



STAFF PHOTOS BY SCOTT ROBERSON/  
sroberson@thejournalnet.com

Top: Party guests eat at Tim and Beth Clark's home in Franklin before the Super Bowl starts Sunday. Right: Angela Jewell of Indianapolis, left, and Kelley Jundt of Franklin prepare for a pre-game toast at the Clark's home. Above: The Clarks' black Lab, Sadie, got into the spirit of the game with a Colts bandana.



## REPORTERS' NOTEBOOKS

Daily Journal staff report

### Theme park

Franklin resident John Auld and his 12 friends arrived at Dolphin Stadium four hours before kickoff.

The group avoided a daunting search for parking spots and didn't expect to have trouble filling the hours until Super Bowl XLI began.

Like many attendees, they hoped to try out the NFL Experience, an interactive theme park that features autograph sessions with players and chats with professional coaches. Attendees could test their passing and punting skills against simulations of the pros.

The attraction drew a crowd, despite rain and mist.

The theme park is set up next to Dolphin Stadium, and the admission fee was waived on game day. Auld marveled at the size of the television screen at the entrance, 50 feet wide and 140 feet high.

### Best seat in the house

Franklin resident Andrew Cummins went to a private concert, a speedboat race and a Colts cocktail party during the days leading up to the Super Bowl. On Sunday afternoon, he was ready to enjoy the game from Colts owner Jim Irsay's family suite.

He's grateful to occupy one of the best seats in the house. Cummins' uncle, Forrest Lucas, owns the oil company that bought the naming rights to the new Colts stadium, Lucas Oil Stadium.

Beyond taking in the game from a luxury sky box, Cummins attended soirees throughout the week, including a John Mellencamp performance at a private party Irsay threw.

He hobnobbed with business

leaders, Gov. Mitch Daniels and Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson. He dined on filet mignon and grouper. He took in a speedboat race and went to Colts-sponsored banquets and cocktail parties.

Many of the social functions took place on the beach, with perfect weather, Cummins said.

Cummins saw many retired players during the week, including Hall of Fame Dolphins quarterback Dan Marino.

"There's not been a dull moment," he said.

After the game, Cummins planned to meet the Colts players at a private celebration.

His father, Larry Cummins, partook of many of the festivities but planned to watch the game on television from the Sheraton Hotel in Fort Lauderdale. He offered his son his ticket.

"He deserves the father-of-the-year," he said. "This is unbelievable, like winning the lottery."

### Decorated to the nines

Franklin resident Tim Clark usually decorates for his Super Bowl party with some commemorative Super Bowl napkins.

But Clark is a committed Indianapolis fan who keeps a Colts shrine in his home.

He went all out with the decorations this year, even dressing his two black Labradors in Colts bandanas. Paper Colts helmets stretch up and across the banister, numbered through the entire starting offense and defense. A Colts blanket drapes over a couch, and banners hang throughout the house.

Clark, a season ticket-holder, saw the Colts rally to defeat the Patriots at the RCA Dome. He knew immediately he'd need special decorations this year.

By Saturday, some of the deco-

rations he wanted were already sold out at area stores.

All the effort was worth it, Clark said. He expected 25 guests, but that many had already arrived two hours before kickoff. More were on the way.

### Shape of the cake

A Franklin resident baked a cake in the shape of the Vince Lombardi trophy awarded to the NFL champions for a party Sunday.

The process took Vicki Ellis three hours. To get the blue-and-white frosting just so, she had to place it in the freezer three times before she finished.

Ellis had to cut it free-hand to get the distinctive shape. Her past free-hand cake designs included a tractor and a dump truck for children's birthday parties.

She decided on apple-sauce spice with walnuts for the Super Bowl. She baked that for her birthday this month, eliciting rave reviews.

### Seat of the action

A Greenwood resident credits his lucky bar stool for the Colts' success this season.

Matt Bean started watching the Colts at Damon's Grill in the Center Grove area this season, attracted by the luxury of a television at his table at the bar. He discovered that the Colts won every time he plopped down on the lucky seat.

With so much raving on the Super Bowl, he arrived at Damon's about 3 p.m. Sunday.

He's generally preferred to catch Colts games at bars, citing the camaraderie.

"This bar is crowded without being overcrowded," said Bean, focusing intently on the screen.

Damon's was only about half-full an hour before kickoff Sunday, which is rare for game days, manager Matt Lyon said.

Fans arrived late to the AFC Championship Game and again showed up just before kickoff Sunday.

All the regulars were there, including Greenwood resident Omar Palieoro, who was working on a side of potato wedges and a wheat beer. Palieoro has watched every Colts game this season from the bar at Damon's.

He's never seen such a wash of blue — jerseys, shirts and jackets — on a Sunday before.

"It's good to see people show their support," he said. "This means a lot to this town."

### The other Manning

What's in a name? Ask Brad Manning.

During football season, Manning wears his name on his back, sporting the jersey of quarterback Peyton Manning while hunched over the bar at Damon's Grill to cheer for the Colts.

Manning has backed the Colts through all the losing seasons and playoff disappointments.

He's glad to see a certain quarterback finally play in the big game.

"Peyton deserves more due than they give him," he said. "This will finally shut all the critics up."

He doesn't envy every game at the bar, but he wanted to share in the championship celebration with other fans.

Manning had planned to go downtown after the game. A few beers changed his mind.

"It'll probably be too crowded," he said. "This has been a long time coming, and everyone's ecstatic."



MORWICK IN MIAMI

# The big, rainy day in Miami finally arrives

MIAMI

Super Bowl Sunday is finally here, and wouldn't you know it? It's the worst day of the week, by far.

## WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

South Beach party revelers (which didn't include yours truly) awoke to fog, rain, mist, high humidity and no breeze. That can't be good for a hangover.

If TV pundits are to be believed, the gloomy weather isn't good for the Colts, either.

By 9 a.m., assorted talking heads on local Miami newstations were already proclaiming what might be a wet, sloppy grass field at Dolphin Stadium a distinct advantage for the Bears.

Hmm. After a week of dry, sunny, cloudless days throughout south Florida, is the morning gray really a bad omen for the Colts? Is it a ray of hope for the underdog Bears?

What will Peyton & Co. do if it's raining at game time, which this morning's forecast indicates is a distinct possibility?

Should they concede defeat now and acknowledge it was simply nice to be here?

No so fast. Rumor has it that Dolphin Stadium's high-tech drainage system can absorb 3 inches of rain like a drop on a sponge.

Experts down here (the folks on TV) say the field would literally be dry in minutes following a 3-inch deluge.

So things probably aren't as bad as they seem.

Moreover, the Colts have overcome worse adversity than the weather to get to this point.

Rain won't beat them. The Bears might, but the weather won't.

### Party on

Apart from the weather, the big story Sunday morning was Saturday evening's star-studded bashes in and around South Beach.

Celebrities including Shaquille O'Neal, J. Lo., T.O., Fergie, Playboy Playmates, Gloria Estefan and who knows who else hosted or headlined parties at mansions, beachfronts and nightspots throughout the Miami area.

Festivities started early, for young and old alike.

Stretch limos, buses, shuttles and Corvettes started lining up early Saturday evening in front the Hyatt in downtown Miami to transport the rich and famous — or in many cases, just the rich — to hotspots around town.

Even Andy Rooney (looking every bit of his 80-plus years) of "60 Minutes" fame hitched a limo ride somewhere from outside the hotel.

Being half his age, I felt somewhat ashamed cashing it in myself around 10 p.m. Saturday night (yes, I really am that boring). But unlike those who were — or are — here to party like it's 2009, I couldn't afford to pay the price today.

I've got a rather big game to cover this evening, and it doesn't even kick off for another 6½ hours. In a rare moment of sound

reasoning, it made more sense to rest up than burn out. Don't think I wasn't tempted, though.

After taking in the scene, it made me realize why the game starts so late. It has nothing to do with the West Coast TV audience.

It's to give everyone who makes the trip ample time to sleep off the mai tais and rum runners so they can start all over this afternoon and maybe even see some of the game.

### Move 'em out

The first caravan of media buses departed for Dolphin Stadium promptly at 1:30 p.m.

Greyhounds packed with reporters covered the distance from Miami Beach to the stadium in a surprisingly short 30 minutes. It usually takes about 45.

The euphoria was short-lived, however, when we saw traffic backed way, way up on the exit ramp that spills into the stadium parking lot.

From that point, it took a full hour for my bus to reach its destination and finally unload its restless human cargo.

After that, more lines. Besides removing all personal metal objects and walking, one person at a time, through airport-style metal detectors, all reporters had to place their bags in a collective pile, where each was given the once-over a few times by bomb-sniffing dogs.

The procedure was time-consuming but reassuring. They are taking security quite seriously, as evidenced by the number of federal Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents helping out with media security.

Gates opened to the public at 2 p.m., and fans wasted no time pouring in (note above traffic jam for proof).

Fans began lining up at souvenir stands up to four hours before kickoff. Blue-jerseyed Colts fans exchanged high-fives and greetings when they encountered strangers in similar Peyton Manning and Marvin Harrison attire.

As of 4:15 p.m., skies are overcast and a light breeze has picked up, foreboding indicators it might not be a dry kickoff.

But from the looks of happy faces on fans strolling in and around the stadium, nothing is going to dampen enthusiasm.

That is, until one of the teams loses.

### Game time

Are you ready for some football?

Me, too. Kickoff is about 50 minutes away, and I'm finally in my seat — and if you'd like to trade vantage points, consider this as you sit in front of your TV in your dry, warm house.

It's sprinkling here, and it's supposed to get worse as kickoff nears.

The usher handed me a clear plastic poncho, just in case.

But rain or no, it's still a super atmosphere for Super Bowl XLI. The stadium is almost full, and nothing, it seems, will rain on this parade.

Stay dry, stay warm, stay tuned — and enjoy the game. I can't believe it's here. Finally.

## DAILY JOURNAL READERS' GUIDE

**MAIN PHONE NUMBER**  
736-7101  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

**ADDRESS**  
2575 N. Morton St. (U.S. 31)  
P.O. Box 699  
Franklin, IN 46131

**DELIVERY, BILLING QUESTIONS**  
736-2777; (888) 736-7101  
6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday,  
7 a.m. to noon Saturday.  
Subscribers should call if they have  
not received a newspaper by 7 a.m.

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**  
736-2700; (888) 736-7101  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday  
Fax: 736-2754

**STORY IDEAS, NEWS TIPS**  
736-2712  
After 5 p.m.: 736-2723  
Fax: 736-2766  
newstips@thejournalnet.com

**SPORTS**  
Send sports scores, stories and  
suggestions to:  
rmorwick@thejournalnet.com

**ADVERTISING**  
736-2786  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday  
Fax: 736-2713

**POSTMASTER**  
Send address changes to:  
Daily Journal, P.O. Box 699,  
Franklin, IN 46131  
Periodical Class Postage  
Paid at Franklin, IN  
Daily Journal (USPS 565-520)

**VOLUME**  
Volume 44, No. 173

**BACK ISSUES, DIGITAL PHOTOS**  
Copies of the Daily Journal are  
available for six months. Digital  
files of photos published in the  
newspaper are available on CDs.  
Please call 736-7101.

**COPYRIGHT**  
© The Daily Journal, 2007  
All rights reserved.

**ABOUT THE DAILY JOURNAL**  
The Daily Journal is an award-winning  
newspaper published daily  
except Sundays and Christmas at  
2575 N. Morton St., Franklin, IN  
46131.

Founded in 1963, the Daily Journal  
is owned by Home News  
Enterprises L.L.C. and is one of  
Indiana's most widely recognized  
and honored community newspapers.

The Daily Journal is committed to  
responsible reporting, professional  
business practices and dedicated  
community service.

The newspaper is a member of the  
Associated Press, Hoosier State  
Press Association, Inland Press  
Association and Certified Audit of  
Circulations.

**TO SUBSCRIBE**  
Subscription rates are listed below.  
To subscribe, call 736-2777.

**Single copy**  
Monday-Friday \$ .50  
Weekend issue \$ 1.00

**Home delivery**  
Month \$10.40  
Year \$118.80

**Mail delivery**  
4 months \$49.00  
8 months \$98.00  
12 months \$147.00

**Student**  
1 semester \$47.00  
2 semesters \$96.00

**Military**  
4 months \$42.00  
8 months \$80.00  
12 months \$113.00

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**  
P.O. Box 699  
Franklin, IN 46131  
letters@thejournalnet.com

**MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**Publisher**  
Jeffrey W. Owen 736-2744  
jowen@thejournalnet.com

**Editor**  
Scarlett Syse 736-2749  
syse@thejournalnet.com

**Assistant managing editor**  
Michele Holtkamp-Frye 736-2774  
mholtkamp@thejournalnet.com

**Assistant managing editor**  
Jennifer L. Gaskin 736-2721  
jgaskin@thejournalnet.com

**Circulation director**  
Mike Warren 736-2711  
mwarren@thejournalnet.com

**Delivery manager**  
Bruce Powell 736-2702  
bpowell@thejournalnet.com

**Advertising director**  
Christina Cosner 736-2750  
ccosner@thejournalnet.com

**Administrative manager**  
Linda Wirey 736-2751  
lwirey@thejournalnet.com

**Information technology manager**  
Kathy McDermott 736-2782  
kmcdermott@thejournalnet.com

**PAYMENTS**  
Payments can be made by cash,  
check, MasterCard or Visa. Readers  
also can sign up for E-Z Pay plan and  
have their monthly subscriptions  
deducted automatically from their  
checking accounts, Visa or  
MasterCard. Direct questions about  
payments to 736-7101.

**WEB SITES**  
www.thejournalnet.com  
www.djclassifieds.com