The number of Black students who enrolled in UD's 1989-90 freshman class increased by 40 percent over last year's figure to 4.5 percent.

Of the 78 incoming Black freshmen, more than half ranked in the top 20 percent of their high school classes, and three-quarters finished in the top half. Over one-third of the entering Black students are majoring in engineering, engineering technology or science.

Of the 7,404 undergraduates enrolled throughout the University, 262 students are black.

Faculty:
Blacks comprise 1.7 percent of UD's faculty, or seven of 418 full-time members. Three Black professors joined the College of Arts and Sciences in 1989-90:

- **Julius Amin**, a native of Cameroon who recently completed his Ph.D. at Texas Tech University, teaches African, African-American and 20th-century U.S. history;
- **James Daraja**, a candidate for a Ph.D. at Brown University, is a visiting professor of philosophy who teaches contemporary philosophy and introductory courses; and
- **Eric Watts**, an instructor in the communication department, earned a master's degree from the University of Cincinnati and teaches communication in organizations, speech and business interviewing.

Alumni:
Since 1925, when the first Black student graduated from the University, 1,867 Blacks have joined the ranks of UD alumni. Not until the Class of 1947, however, were there more than 10 Black students in any graduating class. The Class of 1978 boasts the largest number of Black graduates — 148.

Dayton is home to 750 Black alumni, with another 53 Black grads living in Springfield.

Equal opportunity to achieve the American dream cannot exist in an environment permeated with bigotry, stereotypes and ignorance.

That's one reason the new group RACE was founded at UD.

“At this point there's no other group here to facilitate communication between Black and white students. RACE allows that in a safe environment,” said senior Tricia Waddell, program director of Racial Awareness: A Cooperative Effort.

Based on a similar program at the University of Cincinnati, RACE is a group of 24 UD students, including an even number of males and females and an even number of Blacks and whites, one Hispanic and one Hawaiian.

The students sign a contract to participate in eight three-hour sessions on Sunday nights and two weekend retreats. The members will share thoughts and feelings and examine behaviors regarding racial issues.

One of the group's objectives is to increase racial sensitivity among its members.

“We asked how the students had dealt with racial issues before, whether they had gotten involved in a racial incident on their floor or confronted their friends about a racist joke. We also looked for students in leadership positions, people who can take information from the group and influence their friends,” said Waddell.
COMMUNICATION WITH BLACK ALUMNI

The University of Dayton is developing a plan for attracting, enrolling and retaining a greater number of Black students and is "calling on Black alumni to help the University move forward," according to Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., UD president.

"This is a major strategic issue for the University of Dayton, and we've made significant progress with our freshman enrollment numbers," said Fitz. "What we want to do is make this an institutionalized change, not a one-shot focus.

"To do that, we need to really focus on and use the resources of our Black alumni."

What can alumni do to help? Fitz outlines four key areas: encourage college-bound Black high school students to consider UD; network with UD students, offering them career advice and help in landing internships and professional jobs; help UD build its scholarship fund for Black students; and communication such as the Black Alumni Chronicle makes good being Black in a predominantly white institution is "tough," Fitz concedes. "I don't want to paint the picture," says Regis Lekan, UD's director of alumni and parent relations.

"As our academicians are working on Western civilization and writing techniques, we're working on those skills that are going to make our students successful in the professional arena," she said.

"We have input into the University's dream. We are honored to have the position to implement it," Moore said.

"We provide the platform for young people to learn about themselves and others — so that we graduate people who are not only well informed but also competent and compassionate."

Having a distinctive form of communication such as the Black Alumni Chronicle makes good sense," says Regis Lekan, UD's director of alumni and parent relations.

"The UD experience remains an inextricable part of the lives of all the University's alumni. For Black undergraduates, however, that experience is doubly unique; they undergo one of life's most intense periods, and they do so as members of a distinct minority group."

The Black undergraduate experience develops a dual sort of bonding, between the individual and the University and between the individual and others who have shared the experience.

"The Black Alumni Chronicle," Lekan says, "will serve a significant role in maintaining that bond both among Black alumni and between Black alumni and the University."

The newsletter, Lekan says, is part of a continuum for the University. "Recent years have seen Blacks becoming substantially more involved in alumni activities. Black alumni are more aware of the University. And, I believe, the University is becoming more attuned to what constitutes the experience of a Black student."

Debra Moore's business is building leaders. "You can aspire to professional goals, but you also have a commitment to your culture and community," the director of UD's Office of Minority Student Affairs believes.

That's a message she and her colleagues emphasize as they work with minority students to instill leadership skills and provide support to enhance their academic success.

Ask Moore what success looks like, and she'll tell you about a young man who had a speech problem and was uncomfortable talking one-on-one or in groups. That was before he worked for six weeks with Sheila Ramsey, the Dayton actress and director who has coached UD students.

"That young man built confidence. He went on to give a recruitment presentation for NASA and now has the lead in a church play," Moore reports.

Moore, who became director of the Office of Minority Student Affairs in 1987, is eager to tell Black alumni about the changes she sees occurring at the University.

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UD's Young Scholars Program, designed for fifth, sixth and seventh graders from Dayton public schools, gives students a chance to explore a variety of different fields in Saturday morning academic enrichment sessions.

The program is sponsored by UD's Office of Minority Student Affairs and the Dayton Public School system.

The monthly sessions are held on campus, and UD faculty members introduce the students to subjects such as creative writing, computer science, business, courtroom law, engineering, drama, and radio and television communications.

One reason for the success of the Young Scholars Program is the hands-on activities designed for each session. Students conduct cross examinations and deliberate as a jury for the law session, design and construct mousetrap-powered vehicles in the engineering session, and assume characters and don costumes for the drama session.

"The students are challenged by the topics presented by the Young Scholars Program," said Timothy Spraggins, one of the program's coordinators. "But the challenge is fun and rewarding, as education should be."
Clark and sophomore Angie Lovett are co-editors of *The Black Perspective*, a newsletter published on campus about once a month.

The newsletter "serves as a sounding board for the Black community. We highlight things you don't see in the Flyer News," the student newspaper on campus.

"Our highlight is usually an article on Black history or Black culture. We also have the Freshman Corner, letters to the editor, book reviews and record reviews. Sometimes we'll have recipes, poems or crossword puzzles.

"Angie and I were columnists for the Freshman Corner last year. The two girls in charge decided they didn't want it anymore, so they kind of gave it to us," said Clark.

Other colleges have expressed an interest in starting a paper like *The Black Perspective*. I'm not too sure how many have gotten one going.

"Everything is done on a volunteer basis," said Clark. "We're open to the whole campus."

"BATU provides an atmosphere of unity on the university campus for a small number of students so you don't feel you are lost," Frazier said.

However, Frazier said "lost" is something she seldom feels on campus. "The atmosphere is very open. You're welcome with open arms throughout the whole university. It's a family-like atmosphere," Frazier said.

Frazier is also active in Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., a nationally recognized public service sorority. She serves as vice president of the newly formed hospital informational management service system.

That group explores the service side of industrial engineering in the hospital area. It is the only one in the Midwest.

After graduation, Frazier said she hopes to pursue her Master's degree in business administration.

"I just got involved in the Greek system last year," said Russell Toney. But this year he's president of the Black Greek Council on campus.

"Last year there were lots of problems and arguments within the council. People were down on the idea of Black Greek Council. But I think a big reason for the revival of interest this year is that all of us in the Greek system now were friends before we came in."

"We regulate the Black Greek organizations on campus, solve conflicts among members and promote unity among Greek fraternities and sororities on campus," said Toney, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

"We also sponsor activities, parties and service projects. As an example, a few weeks before the end of last semester we went to St. Vincent's..."
Hotel and served food to the homeless. That's something we do pretty often. We also visited a nursery school. We brought crayons and paints and just entertained the kids.”

Besides being president of Black Greek Council, Toney is a resident assistant in the Garden Apartments and a member of the RA advisory council for residence life and serves on a Student Government Association advisory council.

Toney was a summer intern for Procter and Gamble and plans to work in chemical engineering.

Lashea Smith
Major: International Studies
Hometown: Dayton, Ohio
Year: Junior

“It’s an outlet from my everyday studies,” says junior Lashea Smith, who has sung soprano in UD’s Gospel Choir since her freshman year. “I like the spiritual aspect and the fellowship with other students.”

The Gospel Choir performed its annual Winter Songfest this year under a new director, Leroi Hall, who is very enthusiastic about the program. The choir’s purpose is to provide a musical and spiritual channel for the general student body by conducting a spectator-participant workshop through gospel and choral music.

A Dayton native, Smith says she likes UD because of the challenge and because of her major. She wants to pursue a career in foreign service once she graduates from UD. As a participant in the Department of Languages’ summer program, Smith hopes to travel to Paris to intern next summer.

Smith is a member of the University’s Model United Nations Club, which has won national awards for three consecutive years. She also works for the city of Dayton at the Innerwest Priority Board, which handles citizen complaints and neighborhood affairs. Smith is currently working on a marketing project for housing for the Board.

Willie Billingsley
Major: Industrial Engineering Technology
Hometown: Dayton, Ohio
Year: Senior

“We are a professional organization attempting to do more for the UD community and the Dayton area,” said Willie Billingsley, president of the National Society of Black Engineers.

As part of their community outreach, members of the group have initiated a tutorial partnership with schools in the Dayton area. “We go out and help the students with their science and math problems,” said Billingsley. “We are also encouraging them to stay in school.”

Events for the group include fund raising to attend the national conference of engineers. Members also participate in UD’s Engineers Week, which includes an open house, contests among the engineering students and promotions of the different departments of engineering.

Billingsley said that “although most of the members are minority students, there are no boundaries on membership. We are basically interested in continuing our outreach and benefitting the UD and Dayton communities.”
MINORITY SCHOLARSHIPS

The University of Dayton is providing a growing number of incentives for Black students to enroll at UD. This year, UD offered 73 full- and partial-tuition scholarships to incoming Black students—twice as many as the year before.

In all, UD is investing nearly half a million dollars to attract and retain Black students over a four-year period.

For scholarship information and applications, contact: Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, University of Dayton, 300 College Park, Dayton, Ohio 45469-0001, (513) 229-4311.

URBAN SUMMER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The University of Dayton is encouraging Black high school students to consider teaching as a career at a time when the percentage of minorities in the teaching force is expected to drop by half by the year 2000.

The School of Education will offer its third annual Urban Summer Education Program, a free two-week "orientation" for 40 Dayton-area Black high school students interested in becoming teachers, from June 17-29. The students will live in residence halls and attend classes in such areas as computer literacy, creative writing, poetry, mathematics, science, Black history and Black literature.

Application deadline is March 16. For details, contact Thomas Mateyński at (513) 229-3724, or write to "Urban Summer Education Program," 326 Chaminade Hall, University of Dayton, Dayton Ohio 45469.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black culture and experience will take center stage at the University of Dayton during February, as UD joins the rest of the nation in celebrating Black History Month.

"It is most important for UD to celebrate Black history, and not just during the month of February," said Kathleen Henderson of the Office of Minority Student Affairs. "There should be an ongoing sharing of Black culture and experience. But the events are important because they expose the majority population on this campus to a culture that, by chance, they may never have been exposed to. Hopefully, it leads to a greater understanding of people of different colors."

Henderson said the attention drawn to the Office of Minority Student Affairs during February makes the services it offers more accessible to all students. "There is a perception that Minority Student Affairs is only for Black students," she said. "My feeling is that Black History Month programs are for white people on campus, and the events are expressly open for the entire University community."

Events during February have been planned by the Black History Month Planning Committee, which is composed of approximately 30 members representing the entire University community.

For more information on any of the events, consult the calendar on page 8 or contact UD's Office of Minority Student Affairs at (513) 229-3634.
The Office of Alumni and Parent Relations is compiling a list of where graduates of the dual-degree program have gone. Please send information about yourself to Regis Lekan, Office of Alumni and Parent Relations, 405 St. Mary's, Dayton, OH 45469.

Tony Peasant graduated with a degree in math from Wilberforce University on a Friday in 1982. Two days later he graduated from the University of Dayton with a degree in engineering. “It was a nice weekend,” Peasant said.

Peasant was one of four students that year to complete the dual degree program. Students in the program finish three years at Wilberforce and then come to the University of Dayton. If there are problems and the students do not want to stay, they return to Wilberforce for the remaining year. If all goes well, they stay at UD for the next two years. This enables them to graduate with two degrees.

“It’s a feeling of accomplishment when you do get two degrees in a period of five years. I feel good about that,” Peasant said.

Peasant partly credits his successful transition from the predominately Black Wilberforce to the predominately white UD to a feeling of involvement. “The key is getting involved in activities, goings-on on campus. It helps the adjustment.”

Peasant played intramural sports at UD, and he’s still very proud of the fact that his basketball and baseball teams won the championship two years in a row. “I still have the T-shirts to prove it,” he said.

Peasant still finds time outside of his job at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to play in UD’s alumni league. When he’s not on the court, he’s an electronics and avionics engineer. Peasant’s work has taken him to Spain, Germany, Norway, Turkey and Egypt as well as other countries.

Peasant said keeping his goals in mind helped him finish the dual-degree program. “I would encourage anyone thinking about the program to give it a try. I think they’ll be surprised.”

Don’t give Lisa Payne ’84 any hype. She’ll always replace the “y” with an “o.”

Lisa Payne

“There are some hypemongers who say today’s youths have no future. As far as I’m concerned a lot of that is hype. Before us, we have youths who say I’m going to be different,” said Payne to 17 Dayton-area youths honored at the first annual C.J. McLin Achievement Awards Ceremony in Dayton in October. Payne, founder and network director of the New York-based NIA: A Minority Women’s Professional Network, Inc., gave the keynote address at the event, which recognized youths—white and Black—who have overcome adversity and “beat the odds” in their lives.

“You represent the youths of America who say, ‘I want more than getting high,’” Payne said. “Keep striving for the top and after you get there, you can say to them, ‘Well, how do you like me now?’ I personally am counting on you. I want you to be the model for other youths out there.”

United Youth Group Homes Inc. sponsored the awards ceremony. As a public administration major at UD, Payne and members of Black Action Through Unity helped renovate the first United Youth Group Home. The organization serves girls aged 12-18 who are referred by Montgomery County Children’s Services or the juvenile justice system. Payne is a member of the board of directors.

“One thing I’ve learned is that you have to help, to reach and bring people with you,” said Payne, who also has conducted career workshops for the Girls Club, the Catholic archdiocese and the Adolescent Vocational Exploration Program—all in New York where she resides and works as director of public affairs for the Bronx Museum of the Arts.

Her parting advice to today’s youths? “You can’t have faith without action. Don’t sit in your living room with your faith. Get up and put it to action—and make that change.”
# Events Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 10</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Evening Program</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception Chapel</td>
<td>Speaker: Father George Clements</td>
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<td>Candlelight Procession and Reception at Torch Lounge</td>
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<td>March 10</td>
<td>Law Day</td>
<td>Albert Emanuel Hall</td>
<td>Speaker: Reverend Samuel Proctor</td>
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<td>Kennedy Union Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast</td>
<td>Kennedy Union Ballroom</td>
<td>Speaker: Reverend Samuel Proctor</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td>Financial Aid Presentation</td>
<td>Kennedy Union Ballroom</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>Minority Student Affairs presents &quot;One Woman Show&quot;</td>
<td>Kennedy Union Ballroom</td>
<td>Reception immediately following</td>
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<td>February 8</td>
<td>ABC News Commentator</td>
<td>Kennedy Union Ballroom</td>
<td>Carol Simpson</td>
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<td>March 30</td>
<td>shades of Black Culture</td>
<td>Kennedy Union Ballroom</td>
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<td>February 23</td>
<td>Happy Hour</td>
<td>Kennedy Union Pub</td>
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<td>March 10</td>
<td>Career Fair</td>
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