

"I want all the kids to do what I do, to look up to me. I want all the kids to copulate me."

Andre Dawson, former Chicago Cubs outfielder, on being a role model

■ In my opinion



BRIAN SMITH
LEFTY SPECIALIST

Outfielder Beltran not worth Mets' big payday

If I was a hot dog vendor in Shea Stadium, I'd be asking for a raise right now.

A flat salary of \$100,000. Nothing more, nothing less.

After all, the New York Mets have taken the rubber band off their checkbook and bought a pen with multiple ink refills.

Anybody and anyone who works for the Mets could get a million dollars right now.

Ask Carlos Beltran and the \$130 million (\$11 million in signing bonuses) the Mets have just guaranteed him for the next seven years.

I don't know what the Mets are doing.

Normally, when the sports world talks about uncontrolled spending and free agents in baseball, they are talking about the OTHER team from New York.

So, did George Steinbrenner suddenly have an attack of consciousness?

Seriously, what is an extra \$17 million a year in addition to the \$205 million that is already slated for the Yankees in 2005?

What's up, George? Feeling a little pinched in the pocketbook?

Does anybody else find this odd? The Yankees not willing to pay a player an ungodly amount of money to play baseball.

I find this extremely interesting.

I think the Yankees know something.

I think they know Carlos Beltran is not worth \$119 million.

I think they know Carlos Beltran is an unproven filly in the stable of \$100 million horses.

What will follow is the only positive thing I will ever say on the Yankees' behalf: You did the right thing.

The Mets just paid an extra \$40-or-so million for a great two-week run by Beltran during last year's playoffs.

Sorry Mets, the joke's on you.

I know what the Mets are trying to do. They are trying to become the mirror of the New York Yankees — and rightly so — but I think they are looking at it from more of an entertainment standpoint. A revenue generator.

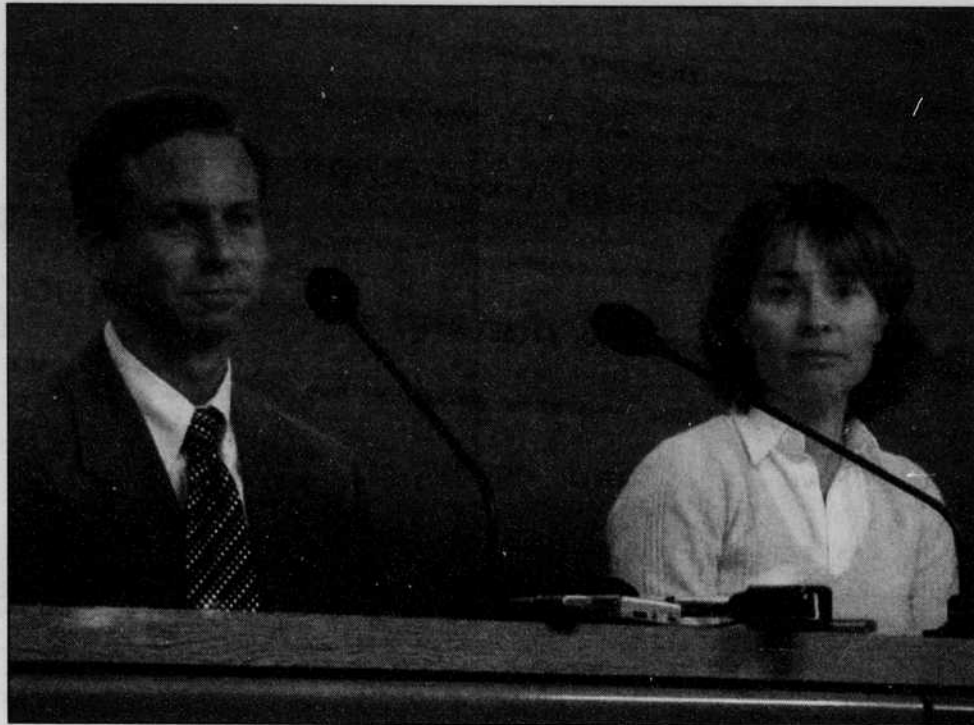
After all, when you are launching your own cable network, you better field a team that's more interesting to watch than Anna Benson sitting in the stands eating a hot dog.

In terms of baseball ability, Beltran is a five-tool player. I can't take that away from him. He hits with power, drives in runs, plays a great center field and steals a lot of bases.

However, only twice has Beltran hit over .300 for the season. Last year, he hit .267. Give me three seasons of .300 and above and I will give you \$100 million.

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■ Duck volleyball



GEOFF THURNER | OREGON MEDIA SERVICES

After being announced as Oregon's new women's volleyball coach, Jim Moore, along side Senior Associate Athletic Director Renee Baumgartner, addresses the media at the Len Casanova Center on Monday.

Oregon announces new head volleyball coach

Jim Moore steps in just more than a month after former head coach Carl Ferreira stepped down

BY STEPHEN MILLER
SPORTS REPORTER

Who will be Oregon's next volleyball coach? The question has been answered.

Oregon Athletic Director Bill Moos announced Jim Moore as the new head coach for the Oregon women's volleyball program during a press conference at the Len Casanova Center on Monday.

Moore takes the helm of a Duck squad that finished 10-19 overall and 1-17 in the Pacific-10 Conference in 2004.

"Jim has a tremendous reputation for rebuilding programs across the country for a number of institutions," Moos said. "It reinforces my feeling that Oregon has become a destination and not a stepping stone and that is how Jim looks at it as well."

The 16-year collegiate head coach comes from Northern Michigan, a team he returned to in 2003 after coaching the Wildcats from 1989-94. He has headed programs at Kansas State (1994-96), Texas (1996-2000) and Chico State (2000-02).

"I've been at different places and I wanted that to stop," 46-year-old Moore said. "I wanted to come to some place that I could stay. To have the opportunity to step into a program that can be at the absolute top level in this country and to give me that opportunity, I am honored and humbled."

"I wanted to go to a place that I could win it all."

The search for a new coach began immediately after former head coach Carl Ferreira resigned on Dec. 7, 2004. Ferreira joined the Ducks in 2000 and finished his tenure at Oregon with a 43-104 overall record. His teams were held to a 4-86 record in Pac-10 play.

Moore's collegiate record is 352-156 and in his seven seasons with Northern Michigan, he finished 173-63. In 1993, he led the Division II Wildcats to a 38-1 record and a national championship. Moore's 2004 squad finished 24-7 and reached the NCAA Elite Eight, while his 2003 team went 26-1 after finishing .500 the previous year.

"I'm very pleased with how the search

turned out," said Renee Baumgartner, Oregon's senior associate athletic director, who led the hunt for a new head coach. "Bill and I wanted a head coach that had experience at rebuilding programs."

Baumgartner said that Moore agrees with Oregon's principles relating to the development of successful student athletes in an enjoyable environment.

"In a few years it's going to be great to see how our volleyball program has turned around," she said.

Moore has yet to meet the team he has inherited and could not evaluate its talent and potential. He said the key to rebuilding a program is by recruiting heavily.

"We're going to have to get after it," he said. "We need to first take the players that are here, get them to believe in themselves, get them to play hard, get them to play with heart and passion."

Moore said that adapting the existing players to a new system will not be hard, so recruiting will be his immediate emphasis. He said he will look at uncommitted high school and junior college players, which may become a global search.

"I'd like to look at going foreign and getting players that can play here right away," Moore said. "I'll look anywhere."

Moore said he was attracted to the competitiveness of the Pac-10 and expects to use that as a selling point to recruits.

"That's how you get players here," Moore said. "Kids want to come play in this conference. It's a great conference — it's always been a great conference."

Moore has two player scholarships available and two assistant coaching positions that he hopes to fill soon.

"I really believe we're going to have the best staff, perhaps, in the country," he said.

One assistant coach on his side will be his wife Stacy Metro, who he said will volunteer her expertise. As a former Northern Michigan player, Metro was a three-time All-American and two-time Player of the Year for Division II volleyball.

Moore comes into Oregon's program with 13 letter winners and four starters on the team's roster.

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■ Club Sports

Club sailing places 17th at regatta, stays rosy

Oregon's Sailing Club gained valuable experience at the two-day Rose Bowl Regatta

BY BEAU EASTES
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

Facing off against the best collegiate sailing teams in the country at the Rose Bowl Regatta last weekend, the Oregon Sailing Club brought home the experience-of competing at the elite level, if nothing else.

"It was intense," said George Yioulos, Club coordinator and skipper of Oregon's "B" boat.

The Ducks finished the two-day regatta with 395 points, good for 17th place out of 24 teams. Yioulos and Rob Dubuc, the "A" team skipper, led their boats ahead of local rival Portland State (18th) and California schools UCLA (22), UC Santa Cruz (21) and San Jose State (24). Southern California, the meet host, won with 85 points.

The Ducks struggled against the topflight field in nasty conditions.

"We did OK," Dubuc said about the team's performance at the regatta held at the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club in Long Beach, Calif. "The competition was very, very good. You make one little mistake and you lose five to 10 boats."

"We found ourselves on the cusp of the second bubble," Yioulos said, referring to the divide in the different levels of competition.

Despite placing in the lower division, the Ducks were upbeat about their experience at the "Super Bowl of regattas."

"It was tons of fun," Yioulos said.

"Unbelievable," Dubuc added about the two-day event. "The best learning experience."

The two skippers also used the meet as a recruiting tool. With approximately 50 high school teams competing in their own regatta, the Oregon captains were able to make a pitch for their program to some of the best secondary school sailors on the West Coast.

"It was good to get our name out there for in the future," said Dubuc, who will be taking over the coordinator duties for Yioulos next year.

The regatta, officially the last meet of the 2004 fall season, also served as a measuring stick for Oregon against chief rival Washington. The Huskies compete in the Northwest division of the Intercollegiate Sailing Association along with the Ducks, annually winning the NWCSA and clinching the division's only bid to the national regatta in the spring.

"We're starting to knock on their heels," Dubuc said. Washington finished 13th, four spots ahead of Oregon, with 278 points.

"This year we absolutely have a chance to make nationals," he added.

The elder Yioulos was a bit more cautious.

"UW picks it up when the chips are on the line," Yioulos said. "It's the goal (beating Washington), but we'd have to sail our 'A' game."

Not overlooking other NWCSA division

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