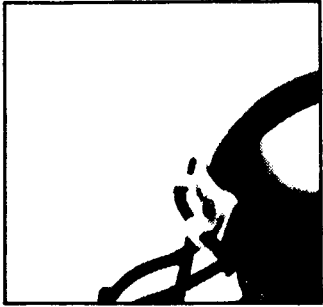


CAMPUS NEWS

World and National News In Brief

By Mike Oakes Wehrer, mrw5094@psu.edu

Sports legend
Madden retires at 73



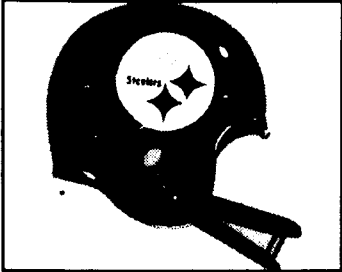
Longtime sports broadcaster and former coach John Madden has announced his retirement. Midway through his current six-year contract with NBC's "Sunday Night Football" program, Madden announced that he was retiring to spend time with his family, including five grandchildren. "I'm a grinder," he said on his Bay Area radio show. "You just grind and get through it and when it's all over, you think about it. You don't rush into any decisions."

Madden began his career as a linebacker coach for Oakland in 1967 and became the head coach in 1969. He led the Raiders to a Super Bowl victory and retired in 1979. He began broadcasting for CBS later that year. Madden was famous for many things, including his well-publicized fear of flying, his high-volume exuberance for the sport that he has been a part of since high school, and his best selling football video game franchise. NBC's Cris Collinsworth will take over for the 73-year-old, moving from the network's studio show. AP

Second anniversary of Virginia Tech Shootings

Thursday marks the second anniversary of the Virginia Tech shootings that killed 33 people, including the shooter,

Seung Hui-Cho. The event was the worst shooting in modern US history.

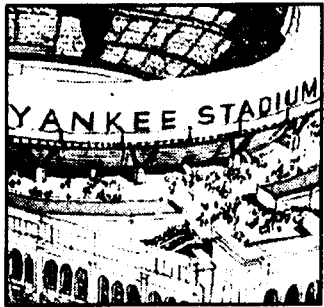


tory. Remembrance events included a 3.2 mile race and a balloon release. Some of the victim's families have declined to accept settlements from the university and have filed lawsuits just before the statute of limitations expired, claiming that the university did not do everything it could to stop the attacks. AP

Yankees open extravagant new stadium for home opener drubbing

The New York Yankees

opened their new stadium this week with a home loss to the Cleveland Indians 10-2. The game brought in a crowd of 48,271. The \$1.5 billion dollar stadium features such amenities as 2,500-calorie tub of popcorn for \$12 and rhinestone-encrusted hoodies for \$125. "I literally can't afford to keep warm at this game," fan Kelly Rutkowski said. "Can I just tell you, this is a sin. I'm freaking freezing, and there's no way I'm spending \$125 on a freaking sweatshirt, because that's how this country got into this mess." The park also features many unusual foods, such as three varieties each of



pears and apples, plus tangerines and bananas, all available at the farmers market near the Legends Suite Club. Yahoo

Garnett out for playoffs

The Boston Celtics will have to make do without Kevin "anything is possible" Garnett, who is out with an injury as the Celtics attempt to defend their NBA title. Garnett was undoubtedly one of the major factors in Boston's run to the finals last year, and his teammates say he will be sorely

missed. "It was heart-breaking to me to hear the news," said center Kendrick Perkins. "I was expecting to see him come out for the first game. I guess Leon [Powe], Baby [Glen Davis], Mikki [Moore] and myself are going to have to do our jobs a lot better. A whole lot better." Boston coach Doc Rivers had this to say about Garnett's injury: "I saw him run last week and he looked great. This time, he couldn't run at all. That told you it wasn't headed in the right direction. He'll still get treatment and they'll try to get him back as soon as they can. But common sense tells you it hasn't healed yet so it's not going to heal by itself." Yahoo

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 17	SATURDAY, APRIL 18	SUNDAY, APRIL 19	MONDAY, APRIL 20	TUESDAY, APRIL 21	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22	THURSDAY, APRIL 23
All-American Rejects Junker Center 8 p.m.	Auto Club Parking Lots Jordan Road Lot 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Open Swim Junker Center Swimming Pool 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Open Swim Junker Center Swimming Pool 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.	Open Swim Refer to Monday	Earth Day Event Reed Building 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Astronomy Open House Science Building Mehalso Observatory 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Open Swim Junker Center 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.	Open Swim Junker Center 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Protestant Campus Ministry Worship Smith Chapel 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Intramural Events Junker Center Gym 1 & 2 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	Where the Water Meets the Sky - Movie REED 117 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.	LEB Weekly Movie - The Unborn Reed 117 9 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.	Jazz Ensemble Concert Bruno's 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
					Open Swim Refer to Monday	

LEB Weekly Movie:
9 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Wednesday - Sunday

PAUL BLART MALL COP



Comm professor to retire after almost 40 years at Behrend

By Marcus Yeagley
head copy editor
mji5012@psu.edu

Cathy Sargent Mester was teaching people how to speak eloquently long before her current students spoke their first words. For 38 years she has taught public speaking classes at Behrend. But the day she changes her calendar to May, she will teach her last class. She's retiring. Mester joined Penn State Behrend in 1971. Since then, she has been the chair of her department twice (she is the current chair), taught hundreds of public speech classes, and been a cornerstone of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Ever since high school, Mester says she wanted to teach people how to speak in public. She attended Westminster College after graduation and then went to grad school at Penn State's University Park. "In high school I got an affinity for the spoken word," Mester says. "I planned to be a high school teacher, but a more exciting opportunity was at the college level." After a year temping in Minnesota, Mester was offered a place at the fledgling Penn State Behrend campus as a speech teacher. Getting started at a young college

She started at Behrend the year it started offering four-year degrees. And there were two reasons why she came to Erie. First, the nature of the campus attracted

"She gave me the inspiration that if I want to change something I just have to try."

Rob Helm
Senior

her. "I was struck by how beautiful [the campus] was," Mester says. The second reason was because the communications department was just beginning to bloom. "The chance to make a new program was exciting," says Mester, who personally saw the creation of the major she would twice chair in the future. Mester was told that her office was in the North Cottage, a small structure that used to be near the Turnbull building. Mester was directed to "North Cottage - Entrance." She says she did not know what that meant until she entered the building. A lone desk was next to the door. Mester spent her first two years at Behrend out in the lobby of North Cottage. Many visitors thought she was the secretary. After two years, a colleague moved out of an office there. It was then given to her. The new office was an improvement but it was also so small that she had to scuttle sideways like a crab to get behind her desk. As Behrend grew, so did the communications department. Twenty years ago the faculty moved to where the Health and Wellness center is now. Ten

unteering," she says. Eventually Mester stepped down, giving another faculty member a go. But five years ago she took up the job again. "She makes it look easy," says Rod Troester, the communications chair that preceded Mester who will also replace her next year. "I think she is a great leader without trying to be." Troester says that the department will miss her experience and presence. "If you ask a question and she doesn't know the answer, she knows who to call to find out," Troester says. "It's hard to replace that kind of experience."

Impacting students

Over the years, Mester has taught hundreds of speech classes. When she first started, she also taught other classes such as small group communication. But teaching students public speaking has been the core of her academic career. Mester has affected countless students, many of which heartily praise her. "She was my mentor," says Rob Helm, a senior majoring in communications. "I always went to her for academic advisement." Helm credits Mester with getting him into Penn State Behrend. When Helm first applied, he fell just short of the admissions standards. Mester recommended that he send a letter to the dean explaining how much Helm wanted to attend Behrend. It worked. Helm was accepted and he says he will graduate next semester. "She gave me the inspiration that if I want to change something I just have to try," Helm says. He also says that Mester has always been a warm and welcoming teacher. "She always has a positive attitude and will tell you what you are doing wrong, but also support you," Helm says.

A turning point

Mester's last class is on May 1. But her job is not done until June 30. Being the chair of the department demands the extra work. However, when her last day comes and goes and she is burdened with the demands of filling her free time, Mester says that she will miss many parts of the job. "I'm going to miss the contact with students," Mester says. "The minute I hit [a] class, I'm psyched. I'm ready to

She makes it look easy. I think she is a great leader without trying to be."

Rod Troester
Communications professor



Cathy Mester

go. It is a very energizing thing to be around young people." She says she will also miss the students she has met along the way. "If I sat back and thought about who I would remember, it would be a long list," Mester says. But Mester has a few plans. She says that she is going to take a train ride to British Columbia with her husband. Additionally, she says she will be able to catch up on some hobbies she has not had time to do lately. She wants to take more time to sew and do needlework. She has an acoustic guitar she wants to learn how to play. All of this adds up to a great change in her life. She plans on doing a lot of thinking during the summer to decide on how to spend her newly freed time. Mester says that is just part of the ride of life. "Through our lives we come to turning points," Mester says. And she isn't looking back.