaul, 99-68.

"We were just beating a better team," conceded Ray Meyer, ring-leader of the Demon bunch and a man who has been unsuccessful ten out of eleven times in gaining revenge over the Irish clan to which he formerly belonged.

The leading hit man for the Irish once again was junior Adrian Dantley. The 6-5, 210 pound Washington import, hit for 31 points on a twelve of seventeen field goals and seven of eleven free throws. His performance earned him the West Scout Smith Award reserved for the most valuable performer in the Notre Dame-DePaul grudge match.

"Adrian Dantley seems to have a sixth sense for positioning himself for rebounds and drawing fouls," Meyer continued. "He's positioning himself for a rebound correctly before the guy makes up his mind to shoot.

For a while it appeared Notre Dame was going to have their hands full with unloaded guns. Front-liners Joe Ponsetto, Andy Pancratz and Dave Corzine matched the first three marks on the scoreboard and after a minute and a half of play, DePaul was up, 6-0. All through the first half, DePaul was relying on pivotman Corzine to generate the Demon offense. His dump passes, give and go's helped everyone except Dantley.

"We were just beaten by a better team," Phelps agreed. "Notre Dame plays a lot of defense and they really hate to use the foul." He was quick to point out that the Demon offense in the second half was just a ruse for the irish. Phelps explained, "Somebody came out and got that momentum would be the team that would win. We were fortunate enough to get that momentum." The key to the second half deluge was the play of Dave Batton on DePaul's Dave Corzine. Batton was to neutralize Corzine, forcing the

Dave Batton goes up against DePaul's Dave Corzine in Notre Dame's 89-68 victory over the Blue Demons last night. [Photo by Tony Chifari]

With the women's athletic program so new at Notre Dame, it's unusual to find a woman athlete who is completely dedicated to her sport. Yet Kathy Valdiserri is dedicated, and her sport is fencing.

Although only a sophomore, Kathy begins fencing her fourth year for Notre Dame and continues to rack up the honors.

Presently co-captain of the Notre Dame-St. Mary's women's fencing club, she took first place in the Great Lakes Tournament, while Kathy Valdiserri co-captains the women's fencing club. [Photo by Chris Smith]

Kathy Valdiserri co-captains the women's fencing club. [Photo by Chris Smith]

Kathy fences way to the top

by Eileen O'Grady

The all important victory over the Maryland "TERPS" begins Friday, at 6:30 in the ACC Pit. The featured speakers are: "Digger" Phelps, All-American, Adrian Dan­tleys, and Bill Pancratz. Help pacce the team and keep your winning streak alive.

IRISH ITEMS: Dantley demoted because of recent loses; Tom Hawkins to third on the all-time Notre Dame scoring list with 1,830 points; Phelps on top of the all-time ND-MSC fencing club, 50 points ahead of Carr who heads the list with 2560 points.

Pep rally set

The Maryland "TERPS" begins Friday, at 6:30 in the ACC Pit. The featured speakers are: "Digger" Phelps, All-American, Adrian Dan­tley, and Bill Pancratz. Help pacce the team and keep your winning streak alive.

Hence Batton puts in two of his sixteen points. [Photo by Tony Chifari]

Kathy Valdiserri marks the beginning of a new team against the Irish. She's a woman totally dedicated to women's fencing. I wish I didn't have to study; I could just fence all the time, she explains.

Kathy Valdiserri raves about the coaching of the fencing team. "Mr. DeCicco is a fantastic coach," she comments. "He makes us work hard for the results. Then he makes you do it again until you get it right." Her only complaint is that the women have to share DeCicco with the men's team.

For this reason and more she wishes that we won't have to compete in the Olympics which are played every four years. "We have a big desire to get onto the Olympic team. But not for the money. We just want to get onto the Games and be recognized as a varsity team."

Kathy attributes part of her inconsistencies at tournaments to her lack of experience. "I would have liked to have started fencing when I was eight," she said. "I would have had more experience beyond myself. You pick up so many things along the way. I would have been prized better for bigger tournaments."

She hopes to continue fencing after college through the Amateur Fencing League of America. The Olympics is not out of the question. With the women's fencing club.

Chris Smith