

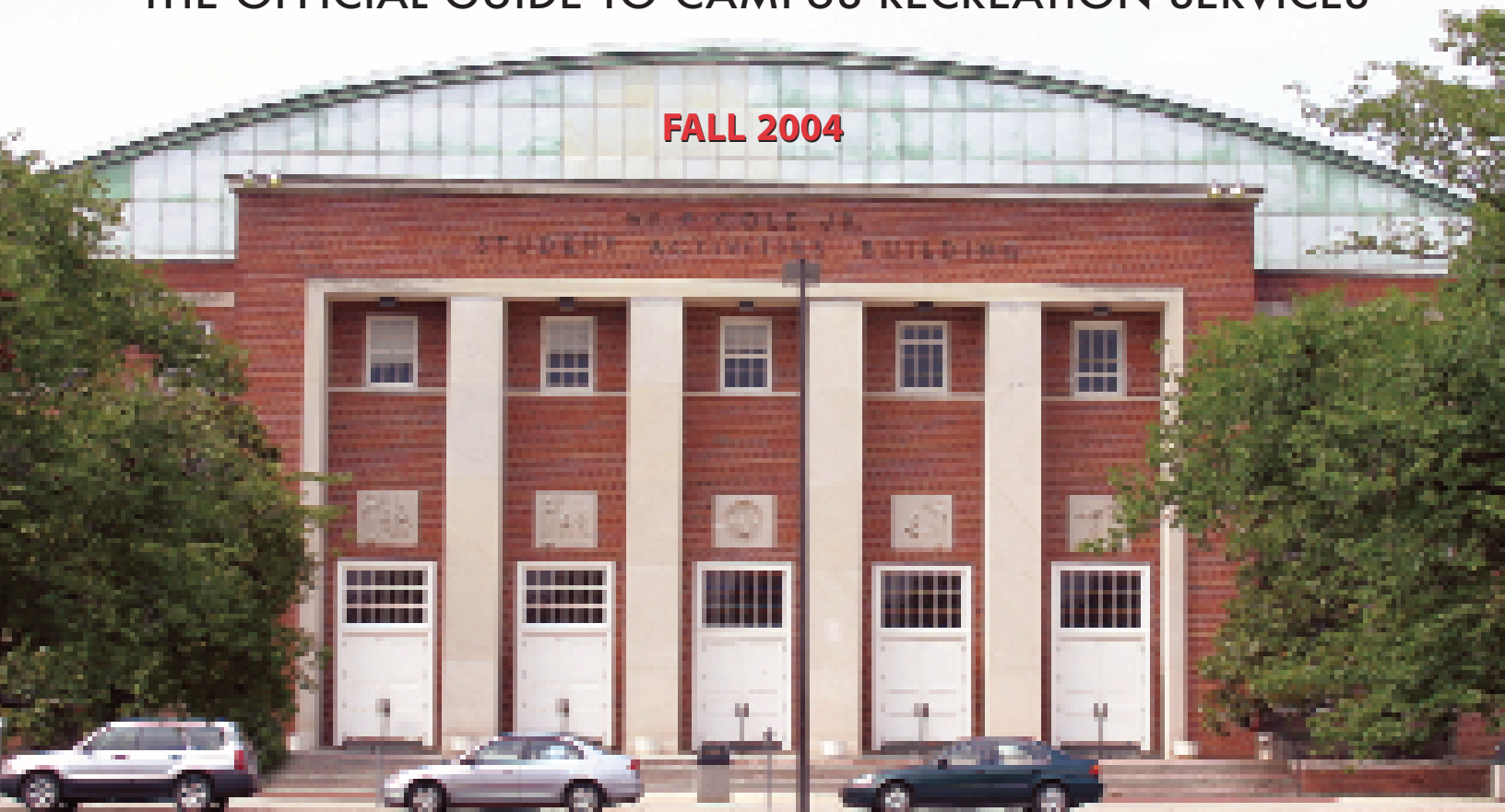
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UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK

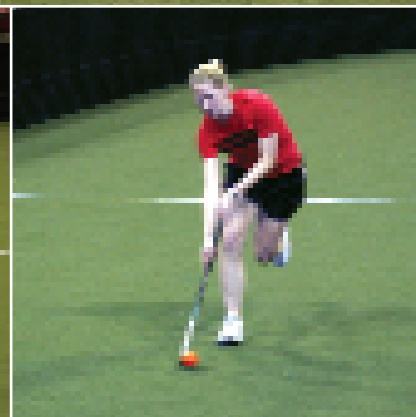
CAMPUS RECREATION

THE OFFICIAL GUIDE TO CAMPUS RECREATION SERVICES

FALL 2004



The Historic Cole Fieldhouse *A legacy renewed.*



University of Maryland, College Park

The Historic Cole Fieldhouse



Delivering a lasting experience while maintaining a positive relationship with the campus community: This is the cornerstone strategy that has held firm the legacy of Cole Fieldhouse at the University of Maryland for over half a century. When Cole Fieldhouse was completed in 1955, it was one of the largest arenas on the east coast. The facility replaced Ritchie Coliseum as the home to the Intercollegiate Athletic Department for the next 47 years. While Cole is best known for hosting Terrapin men's and

women's basketball, it has also supported varsity teams in wrestling, volleyball, swimming and diving, as well as housed the Athletics' administrative offices. During its rich athletic history, Cole played host to numerous NCAA Championships, including five Wrestling Championships and two Basketball Final Four Tournaments. Using a custom built track installed on the arena floor, Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) track meets were held for many years, attracting many of the premier runners in the world.

THE LEGACY

While thousands of Terrapin fans remember the excitement of Intercollegiate Athletic competition in Cole, others will remember commencement ceremonies, concerts, and respected guest speakers throughout the years. Many famous entertainers have performed at Cole, including; Elvis, Bob Hope, Aretha Franklin, Bill Cosby, Rod Stewart, James Taylor, Neil Diamond, James Brown, Chuck Berry, Tina Turner, Santana, Jose Feliciano, Bruce Springsteen, Simon and Garfunkel, Sammy Davis, Jr., Stevie Wonder and many others.

THE LEGACY RENEWED

In 2002, the Comcast Center was completed and Intercollegiate Athletics moved to their new home. Now managed by the Department of Campus Recreation Services under the Division of Student Affairs, Cole Fieldhouse has become a unique recreational facility for students. The arena floor, former site of many ACC and NCAA basketball games, has been converted into an artificial turf field. Students now have the opportunity to play informal and intramural indoor soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, and other sports. Club sports will now enjoy an indoor location for winter practices and competition. The university's Club Crew teams have a new practice room adjacent to the arena floor. Yoga, Pilates, and Meditation non-credit instructional courses are now held in Cole's new multipurpose room. In addition to new recreational opportunities, events such as commencements, student concerts, career fairs, History Day, Special Olympics, and various athletic camps will continue to be held in Cole. Many of the former Athletics offices have been renovated and are now home to a variety of academic units. The new Cole is now more than ever a true multi-purpose facility.



Above are some of the past celebrities that have performed in Cole over the last 50 years.



Curt Callahan, Facility Manager for Cole Fieldhouse

The Historic Cole Fieldhouse

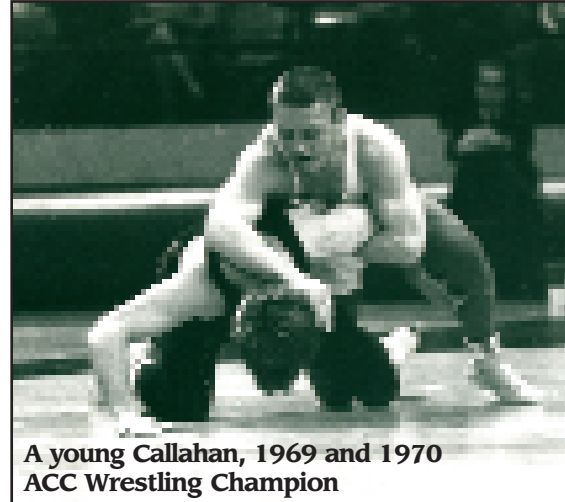
CALLING ON CALLAHAN

Curt Callahan is the Facility Manager of Cole. As an alumnus of the University, Callahan has almost 40 years of academic and professional history with Cole. In the late 1960's and early 70's, during Callahan's college years he practiced and competed in Cole as an ACC champion on the Maryland Wrestling Team. "For 26 years," comments Callahan, "I've had an office in Cole. First as a coach, then as the Facility director for Intercollegiate Athletics, now as the Facility Manager for Campus Recreation Services." When asked of his history with Cole, Callahan replied, "Counting my college years of practicing and competing in Cole on the wrestling team, I have 38 years of nearly continual association with the facility. Having been here for so much of Cole's history, I've developed a protectiveness and ownership of the facility."

As Facility Manager Callahan oversees the use of the new indoor artificial turf field and has some responsibility for the many new academic staff that now occupy offices in Cole. In addition, there is a growing effort to bring student concerts and other types of events to the arena and the management of these large public assembly events in Cole will take on increased importance this year.

STUDENT PERSONNEL: COLE'S GREATEST ASSETS

As with other CRS Facilities, Cole is staffed with, and maintained by, student personnel. There are approximately 30 students who work daily shifts. "Supervising the



**A young Callahan, 1969 and 1970
ACC Wrestling Champion**

student staff in Cole and managing the use of the new turf floor are a large part of my responsibilities," said Callahan when asked about his student staff. "With the opening of Cole as a recreational facility last February, I had my first opportunity to work with student staff. The experience was exceptionally rewarding and enjoyable. I found the students to be motivated and responsible. The concept of students supervising students is very effective and it is rewarding to watch them grow in confidence and maturity."

Student ideas and feedback have contributed tremendously towards the successful operation of Cole Fieldhouse.

With the continual expansion of the University of Maryland and all we offer to our community, it's always good to be aware of the wealth of new programs, facilities and support personnel that surround us on campus. As we acknowledge the legacy of the historic Cole Fieldhouse, we realize that it is much more than a building. It is an *EXPERIENCE!* We invite all CRS members to experience Cole this semester.



**2004 Maryland State High School
National Wrestling Championship**

