**BREAK OUT of the bubble**

**Beyond campus: Welcome Fest offers free food, transportation and entertainment**

RANIA SHAKKOUR
A&E Editor

Take a night out on the town this weekend, UD students.

Welcome Fest is taking over downtown Dayton on Saturday evening with free giveaways, a cornhole tournament, karaoke, live entertainment and food.

Welcome Fest is the kickoff event for Dayton Campus Connect, a new program launched by Downtown Dayton Partnership aimed to engage students in the area from the first day they arrive on campus. DDP, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the metropolitan area, is leading this new initiative.

“Welcome Fest is a great opportunity to see all that downtown has to offer and to meet students from other universities,” Laura Lehman, UD senior and marketing intern for DDP, said. “Everyone enjoys free stuff and there will be plenty of it there.”

The alcohol-free event, exclusively for college students, is free with your college ID. Greater Dayton RTA will offer free transportation for all students from 3 p.m. to midnight with college ID, so stay for the after party in the Oregon Arts District and enjoy other downtown nightlife.

“We want to give students an opportunity to get involved with Dayton while they are still in college,” Laura Woeste, director of marketing and communications for DDP, said. “We hope students who come to this event will see what downtown Dayton is like and consider coming back throughout the school year.”

Dayton Campus Connect has more up their sleeves than Welcome Fest. Last week the program launched the new Web site, www.daytoncampusconnect.com, which provides information about where to play, eat, live and work in Dayton. A list of area internships will be posted within the month.

“Research shows that more than 60 percent of college-educated 24- to 35-year-olds choose place first, so the new economic development strategy is not just about attracting businesses — it’s about creating a community that attracts young professionals,” Downtown Dayton Partnership President Sandra Gudorf said in a recent press release. “Dayton Campus Connect will familiarize students with the area’s many amenities, so they’ll consider Dayton as a place to launch their careers.”

The program plans to hold events about once a month throughout the school year exclusively for area college students, such as an ice skating party at RiverScape and a special event held during a spring Dayton Dragons game.

“In the long-term this is more of an economic strategy for Dayton,” Woeste said. “When students are seniors in college, we want them to think about staying in Dayton by making connections and networking here.”

**How to go:**
WHAT: Welcome Fest
WHEN: 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13
WHERE: Courthouse Square in downtown Dayton
RTA: Free transportation from 3 p.m. to midnight with college ID
MORE INFO: www.daytoncampusconnect.com

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAYTON CAMPUS CONNECT
Left: Two students enjoy a festival held downtown, similar to this weekend’s Welcome Fest. There will be karaoke, a cornhole tournament and after-party in the Oregon District.
campus watch

SEPT. 9
TUESDAY
Catholic, not Confirmed?
Confirmation classes start tonight for anyone Catholic but not confirmed. Contact Father Jerry Chinchar at x92725 for more information.

Coffee Hour
Learn about the Chaminade University of Honolulu’s exchange program with UD from the experience of a winter 2008 participant. It’s in Alumni Hall room 16, 3 to 4 p.m.

SEPT. 10
FRIDAY
Payday
Look for those blue envelopes, they’re your ticket to groceries for the next two weeks.

SEPT. 11
THURSDAY
Fall Staff Meeting
Join coworkers in the Kennedy Union Ballroom at 3 p.m. to discuss campus events and hear speakers including Dr. Dan Curran, Dr. Joe Saliba, Tom Burkhardt and Rev. Chris Wittmann S.M.

More to Life
Last day to sign up for the More to Life retreat, Oct. 3-5. Pick up applications from Campus Ministry or contact Allison Leigh at x94813.

Boone continuing students’ staple collection

Married and a proud mother of one, Anne Marie Boone has kept a very interesting trend going for years at the University of Dayton.

UD has an old work order system where many people staple the work orders before they go to the next person. About 13 years ago, a student who worked in Facilities Management Operations alongside Boone began collecting the staples removed from the work orders.

Inadvertently saving part of many people and their contributions, the student kept the collection going, having many other students also play a role in collecting them. The staples started out in a paper clip box, then a shoe box, and now, a big wooden box. After the students left or graduated from The UD, the collection was so big and meaningful, Boone – who had been working at UD for nearly 30 years at the time – took over the collection and continued to add to it.

She still adds to it today. Boone has contacted Guinness World Records to submit the collection of staples. She signed forms and e-mailed them to Guinness and is still waiting to hear back from them again. Boone wanted to submit the collection after all these years because she realized how big the collection was getting and stated, “It is rare that anybody else had a staple collection.”

These staples are not only just a collection for Boone, they are fond memories from UD. Knowing the people who contributed to the collection, now gone from UD, plays a major role in the significance of her collection and the prolonging of the collection. It brought tears to Boone’s eyes in remembrance of the many people she knew from the past who helped to make such a collection.

Staples may not seem like valuable objects, but the memories that this unique collection represents are priceless.

The following incidents were reported to the Department of Public Safety between Aug. 31 and Sept. 1. This log was compiled by Flyer News from actual police reports obtained from the Department of Public Safety.

Crime Log

Criminal Damaging
Aug. 31, 12:27 p.m.
On Aug. 24 at 3:00 a.m. Officer Weber was dispatched to Stonemill Road on the report of a theft. The officer spoke with two UD students that were hosting a party at their residential property. A Tangent laptop was removed from one bedroom and a Gateway laptop and a wallet containing a Day-Air credit card were missing from another bedroom. Officer Weber observed that there were about 300 to 400 people at the property.

Maintenance Calls
Sept. 1, 1:19 p.m.
Officer Barber was dispatched to a UD owned house on Kiefaber. Upon arrival, a UD student stated that on Aug. 31, he noticed his locked basement door had been kicked open. Officer Barber further inspected the basement and noticed there was sewage seeping from the sewer main, a large amount of standing water and black mold growing on the floor and walls.

Go to www.flyernews.com to read about eBay fraud and a burglary in process.
Pull up a chair, join in: porches play host to two campus clubs

KIM BALIO
Staff Writer

Students who are experiencing leisure reading withdrawal may want to consider joining Porch Reads, a sophomore book club that meets five times a year.

The group was started to "promote leisure reading among college students," Will Soto, Sotoes Library graduate assistant, said. "While reading is an essential part of undergraduate courses, few students read for pleasure."

Sophomores are the basis for the group, but juniors and seniors are welcome to return and help to co-facilitate discussions and host the sessions. The focus is on sophomores because they are "lost in the mix as they find themselves sandwiched between the novelty of being first-years and its intensive programming and third and fourth years who benefit from upper level classes and career preparation," Soto said.

Students receive a free book and attend a book discussion. The first book this year is Christopher Buckley’s Roombasy, a "satire on the issue of social security surrounding a major presidential election," Soto said. "We find this title to be appropriate as many of our readers find themselves voting in their first major presidential election."

The first discussion is Oct. 15 from 6 to 9 p.m. Each session lasts about an hour: Students will be served free food and drinks and sophomores can win a $50 bookstore voucher.

More information will be sent in an e-mail to all sophomore students.

As the new semester begins, P.O.R.C.H is ready to welcome new and returning students and faculty into their small faith communities.

P.O.R.C.H., which stands for "People Of Respect, Compassion and Hope, meets regularly to discuss current events in members' lives, share prayer and reflect on their faith. Some of the groups have a specific focus for the week, such as Post Treatment or JustFaith, which "explores responding in faith to social justice issues," Allison Leigh, campus minister for retreats and faith communities, said. Most often, members of the group decide the topic on a weekly basis.

P.O.R.C.H received its official title five years ago, Leigh said. Since then, the groups have "expanded to include things like leaders' retreats, resources, and larger gatherings for everyone participating in a small group."

People at all places in their faith are invited to participate. The sessions take place anywhere on campus, from the residence halls to student houses and Liberty Hall. P.O.R.C.H also has social events, retreats and other activities.

To join a group, contact Leigh in Campus Ministry at x3413, speak with the campus minister in your residence hall or get in touch with a group leader.

Campus Ministry Plunges

MARISSA MALSON
Staff Writer

The Campus Ministry and the Center for Social Concern will host their first Plunge of the school year Sept. 12-14 and focus on immigration.

According to Clare Stockbine, a graduate assistant for the Center for Social Concern, a Plunge is "a weekend immersion into the realities and problems facing our community today."

"It allows students [to gain] a better understanding of these issues in a spiritual and social justice light while comprehending how to relate to these issues on three levels: as a UD community, as a city of Dayton community, and as a first-world country in our global community," Stockbine said.

There are three types of Plunges.

At the Urban Plunge, students focus on a specific topic such as immigration. The Rural Plunge is held in mid-Ohio and students meet farmers to learn about their challenges. It takes place Sept. 19 to 21. The last Plunge is the Appalachia Plunge. Participants travel to Salyersville, KY Sept. 26 to 28 to learn about issues people face living in one of the poorest counties in the nation.

A goal of the upcoming Immigration Plunge is for students to learn how they can institute social change within our society.

"Immigration has become a very 'hot topic' issue over the past few years," Stockbine said. "The Plunge will offer the opportunity to more fully understand what immigration is, who it affects, the position the Catholic Church takes on the issue, what is being done to confront this issue, as well as opportunities to reflect on immigration from a perspective of faith."

Throughout the weekend students will participate in many activities like speaking with representatives from social service agencies in the Dayton area; reflecting with Oscar Cardinal Rodrigues, who is a seeker of justice for migrants; meeting with the Director of Hispanic Ministry for the city of Dayton; conversing with UD students who have first-hand experience fighting the injustices of immigration; and engaging in reflective dialogue about the nation’s perspective of immigration.

"Plunges are a fantastic way to come to better understand the issues and needs of our communities," Stockbine said. "They offer the opportunity to meet other UD students passionate about being agents of social change, to network with the greater Dayton community so as to faithfully confront these issues in a light of social justice and overall to further educate ourselves about both our personal and communal role in these issues."

Stockbine hopes students will take away a better understanding of the issue and the realization of the power everyone has.

"I hope that the Immigration Plunge will raise awareness on our campus of this issue and ignite a stirring passion in our students to join our brothers and sisters around the world, and especially at our borders, in the journey of hope and faith towards justice," Stockbine said.

There will be two more Urban Plunges: Environmental from Oct. 17 to 19 and Hunger and Homelessness from Nov. 14 to 16. The cost to participate in a Plunge is $40 for the weekend, which includes meals, lodging and transportation.

If you would like more information or would like to attend the Immigration Plunge or any of the upcoming Plunges contact Clare Stockbine at stockcm@notes.udayton.edu or stop by her office at 207 Liberty Hall.

late Nite munchies?

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WHO SHOULD ATTEND:
Sophomores and juniors who are interested in entering the Co-op program in January or May 2009

ENGINEERING MAJORS ONLY

GET THE ANSWERS TO:
What is the difference between a co-op and internship?
How do I find a co-op position?
What steps do I need to complete?

WHERE:
Sears Auditorium (Humanities Bldg.)

WHEN:
Wednesday, September 10 at 3:00 p.m.
or
Thursday, September 11 at 4:30 p.m.

CO-OP INTERVIEWS ARE OCTOBER 22 AND 23

DEADLINE FOR CO-OP APPLICATIONS
OCTOBER 1, 2008

Dining Services opens “mini-Emporium”

JULIE RAMACCIA
Staff Writer

When it comes to eating, Darkside students have usually had three options: make their own food, visit a restaurant on Brown Street or travel to one of the dining facilities. This year, students can take advantage of a new dining experience in a convenient location.

The Jury Box, a dining service operation in the Joseph E. Keller Hall law school, underwent renovations this summer to provide both law and undergraduates students more food options. The Jury Box accommodates all students by accepting all meal plans, Flyer, credit cards and cash. It is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The main goal of this new venture is simple: “We want it to be a fun place to be, work and eat,” student manager Dena Robertson said. Prior to the 2008-2009 school year, The Jury Box consisted of vending machines and leftover sandwiches from Marycrest. Only law students were able to access the facility. This year, under the supervision of Emporium Director Barbara Gilbert, employees are able to offer all UD students a variety of foods, drinks and snacks. For many, the location is closer than the traditional dining facilities.

Selections from the menu include a variety of sandwiches named after the last names of the Supreme Court Justices. Among the favorites are “The Breyer Chicken,” “Thomas Turkey Rumble” and “The Scalia.” The Jury Box also offers the build-your-own sandwich option, soup, hot specials, yogurt, drinks and other snacks. Coffee fanatics will want to try the Mosaic coffee.

“It is the best coffee on campus,” Robertson said. “I don’t drink any other coffee.”

Unlike any other dining facilities, the three managers of The Jury Box are students. Senior Matt McNamara, one of the student managers, describes this new facility as a “mini-Emporium.”

The responsibilities of the managers include everything from scheduling, hiring, firing, payroll, keeping the food stocked and keeping the area clean. The workers can also control the menu selections.

“We can intervene over the menu,” manager Dena Robertson said. “We can pick different sandwiches to make.”

One important detail to be aware of is how to locate The Jury Box. Although the front of the law building faces College Park, students should enter through the back staircase facing B Lot.

The employees will soon wear new t-shirts including a new logo that will be on the signs and advertisements within the next few weeks.

Admissions’ mailings maintain Marianist logo

STEPHANIE VERMILLION
Chief Staff Writer

Rumors have arisen that the UD logo has been changed again to not include the chapel, but students should not fear: the Marianist logo is here to stay.

Around this time last year a conflict arose regarding the logo. It appeared Admissions changed UD’s logo from a picture of the chapel with “University of Dayton” to a logo with only plain text.

It was a misunderstanding and nothing new is developing this year, according to Sundar Kumarasamy, UD’s vice president for Enrollment Management.

“UD has two logos,” Kumarasamy said. “Basically one you can see everywhere, called the basic logo, and the other text logo is used if there is not enough space.”

The basic logo takes up 1.5 inches of space while the text logo only takes up three-fourths of an inch. Whether or not the basic logo is used, the Admissions department makes sure to emphasize UD’s Marianist tradition one way or another.

“The question was that we were trying to diminish our Catholic identity,” Kumarasamy said. “But if that were the purpose, why would we be writing about our Catholic university in the first sentence of a letter?”

Both logos have been approved by UD, but to ensure no more conflict the Admissions department has switched all letters back to the letterhead with the basic logo including the chapel. They realize the importance of UD’s Marianist tradition, and continuously make it a focal point.

“When we cannot use the basic logo, what we try to use is a predominate photograph of the Chapel,” Kumarasamy said. “It’s something we clearly want to emphasize. It’s not about logos, it’s about our identity. Our identity is bigger than just a small logo.”

To view and learn more about UD’s two approved logos, go to www.logo.udayton.edu.
Housing

2 minute walk to Bargo’s & campus!
Second semester housing available for 3-4 students in Fairgrounds on Frank Street. 2 houses, 1 brand new in 2004. Includes A/C, multiple full baths, finished basement, 3+ big bedrooms. Please call Steve at 312-523-1911 or email smalloy@nuviewinc.com

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Meet New Friends working with a fun, attractive staff at Figlio. Our goal is to have fun while at work! Now interviewing for server positions. Flexible schedule, part-time. Apply in person at 424 E. Stroop Rd., Kettering, in the Town and Country shopping center.

Babysitter needed: Monday, Thursday and Friday from 5 to 8PM. Oakwood family needs assistance with active 5 year old boy and 7 year old girl. Activities would include playing with the children, participating in dinner prep, clean up and other household activities, enjoying a delicious meal with our family and helping with baths and bed time. The applicant would ideally be a freshman or sophomore from the Dayton area, but this is not required. Please call 643-9213 for more information.

Help Elect Obama!
Work with moveon.org Political Action and Grassroots Campaigns, Inc. to register voters in Dayton. Positions available immediately! Call 937-694-3084. Ask for Alex.

Schools

Anchorwoman Soledad O’Brien starting Diversity Lecture Series

MAGGIE MALACH
Staff Writer

Soledad O’Brien will be on campus Wednesday to kick off the university’s Diversity Lecture Series by discussing “Diversity: On TV, Behind the Scenes and in Our Lives.” This year’s program goal is “to increase inclusion and diversity on campus.”

The CNN anchor and special correspondent has been recognized for her work covering the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami in Thailand, as well as giving Hurricane Katrina victims a voice by providing them with video cameras. “We have a large committee consisting of students, faculty and staff who deliberated about a variety of speakers,” Lynette Heard, executive director of the Office of the President, said, “We felt it was important to invite speakers who have a relevant voice to campus… Soledad O’Brien is a wonderful speaker to kick off the series because of her unique role on CNN and reporting on global issues.”

The presentation will be at 7:30 p.m. in the KU Ballroom. It is free and open to the public.

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FN got the chance to talk with Buckcherry lead guitarist Keith Nelson, one of the dudes behind the insanely popular “Crazy Bitch” and “I’m Sorry.” Buckcherry will play at X-Fest on Sunday, Sept. 14 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds.

Flyer News: When did you start playing guitar?
Keith Nelson: I started playing really early. My house always had music in it. I was banging on pots and pans trying to be a drummer for a long time. It’s always been a part of my life no matter what I was doing. Even when I had other jobs that had nothing to do with music, I would always go home and make music or I would have a band—always.

FN: Was music something you picked up quickly?
KN: It’s definitely something that I’ve worked at. You have to write a lot of the bad songs before you get to the good ones.

FN: Where’s the coolest place you’ve ever gone to on tour?
KN: Amsterdam — for obvious reasons.

FN: Your new album’s being released on the 16th. Is there a song on the CD that you’re most proud of?
KN: There’s a song on our record called “Child Called It” which tackles some really heavy subject matter that deals with child abuse, inspired by a book that (lead singer Josh Todd) read. We don’t usually make music or have songs [about controversial topics] — you know, we’re the party band, we want to host the party, we don’t usually tackle something like child abuse, but it seemed appropriate and the song came out great.

FN: How has your writing process developed since the band formed in 1995?
KN: It’s an evolving process. There’s really no set way that any of the songs are written. Usually I hear a bunch of music in my head and get a couple parts together, and it all works pretty good, or Josh will come in with an acoustic guitar and a vocal melody and a chorus, and we’ll take it from there and run with it.

FN: Rolling Stones or the Beatles?
KN: There’s only one — The Stones.

FN: Samantha from “Bewitched” or Jeanie from “I Dream of Jeanie?”
KN: Samantha.

FN: If you could see anyone in concert right now, dead or alive, who would it be?
KN: The Sex Pistols would open up for Muddy Waters.

FN: Where do see yourself down the road?
KN: I want to do this as long as people want to hear it. I don’t want to be one of those bands that nobody cares about anymore, going back into their van, playing a 200 seat club. As long as people want to hear our music, I want to make it for them.

FN: What should people come out to see you at X-Fest Sunday?
KN: Because there’s only one band that does it quite the way we do it. I do believe we’re special, and rock ‘n’ roll is a dying breed.
Falling into theaters

2008 fall movie preview

MICHAE L KANE
Staff Writer

This year’s blockbuster summer movie season has come to a close. “Iron Man” opened up the summer with a bang, Indiana Jones returned to the big screen with some friends from outer space, audiences fell in love with an adorable little robot named WALL-E, and “The Dark Knight” shattered records and high expectations to become inarguably the best movie of 2008. (No joke.)

With such a memorable summer behind us, we look ahead to the fall movie lineup, which is usually a mixed bag of Oscar contenders and Hollywood garbage. There’s a surprising amount of quality movies that I’m looking forward to and a few that I would suggest avoiding, so here’s a preview of what you can expect in theaters this fall.

QUANTUM OF SOLACE
release date—Nov. 14

THE PLOT: A direct follow-up to 2006’s “Casino Royale” that follows James Bond (Daniel Craig) on a mission of revenge to uncover the mysterious organization that blackmailed the woman he loved, Vesper.

BEHIND THE SCENES: I’ve never been a big 007 fan until I saw “Casino Royale,” a complete reinvention of the Bond franchise equivalent to what “Batman Begins” did for the Caped Crusader. “Quantum of Solace” is my most anticipated movie for the fall (now that “Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince” has been pushed back to July 17, 2009). It has a compelling storyline, great acting and eye-popping action. I’m confident my high expectations will be met and this movie will not disappoint.

W.
release date—Oct. 17

THE PLOT: A “biography” about the life of our 43rd President of the United States, George W. Bush.

BEHIND THE SCENES: This might just be one of the funniest movies of the year and I’m not sure it’s meant to be. I mean come on…Bush binge drinking, chasing tail, and driving drunk? That’s hilarious. Oliver Stone is taking the gloves off on this “accurate” portrayal of Bush’s life.

ZACK AND MIRI MAKE A PORNO
release date—Oct. 31

THE PLOT: Best friends Zack (Seth Rogen) and Miri (Elizabeth Banks) make an X-rated film and start seeing their relationship in a different light.

BEHIND THE SCENES: There’s been a lot of buzz about this movie already. It successfully appealed the MPAA’s original NC-17 rating to get an R-rating instead, but they struck back by banning one of the film’s promotional posters in the U.S. due to its “suggestive” imagery. There’s no denying we have another Kevin Smith classic in the making. It promises to be the funniest and raunchiest romantic-comedy of the year.

SAW V
release date—Oct. 24

THE PLOT: Detective Hoffman, the last person alive to carry on Jigsaw’s legacy, must eliminate all loose ends when his secret is threatened.

BEHIND THE SCENES: I’ve been hooked on the “Saw” franchise since the first mind-blowing twist. And despite the fact that each installment hasn’t been as good as the first, I’m a loyal fan that’ll stick with the ups and downs. Go see it for the intense gore and violence that’ll make you squirm in your seat, but stay for the big surprise ending. If it’s Halloween, it must be “Saw.”

MY BEST FRIEND’S GIRL
release date—Sept. 19

THE PLOT: When guys get dumped, they hire Tank (Dane Cook) to get the girls running back to their boyfriends by taking them on the worst date of their lives. However, when Tank tries to help out his friend Dustin (Jason Biggs), he finds himself falling for his best friend’s girl (Kate Hudson).

BEHIND THE SCENES: The only thing funny about this movie will be Dane Cook’s complete (and accurate) bashing of the film’s promotional poster. From “Employee of the Month” to “Good Luck Chuck,” Cook’s track record with movies has been appalling. A word of advice, Cook: stick with the stand-up.

THE RATINGS

- Highly anticipated and a must-see movie; I’ll be there opening night
- I’ll definitely see it in theaters
- If I don’t see it in the theaters it’s not the end of the world
- I can wait to rent it on DVD
- You’ll have to drag me into the theater kicking and screaming to see this movie
KELSEY CANO
Assistant News Editor

Last year 71 UD students were taken to area hospitals by UD’s rescue squad. Of those 71, half were underclassmen. Underclassmen are typically under 21, the legal age to consume alcohol in Ohio. Some university presidents now believe that the 21-year-old drinking age has created an environment where 18-20 year-olds binge drink behind closed doors, creating a dangerous environment. Their proposed solution is to re-examine the drinking age, and they believe that lowering the drinking age could help solve binge drinking on their campuses.

This group of university presidents has signed a document known as the Amethyst Initiative. The initiative was started this past June by college presidents that “...discovered a common desire to reopen public debate over the drinking age and (then) began to frame a statement expressing their views,” according to www.amethystinitiative.org.

The Amethyst Initiative’s statement says that in the past 24 years, 53% of them involve individuals under 21 and 30% of college students abuse alcohol and 6% are alcoholics.

The Amethyst Initiative’s state-ment says that off-campus binge drinking has developed, and when underage students use fake IDs, they are disrespecting the law.

“I think it’s great that colleges are stepping in to help legalize something that has been going on for years,” fifth year senior Mike Diplito said. “It might help curb binge drinking on college campuses.”

As of Sept. 2, 129 presidents and chancellors of colleges and universities have signed the document. The list includes the signatures of Ohio State University President E. Gordon Gee and Johns Hopkins University President William Brody. Along with signing the Initiative, signatories have the opportunity to express their reasons for signing the document.

“I support this initiative because it will allow our colleges to engage in real education of our students about responsible use of alcohol, as well as model moderate behavior,” wrote David Oxtoby, president of Pomona College.

Some UD students feel that UD President, Daniel Curran, should sign the document for reasons similar to Oxtoby’s. In a letter to the editor in Flyer News’ first issue of the semester, senior economics major Peter R. Blazunas wrote “lowering the drinking age would allow for the administration to better regulate and educate UD students in regard to their drinking habits.” Blazunas continues that UD has no official acknowledgement of UD students’ drinking habits and that lowering the drinking age will enable the administration “to have a real conversation with students about how to handle drinking on campus.”

Scott Markland, assistant dean of students, reacted to Blazunas’ letter to the editor and questioned whether Blazunas had ever been to his office. “We are pro-student,” Markland said. “We want to help students. We are willing to work with students no matter their age, status, whether they are a light drinker or heavy drinker. If students are going to drink, our goal is to realistically help them drink in a way that doesn’t harm themselves or the community,” Markland said.

Not ignoring the underage and binge drinking on campus, Markland went on to explain that several programs have taken place at UD to help students with alcohol skills. Such programs help students, even those under 21, to learn their limits and avoid the consequences that alcohol can present. He and his office are trying to take an active role in addressing binge drinking at UD.

“The Adapt office moved the office to McGinnis from Gossager. We’re realistically trying to be with students and we’re open about what’s going on,” he said. Some think that the drinking age is a tough issue, because if the administration doesn’t sign it, it comes across as anti-student.

Presented with the opportunity to sign the initiative, as well as with arguments on both sides, Curran decided not to sign the initiative.

“There is little research provided to support the argument; in fact, [the argument] runs counter to much past research,” Curran said.

Markland agreed, and said that he’s open to being convinced that lowering the drinking age is a good idea, but as of now, much of the evidence points to keeping it where it is. This evidence includes the war, fatality, brain development and European arguments. Markland largely contributed to the following information and research.

FAST FACTS ABOUT ALCOHOL YOU PROBABLY DIDN’T KNOW

- 129 college presidents and chancellors have signed the Amethyst Initiative.
- The National Highway Traffic Safety Association estimates nearly 25,000 teen traffic deaths have been prevented by age 21 laws.
- Of alcohol poisoning related deaths, 53% of them involve individuals under 21.
- 78% of adults polled by MADD support 21 as the minimum drinking age.
- Each year, 1,000 people aged 18 to 24 die in non-vehicular alcohol-related deaths.
- 30% of college students abuse alcohol and 6% are alcoholics.
- 90% of alcohol consumed by 18 to 20 year olds is consumed during a period of heavy drinking.
- 39% of vehicular fatalities were alcohol-related in 2005.

Sources: www.opposingviews.com and www.madd.org

“There is little research provided to support the argument; in fact, [the argument] runs counter to much past research,” Curran said.
AGES DOWN

THE ARGUMENTS:
The Many Sides to a Tricky Issue

FATALITIES ARGUMENT

Since the drinking age was raised to 21, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that 21,887 lives have been saved through 2002 because of the increased drinking age. It's also estimated that the drinking age will continue to save 1,000 lives each year; in 1982 alcohol was involved in 60 percent of U.S. vehicular fatalities and in 2005 alcohol was involved in only 39 percent, according to the Higher Education Center.

The Governor’s Highway Safety Association said that if states lowered the drinking age, more teens will drink and drive, thus more teens will die.

The Amethyst Initiative counters this argument, stating that although the NHTSA estimates that such a large number of lives have been saved, this estimate is of total lives, and not just of victims under 21. The initiative also points to evidence that shows that the drinking age doesn’t prevent fatalities among 18-to-20-year-olds, but just delays them. Evidence shows that when there is an increase in drunk driving deaths in one age group, it decreases in the age group next to it. “If the drinking age is 21, fatalities go down in the 18 to 20 age group but go up in the 21 to 24 set,” states the initiative.

The Amethyst Initiative also points out that fatalities not involving vehicles were overlooked; each year, an estimated 1,000 18-to-24-year-olds die in alcohol-related deaths that don’t involve automobiles.

EUROPEAN ARGUMENT

Many believe that in European countries, where the drinking age is 18 or lower, young adults have a more mature view on alcohol and have fewer alcohol-related problems. But according to the U.S. Department of Education’s Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention, this is a myth.

According to their Web site, a recent study showed that rates and frequency of drinking among European youth are higher than in the U.S. Also, nearly 50 percent of the European countries reported higher rates of intoxication among their youth.

There are less alcohol-related car crashes in European countries than in the U.S., but the Higher Education Center argues that there are several factors for this statistic, including less European youth driving, higher legal driving ages, more expensive cars and better access to public transportation. It’s argued that these factors are mainly responsible for the fewer number of alcohol-related car crashes in European countries, and not the drinking age.

The Web site also goes on to say that European countries are looking at the U.S. for research and are initiating debate on what the appropriate age should be to purchase alcohol.

According to the Amethyst Initiative, the European argument isn’t a myth, and there is truth to it. The Web site states that recent research published by the World Health Organization found that 15-and-16-year-olds in European countries do drink more often than those in the US, but they have fewer occasions where they get dangerously intoxicated.

WAR ARGUMENT

One can join the military at 18, so it’s often argued that at this age one should be able to make the mature decision whether to drink or not, but some disagree. According to the U.S. Department of Education’s Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention, rights in the U.S. have different ages in which they are granted. For example, one can get a driver’s license at 16, vote and serve in the military at 18 or run for president at 35.

The department continues that “the age of initiation is based on the specific behavior involved and must take into account the dangers and benefits of that behavior at a given age.”

BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

Because studies show that the brain is still developing through adolescence and into the 20s, it’s believed that alcohol can have a negative impact on some parts of the brain when consumed before turning 21. The American Medical Association found that “The hippocampus handles many types of memory and learning and suffers from the worst alcohol-related brain damage in teens. Those who had been drinking more and for longer had significantly smaller hippocampi,” according to the Higher Education Center.

Some think that coming to such a conclusion isn’t so simple. According to Dr. H.S. Swartzwelder of the Amethyst Initiative, although the brain develops into the 20s, the adolescent brain isn’t more or less sensitive to a single dose of alcohol. He continues that “Studies of lower doses, and less severe chronic dosing regimes, will be needed to determine whether the adolescent brain is more sensitive to the long-term effects of mild to moderate drinking.” Swartzwelder also adds that it’s not a drink every week or two that will cause damage to the brain, but it’s an 18-year-old, or even a 30-year-old, that drinks five to six alcoholic drinks in a row that will cause damage.

Much of the above evidence, in addition to personally witnessing dangerous binge drinking on their college campuses is what called for university presidents and chancellors to sign the document. Whether it succeeds in encouraging a lower drinking age or not, those that have signed it recognize that there is a problem with underage drinking and that the current drinking age isn’t working. However, it is only a small number of presidents that do agree with the initiative.

“Only about 138 presidents have signed the document; that’s a very small number when you consider that there are several thousand presidents,” said Curran. “This is an issue lawmakers address, and when/if they do, any citizen can express his or her opinion on the matter.”

Curran added that given the lack of research to support the Amethyst Initiative and with past research going against it, signing the document would have been irresponsible.

-Daniel Curran, University President
Debate:
Would changing the drinking age make a difference?

Recently, there has been a huge debate going among people all over the country, especially university presidents, over whether or not the legal drinking age should be lowered to 18. While it seems college students in general tend to think that this would be a good idea, there is much opposition to this. One opposing organization is Mothers Against Drunk Driving, which argues that it would cause a more dangerous environment and thus should not be supported.

The side that supports lowering the drinking age often cites the many legal rights we gain upon turning 18 in American society. These include the right to vote, smoke and buy pornography. Most importantly, it means we are allowed to enter the armed services and thus serve our country. Joining the military means that we are old enough to carry a rifle and be shot at by enemy combatants. Basically, this means we are old enough to die for our country, but not old enough to drink a beer. Another common complaint is that the drinking age in Europe is lower than it is in the United States. Many would argue that they have less binge drinking in their culture because people are more accustomed to drinking and therefore drink more socially.

The other side of the argument thinks that things would not get better, and may even get worse if the drinking age is lowered to 18. For one, it would be a very difficult transition for society, and many 18-year-olds would not know how to properly handle that responsibility. Also, there is no evidence that American society would behave anything like European society with a lowering drinking age in place. In Europe, they have had centuries of that way of life and also, many argue, live at a much more laid back pace than we do in the United States, generally doing things in much more moderation.

Basically, what we are getting at here, is that while everyone is throwing out these different opinions and ideas, there is really no way to know what would happen if the drinking age were lowered to 18 without actually trying it. Maybe it would lead to less binge drinking and an overall safer environment. But it could instead lead to more drunk driving among high school and college kids, thus doing much more harm than good.

Is that necessary?

This past weekend was my birthday. In the weeks and days leading up to it, my housemates and I mulled over how to best celebrate, finally deciding we would throw a party in our new house on campus. This was a big decision for a variety of reasons, the biggest being money. Hosting a party is not cheap. We had to make sure that we had enough adult beverages for anyone who decided to stop by, which poses a huge problem for a bunch of college students without jobs during the school year.

The debate eventually came down to whether we should get as many 30-pack cases as possible at five and a half times retail. That means that by the end of the party, we had enough adult beverages for everyone to drink as long as they wanted, and therefore they won’t go quite as crazy drinking through a ton of cases, thus allowing everyone to have fun for a longer period of time.

So after making this decision and telling some friends about it, we were told that getting kegs actually may not be a very good decision. Apparently I should have known this being a senior — kegs are not allowed on campus. Not only are they not allowed, but according to last year’s standards of behavior, there is a $200 fine per keg, per resident. That means that if we were to have bought two kegs for our house with seven residents, the total fine would have been $2800 split up six ways since one of them doesn’t drink, bringing the grand total to about $466 per person just because we wanted to have a good time. I have also heard rumors that instead of $300, the fine is actually $400 now, which would make the total fine almost $1000 per person.

Regardless of how absurd the fine is (its absurd no matter what), I just want what the administration thinks it is accomplishing by banning kegs on campus. We all know it doesn’t cut down on drinking; it just makes it more expensive to throw parties which I promise will not deter the student body from having fun on weekends. If anything, the one thing it does accomplish is making the Ghetto look worse on Saturday and Sunday mornings as beer cans litter the front yards of houses. If the university really wants to keep things under control, kegs can help residents of houses keep their parties under control by controlling the flow of beer to people attending. Maybe it’s something else though. Don’t we all give UD enough money every year that we should be allowed to drink however we want once we are 21? Someone please explain to me what the biggest danger of kegs is, because to me the current policy is painfully idiotic.
TV is sending the wrong messages

9021-OH. That was my reaction after hearing about the latest outrageously behavior to hit primetime television. My response didn’t change after seeing a clip from “90210″ premier; the camera zooms in on a fidgeting 16-year-old boy who is sitting behind the wheel of a shiny SUV. Seconds later, the tousled head of a teenage girl appears from below the dashboard.

Fill in the blanks. Every preteen watching the show did.

Sadly, “90210″ is not the only show flaunting illicit teen shenanigans to draw viewers. One of last year’s biggest hits, “Gossip Girl,” advertised for its sophomore season with the aid of a slew of risqué print ads. Each ad had a provocative picture accompanied by reviews such as “A nasty piece of work” and “Mind-Blowingly Inappropriate.”

I have heard that the best comedy is based in truth, but apparently the best advertising is too. For preteens, the network is targeting. That’s a direct message about who they believe to be young America is relating to.

Teen pregnancy is definitely on the rise, and while I’m not blaming the media for giving teenagers the idea to have sex, I am blaming them for setting a standard of “fashionable” teenage behavior. Casual sex? Other illicit acts in a school parking lot before school? All in a day’s work for these characters, and these characters are what young America is relating to.

In this day, it is nearly impossible to keep anyone sheltered. The media is flaunting sex because frankly, sex sells. What happened to any code of morals? Both “90210″ and “Gossip Girl” air on a network station at 8 at night, a time when any teenager will be awake to vault in the vulgarities. That’s a direct message about who the network is targeting.

I am left wondering how much crasser television can get. “Gossip Girl”’s ad is spot-on; it is “Every parent’s nightmare.” And that blows.

As alumni and current graduate students, we were surprised and disturbed by comments made in the Opinions section regarding the safety of our campus, neighborhoods, and city. We understand that the recent shooting on campus has left many questioning the safety of campus. However, this is not a time to lay blame on U.D.’s surrounding neighborhoods. We take aim at the stereotype that the neighborhoods surrounding the university are “slums.”

First, we realize that many students are not from Dayton and may not actually know about the neighborhoods surrounding the University. Five safe, friendly neighborhoods surround the University. The Fairgrounds District, South Park, Walnut Hills, Belmont, and Patterson Park surround the University to the east, west, and north.

In recent years, many of these neighborhoods have undergone significant revitalization efforts. Neighborhoods like South Park, Walnut Hills, Belmont and Fairgrounds were devastated by deindustrialization and the decline of the urban core. Within the last five years, with the help of the university, private investment, and Miami Valley Hospital, these neighborhoods have turned around for the better.

Efforts led by U.D.’s own Fitz Center helped to renovate old homes and build new ones in the Fairgrounds. New businesses and investment have turned Brown Street into a vibrant, important corridor. Iconic Dayton businesses Esther Price Chocolates, Tanks, and the Madison House call Walnut Hills home. Historic 10 Wilmington Place is situated in between Patterson Park, Belmont, and Walnut Hills.

In 1880 South Park started as a neighborhood built off community, equality and diversity. It continues this tradition today. John Patterson, founder of NCR, personally developed South Park as a place where his workers, accountants and executives could live and raise their families. In the last two years, South Park has seen over $3.1 million of private investment. In 2006, the American Institute of Architects formulated a redevelopment plan for South Park, culminating in the 2007 Rehabarama. Over 30 properties were reclaimed and renovated as part of this effort. South Park’s revitalization effort was so successful it was awarded a Best Neighborhood of the Year award from Neighborhoods USA in June of 2008. South Park hosts an annual Jazz Festival, and recently had a Shakespeare play in its park. These are certainly not attributes of a “slum.”

We think it is important to realize that the neighborhoods bordering the university are home to all sorts of people. Many UD professors and staff live within these neighborhoods. Since moving to South Park, we have never felt unsafe. We walk from our home to the University nearly every day. We ask students to visit the surrounding neighborhoods before they pass judgment on them. We invite students to sample some Esther Price chocolate, take a stroll in South Park’s boulevard, get a pizza at Dayton’s Original Pizza Factory, enjoy the girile omelet at Tank’s. After you have done this, I guarantee that these neighborhoods will no longer seem like “slums.”

Hilary Ross
UD Alumna 2007
MPA Student

James Paul Browning
UD Alumus 2006 and 2007
PhD Student

If this flight continues, inner cities certainly will die. The answer is some form of metropolitan government which requires all residents of the area to take responsibility for a total geographic area including the oldest parts. Who is my neighbor takes on a new context in today’s economy.

Brother Phil Aaron
PhD
Campus Ministry

OPINIONS
Flyer News•Tuesday, September 9, 2008

letters to the editor

UD surrounded by opportunity, not “slums”

Staff Ed overlooked key points about Dayton

Editor, it is great to see the new editors tackling significant social issues in an article and editorial about the Forbes ranking of Dayton as a dying city. It is a refreshing change from stories about ghetto parties and other less significant issues.

Your editorial, however, and perhaps the front page article, makes the same mistakes and false assumptions as did the Dayton Daily News recently in failing to separate the “death” of the City of Dayton as a specific issue apart from the financial health of the metropolitan area. Note that your editorial makes Wright Patterson Air Force Base a part of Dayton (it is in Greene County), and mentioning NCR as being in Dayton neglects to understand the meaning of this fact and NCR’s abandonment of Dayton in the 1970’s which was the start of Dayton’s dying process. No surprise, denial is a part of the death and dying process.

Analysis of whether the city of Dayton (or Cleveland) is dying requires insight into the process of “white flight” from inner cities, the movement of people and wealth to the outer suburban communities.

If this flight continues, inner cities certainly will die. The answer is some form of metropolitan government which requires all residents of the area to take responsibility for a total geographic area including the oldest parts. Who is my neighbor takes on a new context in today’s economy.

Brother Phil Aaron
PhD
Campus Ministry

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SCHEDULE

Women’s Soccer
Tues. Sept. 9 vs. Cincinnati
Fri. Sept. 12 vs. Duke

Men’s Soccer
Fri. Sept. 12 at UNCW

Volleyball
Fri. Sept. 12 vs. Illinois
Fri. Sept. 12 vs. Gardner-Webb

inside the NUMBERS

38
Team score for the women’s cross country team at the Queen City Invitational hosted by Northern Kentucky. The 38 team points was good for a second place finish at the meet. Cincinnati won with a team score of 27.

3-0
The volleyball team’s record over the weekend as they hosted the Dayton Flyer Invitational. The Flyers swept their games this weekend downing Northwestern, Towson, and Cleveland State. Dayton won the invitational with Erin Schroeder and Lindsay Fletemier taking home All-Tournament honors. Senior middle blocker Bethany Akerhelm won the Tournament MVP award.

1,000
The number of students that Red Scair packed into the student section to back the Volleyball team during its match against Northwestern on Friday.

Soccer teams facing challenging competitors early

JOHN BEDELL
Asst. Sports Editor

The men’s soccer team received their first loss of the season this past Friday during the opening game of the Middletown Sports and Fitness Invitational this past weekend in Madison, Wisc.

The Flyers lost 1-0 in regulation to Wisconsin-Milwaukee (1-1-1) on a second-last goal, and saw their record drop to (2-1-0). Wisconsin-Milwaukee freshman forward Eric Frazier scored the game winning goal in the 90th minute with just 41 seconds left in regulation to give the Panthers the win. The goal, which came off an assist from freshman defender Nick Dunton, was Frazier’s first as a collegiate athlete.

The win gave the Panthers their first win of the season over the Flyers who were ranked No. 5 in the Middle Atlantic NSCAA/Adidas Great Lakes Region poll coming into Friday night’s game.

“We were pressing really hard to score and they got a lane in transition,” Dayton head coach Dennis Currier said.

Dayton’s best chance to score came in the 38th minute when junior forward Jeff Popella nearly punched in a header, but Panther senior goalkeeper Grant Fernstrom would have none of it, as he made a diving save on the play.

Popella and junior forward Alex Terada led the UD attack posting five and four shots at the frame, respectively. Junior goalkeeper Alex Davis had a strong showing keeping the Flyers in the game, making six saves in goal.

On the other hand, the women’s soccer team defeated Big Ten powerhouse Michigan on Friday after sophomore forward Kelly Blumenschein scored in the 54th minute. It was the second game winning goal in as many weeks for Blumenschein, who also knocked in the game-winner last week against Pittsburgh. The shot came from 30 yards out.

Also scoring in Friday evening’s game was junior forward Caitlin Proffitt and senior defender Stephanie Wurth.

The win came against the team’s third Big Ten opponent in its past four games. The team will not get much of a break, as Cincinnati comes to town on Tuesday for a game, while Rutgers and No. 12 Duke will come into town Friday and Sunday, respectively.

With such big games ahead, the team is hoping to set Baurian Field attendance records this upcoming weekend.

Hosting Flyers dominate own tournament

CORY GRIFFIN
Sports Editor

The Dayton volleyball team looked sharp in their first home tournament of the season this past weekend, as the Flyers won all three of their games and won the Dayton Flyer Volleyball Invitational.

In their first game Friday, the Flyers upended Big Ten power Northwestern 3-2 (27-29, 25-23, 25-18, 23-25, 15-13). Sophomore middle blocker Lindsay Fletemier led the team with 21 kills on the evening, while senior setter Erin Schroeder had 59 assists and 17 digs.

Saturday afternoon, the Flyers defeated previously unbeaten Towson 3-1 (22-25, 25-20, 25-23, 25-17). Sophomore middle blocker Becky Novacek led the team with 14 kills, while Fletemier and senior middle blocker Bethany Akerhelm each had 10. Towson dropped to 5-1 following the loss.

To cap off the tournament, the Flyers hosted Cleveland State Saturday evening. Dayton took the match 3-2 in five sets (21-25, 25-13, 25-17, 17-25, 15-19). Fletemier led the team with 19 kills, while Schroeder provided 45 assists on the night.

The Flyers put three players on the All-Tournament team, including Schroeder and Fletemier, while Akerhelm took home the Dayton Flyer Invitational MVP Award.

The Flyers are receiving votes in the CBS College Sports Network/AVCA Top 25 poll, where the Flyers have been vote recipients or ranked each week since August of last year.

The team will start preparation for the Comcast Lady Vol Classic in Knoxville, Tenn. next weekend before coming home for the Dayton Flyer Classic.

At the Comcast Lady Vol Classic, the team will face Illinois and Gardner-Webb on Friday, and then will go up against the hosting Tennessee Lady Vols on Sunday, Sept. 14.

Flyer news Tuesday, September 9, 2008

SPORTS

Flyer News Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Inside the NUMBERS

JIMMY JOHN’S
AMERICA’S SANDWICH DELIVERY EXPERTS!

1157 BROWN ST.
937.226.2600

A LITTLE BIT BETTER
A LITTLE BIT FRESHER
A WHOLE LOT FASTER
### Volleyball

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### Women’s Soccer

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For 31 years Mike Kelly paced the sidelines of Welcome Stadium. He spent the final 27 of those years as head coach of the Dayton Flyers football team. As head coach, Kelly won 200 games sooner than any other northeast Conference Champion albany to win the mid-major Division I FCS Championship.

COACH KELLY ISN’T THE HEAD GUY ANymORE

Keeping his focus
In the press box earlier Kelly sat with his wife and daughter to watch the game from a view he hasn’t seen in decades. While he’s not standing on the sidelines, you might have thought he was if you saw the guy’s body motions and facial expressions. And although his wife and daughter are right next to him, the old coach never lost his focus between the snap and the time the refs whistled the play dead. “It’s the first time in 31 years I’ve ever watched a [UD] game with my husband,” Kelly’s wife, Jeanne, said. “We have a lot more free time together now.”

Early in the third quarter
It’s third and 10 and it’s the third quarter. The Flyers’ defense comes up with a big stop, and the former head coach of the Flyers quietly claps his hands. It’s the most emotion he’s shown since he settled in the press box. Kelly’s fingers tap along to the tune on the metal table that he sits at from the tented area of the bleachers where the press sits. “They’re passing,” Kelly quietly murmurs to himself. He sits up in the press box, getting as close to the action as sitting up in the press box allows. Suddenly, Kelly jumps up for a second and yells, “Throw the flag!” He sits down, and as he does a yellow flag is thrown by the referee. It’s an illegal motion call, and Kelly knows it before the refs did.

“Oh, I was nervous. More nervous than I’ve ever been before.”
-Mike Kelly

Getting into the game
He rubs his hairy hands through his gray hair now, but this time there is no headset atop his scalp, as it now rests on his successor, Rick Chamberlin. Later, when redshirt quarterback Rob Florian throws his first interception of the year, Kelly doesn’t move a muscle. Next to him, his wife and daughter shake their heads and look at each other. But Kelly’s eyes never break from the field. He still leans forward, getting as close to the action as sitting up in the press box allows. When a UD punt-returner muffes a punt, Kelly’s hands sail behind his head and he lets out an angry breath. His hands return to his face remains for a moment longer.

Oh, I was nervous. More nervous than I’ve ever been before.”
-Mike Kelly

The SBA Department of Accounting presented over $60,000 in scholarships to the following majors for the 2008-2009 academic year.

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Molly Oberkirsch
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Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges Scholarship
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CoACH KELLY iSN’T ThE hEAD GuY ANYMoRE

WILL HANLON
Editor in Chief

FLYER NEWS FILE PHOTO
Coach Mike Kelly holds the championship trophy from last season’s Gridiron Classic game, where the Flyers defeated Northeast Conference Champion Albany to win the mid-major Division I FCS Championship.

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angry look emerges on his face. After her husband left, Jeanne commented on Coach Kelly watching the game. “He got excited at some of the calls,” she said with a laugh. “Oh gosh, he gets really into it.”

Feeling a bit nervous
Florian takes the snap and scrambles out of the pocket to the left. “Run,” Kelly says under his breath as if he’s in some way communicating to the quarterback. Florian takes off and rushes to the 4-yard line to cap off a 9-yard rush.

The next play the Flyers take the ball in the end zone and the UD fans cheer. Kelly however, doesn’t move. He knows before anyone there’s an illegal block by the Flyers.

It’s fourth and goal now and Kelly nods his head in approval when the Flyers elect to go for the field goal. The kicker sends the ball through the uprights and UD extends its lead to 11 points now.

Was he nervous, watching the first Flyers game in 31 years he’s had no control over? “Oh, he was a little nervous,” Jeanne said with a laugh, sounding as if it was barely an issue.

The old coach felt a bit different about this particular game, however. “Oh, I was very nervous,” Coach Kelly said. “More nervous than I’ve ever been before.”

Kelly had every right to be nervous, as for the first time in so many years he wasn’t the head guy anymore.

Heading into the fourth
Finally, as the third quarter ends, Kelly turns to his Jeanne and their daughter and smiles. For the first time since half time, he’s able to say more than a dozen words before being interrupted by a play.

As he exits the press box to walk down to the field, he acknowledges the young reporter sitting a few seats down from him and flashes the reporter his patented Mike Kelly smile and warmly greets him with a handshake as he’s done so many times before.

Game over
It’s the fourth quarter now and Kelly is on the sidelines near the end zone. He watches the Flyers’ defense recover a fumble and run it in for a touchdown, but Kelly still doesn’t cheer, doesn’t clap his hands, and once again, doesn’t even flinch. Eventually he glances up at the scoreboard, takes note of the score and time, and simply sticks his hands in his pockets and continues to watch the end of the game.

When the game ended his former assistant coaches and former players rushed the field to celebrate their first victory of the season. But today Kelly would not join them. He simply stood in his place with his arms crossed and a smile on his face.

That’s got to feel pretty different, not being able to go out on the field after a win anymore, huh, Coach? “Well, yeah,” Kelly said. “I’m not the head guy anymore.”

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FRESHMEN MAKE JOURNEY FROM CANTON TO DAYTON

CORY GRIFFIN
Sports Editor

For most college freshmen, life is a big adjustment jumping from high school to college. They find newfound freedom and independence and the ability to make their own decisions. But obviously many times it’s hard to make friends in a new environment.

For freshmen Emily Kenyon and Hanna Griffin (Editor’s note: no relation to the reporter of this article), having the benefit of knowing each other for almost a decade has come in handy now that college is off to a start.

“Just to know someone on the team makes it easier to come in and get to know everybody else,” Kenyon said.

The two freshmen are a vital part of this year’s women’s soccer team, and despite being just over three hours from home, the pair feel at home at UD together this year after helping Jackson reach the Regional Semifinals in the OHSAA State Soccer Tournament each of the past four years.

Both Griffin and Kenyon played their high school soccer at Jackson High School, a suburban soccer powerhouse located just west of Canton, Ohio. Both girls were a huge part of the success of a team that participated in four straight Regional Finals, and went a combined 67-11-4 during those years, including 29-2 during their senior campaign, where Jackson saw five of its 11 seniors go on to play collegiate soccer.

The girls suspect that the team’s coach, Frank Gagliardi, was a big part of the team’s success, as well as a part of the familiarity that all of the players had with one another, as most of the girls had played together on the “Jackson Fury” ever since they were in the U-10 age bracket.

“Both Emily and Hanna were both great players and teammates,” Gagliardi said. “The University of Dayton is getting two great people.”

The cohesiveness made coaching much easier for Gagliardi.

“We had eleven seniors,” Griffin said. “We were really close. We were all best friends. Five of us ended up going to play in college. We all got along, our high school coach made us want to be [at practice]!”

The closeness of the team didn’t just stay among the seniors of that graduating class at Jackson, but it trickled down upon all levels of the program that year due to the leadership the seniors provided.

“There was no such thing as freshmen or seniors on that team,” Kenyon said. “We were just a team.”

Both of the players earned significant accolades. Griffin’s came on the defensive end, as she was selected as the Stark County Defender of the Year in 2007, while Kenyon was selected as the Federal League Defender of the Year in both 2006 and 2007, as well as Stark County Player of the year in 2006.

While the team ended up going to the Regional Finals all four years of high school without getting the ultimate goal of a State Championship, the girls found that one of their most proud moments of their high school careers actually came in one of those tournament losses.

“The biggest highlight was senior year in high school,” Kenyon said. “In the regional finals we scored on a team we’d never scored against in the history of Jackson High School, Walsh Jesuit.”

Griffin echoed the same memory, saying that the moment ultimately would have been better had they won, but the fact that they scored two goals on a team they’d never scored against made the moment a highlight for them to remember.

As for their life after high school, the girls now find themselves on an even bigger stage here at Dayton.

“It’s very intense here,” Kenyon said. “This is definitely a step up from high school.”

With the intensity that is prevalent on the Flyer soccer team, both girls have high expectations and think that this year’s team can make a big splash not only on the conference scene, but on the national stage as well.

“There’s really no weak spots on this team,” Griffin said. “Each practice you have to go hard.”

Kenyon agreed. “There are a lot of talented players here,” Kenyon said. “I think we can go as far as we can if people are willing to put in the work.”

The girls could be right, and the team will definitely have its chance to prove themselves with members from the Big Ten, ACC and Big East on the early non-conference schedule.

As the season gets underway, Kenyon and Griffin find themselves together on the field for the 10th straight season. With the success that their teams have had through high school and their youth, that’s a good sign for the Dayton Flyers.