WE LOVED OUR AUTOMOBILES
And someday we’ll love them again

HOW TO STEAL (AND GET AWAY WITH IT)
CROWNING CHICAGO’S KICKBALL CHAMPIONS

Learn more, earn more

CHANGE CLASSES
OPENING COMMENTS
FEEDBACK
CONVERSATION PIECES
EXPERT INSTRUCTION
THE BIG QUESTION
FLIGHT DECK

LOVE LETTER
AMERICA’S AFFAIR WITH THE AUTOMOBILE
Before the bailout, before the fallout, we loved our cars. We will again.

TEST CASE
CLASS CHANGE
There goes the neighborhood — up the educational and economic ladder

DISCOVERY
RESEARCH PROCEDURE
Better tools, better tests save lives of humans and animals

CLASS NOTES
What some people name their kids! See Anatomy of a Class Note

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
CHAPTER POSTCARDS
Kickball chronicles

GOOD WORKS
HIDDEN TREASURE
Shuffling dominoes

PERCEPTIONS

PRESIDENT’S PAGE
“While others retreat, we move forward.”

Cover photo: Detail of a 1930 Packard Custom Eight Touring Car, Model 740, photographed at Dayton’s Chinese Motorcar Company by Larry Burpee

Mary Courtyard Garden with its mosaic shrine created by Brother Don Smith, S.M. Photograph by John Consoli.
LIVING RELICS

Everybody can find something odd in other people’s religions. Sometimes we see parts of our own to be odd. That was the case when I raised the possibility that this issue’s Hidden Treasure piece might feature a relic residing on campus. After the obligatory disclaimer that I was not referring to myself, it became clear that many of our readers would find relics odd. (Some of you may find the dominoes that became the issue’s Hidden Treasure piece odd, too; that’s another story.)

The word “relic” comes from a Latin verb meaning to leave behind; for Catholics, a relic is a something that has been left. Gathering pieces of bone or bits of cloth associated with dead people may seem to them more like collecting baseballs signed by Babe Ruth or a football signed by Tostitos than something for the soul. (Some of you may find the dominoes that became the issue’s Hidden Treasure piece odd, too; that’s another story.)

The connections we make are sometimes unpredictable — such as mine were when I visited the Holocaust Memorial Museum. The story that place tells is monumental and vast. Yet what moved me to tears was a small, simple display of scores of black, faded uniforms — simple objects, taken from those led to slaughter, symbols of their daily, ordinary lives, symbols of sacred individuated human beings.

One of the names in this issue’s In Memoriam is that of another sacred individual: Paul McNichol, whose life can be remembered in symbols — the hole blasted in his World War II destroyer, the Native American medal he wore as a professor, the food that he ate as a St. Vincent volunteer delivered in the wrong place, the medal he wore as a professor, the food that he as a St. Vincent volunteer delivered in the wrong place; the book he read, the people he taught, the students he mentored, the courses he taught, the house he built, the life he lived, the efforts he made to teach English. They will both be returning to the U.S. this summer to continue graduate work.

WHERE ARE YOU READING UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON MAGAZINE?

Leslie Singel ’06 and Jay Kemper ’04 read it in Budapest, Hungary, where they teach English. They will both be returning to the U.S. this summer to continue graduate work.

All alumni owe much more gratitude to you than they probably express for the excellent publications you bring to us.

—DON WIGAL, ’55 NEW YORK

There’s a certain epic ring to Volume One Number One, eh? Lovely piece. I liked your newsletter, your magazine paper[University of Dayton Quarterly], which to me was one of only three things like that to work as a readable periodical (Bucknell and Florida did it) and was clearly the best of its kind, but a magazine’s cooler. And this issue is done with flair and verve. Kudos.

—BRAD DOYLE PORTLAND, ORE. Editors’ note: Brad Doyle edits Portland: The University of Portland Magazine, winner of the 2007 Robert Sibley Award (selected by the editors of Newsweek) for the best university weekly in North America.

The new magazine looks great. And ours very well, as always.


WOW! Another home run for UD. The new magazine is outstanding. The photography, layout and style, and overall presentation are outstanding. But, as an old guy (class of ’79) it will take some time to get used to the new format. I have always passed on my old copies of the UDJ to parents whose children are in the college selection process, and many of them have commented on the quality of the publications. I am sure that the new Bemagazine will create an even bigger impact on alumni and prospective students as well.

My only suggestion is to revisit the “drawings” of the alumni that are profiled in the Class Notes section. They did not appear to be very flattering sketches.

Keep up the good work! Go Flyers!

—SOUTH BEND, IN. —WALT COLLINS PORTLAND, ORE. Editors’ note: Several readers shared their opinions of the profile designs. All now read a little bit inkier. (The profile drawings in this issue are in a more realistic style.)

CAMEEROON

I spent my career with Shell Oil Co. Six years of my career was spent in Douala, Camer- oon. We did extensive travel through the country while we lived there and was actually made and honorary chief in two villages. The article “Our Village Is Dying,” University of Dayton Magazine, Winter 2005, was great and brought back a lot of memories about liv- ing there and how much is needed in the vil- lages. The students did a great job, . . .

The Camerooners are wonderful people, and I really enjoyed working there and getting to know such great human beings. I also know how much they appreciated what was done for their village.

Please give my thanks and appreciation to the students that worked on this project.

—KEVIN FREDERICK, ’79 KATY, TEXAS

LETTERS

CONGRATULATIONS on a superb first issue of the University of Dayton Magazine. Besides the excellence and breadth of the written word in a wide variety of articles, the photography in this issue is magnificent. The cover photo and the inside of the front and back covers are stunning. I was particularly struck by the “ad” on the inside of the back cover that shows the meaning of the future of community as the focus of giving. And your “opening comments” were your usual Emilide, poetic and to-the-point writing!”

Thank you for this excellent new initiative for the University and its alumni.

—STEPHEN GLODEK, S.M.

My only suggestion is to revisit the “drawings” of the alumni that are profiled in the Class Notes section. They did not appear to be very flattering sketches.

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—KEVIN FREDERICK, ’79 KATY, TEXAS
“If medicine starts to have a shortage of surgeons, they don’t say, ‘Let’s get people of lesser ability.’ In education, we lower the bar.”— THOMAS J. LASLEY II, DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND ALLIED PROFESSIONS, QUOTED IN THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

“I wish I could go back, not to change anything but to do it all over again.”— T-SHIRT SEEN AT REUNION WEEKEND 2008

“Everyone seems so happy here.”— ONE PROSPECTIVE PARENT TO ANOTHER DURING A CAMPUS TOUR, OVERHEARD NEAR ST. MARY HALL

“From a mechanical curiosity to a plaything for the rich to a symbol of teenage rebellion, cars have shaped American life since the days when the internal combustion engine edged it out with steam and electric engines to become the industry standard. Read more about one of our national passions beginning on Page 18.”— JOHN HEITMANN, PROFESSOR AND ALUMNI CHAIR IN HUMANITIES

“The Automobile and American Life

John Heitmann, Professor and Alumni Chair in Humanities

From a mechanical curiosity to a plaything for the rich to a symbol of teenage rebellion, cars have shaped American life since the days when the internal combustion engine edged it out with steam and electric engines to become the industry standard. Read more about one of our national passions beginning on Page 18.

College football programs

FRERICKS CENTER

Perhaps more than any other college sport, football is built on tradition. Thanks to a gift from the family of James “Rocky” Whalen ’47, UD students will have access to a treasure trove of more than 1,700 college football programs dating back to 1891, including 30 UD game programs. Read about more good works on Page 60.

Lost Martin Luther King Jr. tape

HTTP://JUMPBACKHONEY.COM

The voice of Martin Luther King Jr. rang out in UD’s Fieldhouse in 1964, and thanks to an accidental discovery, it rings out again today. A filmmaker making a documentary (Jump Back, Honey) about professor emeritus Herbert Martin found an unlabeled tape in a box Martin had given him. On it is the only known recording of King’s Nov. 29, 1964, address at UD. Segregation is on its deathbed, King said that day, “and the only thing uncertain about it is how costly the segregationists will make the funeral.” Audio and a transcript are available on the film’s Web site.

Gamelan

MUSIC/THEATRE BUILDING

Don’t let the picture fool you. A gamelan has 75 pieces (including the one above), weighs 8,000 pounds and requires 15-20 musicians to play it. The Indonesian instrument found a home in the Music/Theatre Building in January and debuted during a March demonstration in Bell Theatre by a Javanese gamelan master, followed by a performance by the UD Javanese gamelan ensemble in April.

The Automobile and American Life

John Heitmann, Professor and Alumni Chair in Humanities

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Passport

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

If you’ve got it, flaunt it. Campus housing available for Reunion Weekend sold out in 20 minutes when registration opened in April. Lucky key holders stayed in Marianist Hall and Lawnview and Garden apartments.

Word clouds

HTTP://WORDLE.NET

If it was just a fun toy, it would be fun enough, but Wordle’s whimsical word clouds can help writers and readers get at the heart of any document. Cut and paste copy into Wordle’s interface, and the Web site gives you back a visual representation based on the frequency the individual words appear. The bigger a word, the more often it appears and hence, the more your document emphasizes it. Above, this issue’s class notes.

Father Norbert Burns, S.M.

With his six keys to a healthy relationship, Father Norbert Burns, S.M., has been taking the essentials of his Christian Marriage class on the road to alumni chapters, including Dayton and Indianapolis so far. He’s also initiating conversations about our Marianist identity with deans and others across campus, helping us maintain our institutional identity by putting an institution to work.

CONVERSATION PIECES

CONVERSATION PIECES

What to see, hear, read, watch and pay attention to this quarter — at UD and beyond.
WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHT?

The Most Important Human Right: The right to be
To exist
To live
To breathe in and out
Obligated by God
Celebrated annually by recognition of birth
Endangered by inexperience
Violated by injustice and the pursuit of punishment
Man’s inhumanity to man
Mourned at passing
—Lisa M. Meyer, Bowling ‘93, Parma, Ohio

The right to life, the fulfillment of God’s will that once conceived, each individual life will continue uninterrupted ... until that child leaves the comfort and security of its mother’s womb. Another human being is born, unique, with an eternal soul, to give constant praise and honor to our Lord and Savior.
—Richard J. Acocella ‘93, Toluca Lake, Calif.

Freedom of opportunity. In America, we have been fortunate to have freedom to choose our own path and have seen many people succeed and honor to our Lord and Savior.
—Amadou Chirwa, Harare, Zimbabwe

Lying in a country, Zimbabwe, where human rights are not even recognized, and we do not have any education to talk about, as all the teachers leave, and no study materials, I would say that the most important human right is the right to education.
—Amadou Chirwa, Harare, Zimbabwe

The right to equal treatment. Fundamentally, our belief structure as Americans is caught between this principle and the natural tendency toward group perceived superiority. Human society wouldn’t have progressed without the evolution of the idea that all individuals are equally important, should have equal treatment and should be equally responsible for the good of the many.
—Kurt Hoffmann, University of Dayton Environmental Sustainability Manager

The most important right in the world is the right to worship the God of your choice, without worry of government intervention or reprisals.
—John M. Dickens ‘83, St. Charles, Ill.

I believe the right to freedom of speech and expression is the most important. ... Without the freedom to express one’s ideas, one’s mind — the only truly individual and unique thing that every human possesses — becomes paralyzed. Without it, an individual becomes nothing more than another organism devoid of individuality. ... Without the ability to express one’s thoughts and emotions through speech, expression through actions — usually violence — becomes the only alternative.
—Roderick Cudworth ‘91, Green Bay, Wis.

The United Nations’ Universal Declaration on Human Rights (1948) was formulated under Eleanor Roosevelt’s wise coordination along with many others. ... In this third article simply states, “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and the security of person.” However, neither the Declaration nor Jefferson ranks these rights by importance any more than we could rank the importance of earth, wind or water. Right to be respected is the only alternative.
—Kurt Hoffmann, University of Dayton Environmental Sustainability Manager

The right to be respected, other rights come along with it — the right to life, the right to due process, the right to food. If nations, governments, schools and organizations across the world decided they were going to respect human dignity, the welfare of men and women everywhere would markedly improve. This is due to all women and men because they are each cherished by God, made in God’s image and given a unique human vocation to carry out in this world.
—Roderick Cudworth ‘91, Green Bay, Wis.

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHT?

In the wake of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, this is a natural question. In light of what governments and groups of people think is quite acceptable to do to citizens and strangers, this question is very relevant today.

Respect for the dignity of the human person: That’s what I would call the most important human right. Most important, because most basic. If this right is respected, other rights come along with it — the right to life, the right to due process, the right to food. If nations, governments, schools and organizations across the world decided they were going to respect human dignity, the welfare of men and women everywhere would markedly improve.
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LIVING IN A COUNTRY, ZIMBABWE, WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NOT EVEN RECOGNIZED, AND WE DO NOT HAVE ANY EDUCATION TO TALK ABOUT, AS ALL THE TEACHERS LEAVE, AND NO STUDY MATERIALS, I WOULD SAY THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHT IS THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION.
—AMADOU CHIRWA, HARE, ZIMBABWE

“WHAT DO YOU KNOW NOW THAT YOU WISH YOU’D KNOWN AT GRADUATION THAT YOU’D SHARE WITH STUDENTS TODAY?”
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WE WANT YOUR ANSWER TO NEXT ISSUE’S QUESTION

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FLIGHT DECK

A R O U N D C A M P U S

Thrice an alumnus, once a provost

When Joe Saliba came from Lebanon to UD, he liked it so much he stayed to earn three degrees—a bachelor’s, a master’s and a Ph.D.—in civil engineering—in six years. The liking was mutual. So Saliba stayed on to teach in the department of civil engineering and engineering mechanics and became chair of that department in 1996, dean of the School of Engineering in 2004 and now provost, the chief academic officer of the University.

With a combined total of 1,770 students receiving degrees, this year’s ceremonies are believed by registrar officials to be the largest graduation in the University’s history. This is the second year the University has held separate graduate and undergraduate commencement ceremonies.

The doctor of physical therapy program was created in 2006 with financial assistance from the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association to fill a gap when the only local program offering a master’s in physical therapy closed. Entry is highly competitive with 210 applications for 35 open spots in each class.

In 2004 and now provost, the chief chair of that department in 1996, the School of Engineering and engineering mechanics. Of the 20 largest online graduate programs in education, the University offered its first online graduate program in 2001. Four have been added since; another is in development. Class sizes are limited to 22 students, said Jim Rowley, executive director of UD’s Institute for Technolgy—Enhanced Learning, to ensure students experience the same sense of learning community that residents students do.

IN MEMORIAM

Milestone graduation

The Marianist Service Award

Each year this award honors two full-time staff members whose behavior over a significant number of years exemplifies UD’s Catholic and Marianist character.

Caring— and showing it

As benefits manager, Beth Schwartz shares in great joys—job offers,raises,parenthood and retirement—and great sorrows—terminal illness, deaths of colleagues or loved ones, families in turmoil, moments post-potential on. So, when Father Paul Marshall, S.M., came to be her important matter—adjunct professor, she was prepared for bad news.

Schwartz was humbled. “I like that I can care about the people I work with,” she said. “In the corporate world, you don’t really get up and give a person a hug. I appreciate the opportunity to be able to care about people and to show it, to give them a hug or to hand them a tissue.”

Embodying the charism

From the time photographer Larry Burgess left the newspaper business to join UD in 1990, his work has put a human face on the Marianist spirit, said Teri Rizvi of Marianist Spirit.

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IMPROVING ON A FAVORITE

Recollecting a Cinco de Mayo tradition

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Students beat S&P benchmark

They all had jobs lined up long before May’s graduation.

The main factor, according to U.S. Labor Department statistics, lost 40,000 jobs at the last ten years. But the 10 University of Dayton senior finance students who managed a student fund outperformed a multimillion-dollar investment fund for the University’s endowment, found themselves a multimillion-dollar investment fund for the University’s endowment, found themselves

Managing the fund, the students did “much, much better” than the endowment’s professional money managers, and this story reaches big salaries, “but what an interesting time to be involved in finance, where finance is evolving on the front page of the paper, where everybody and their brother is talking about this story, and this story touches out and touches so many people’s lives in so many ways. It may seem like dark days for getting into the field, but I think they are extremely bright days. In that regard, we are going to be reshaping the entire financial industry in this country. All these young kids in this room are going to be a part of that. It’s going to be tough when you get out, but the industry is going to be in extremely bright days. In that regard, we are going to be reshaping the entire financial industry in this country. All these young kids in this room are going to be a part of that. It’s going to be tough when you get out, but the industry is going to be in

The two entrepreneurs opened late-night sandwich business The Monchon in fall 2007. They wanted to create a place for students to mingle, share stories and munch on good food; to generate well-paying jobs for students on campus; and to see if they could bring a business dream to reality.

With a canopy over their heads, one grill and a table of ingredients from Sam’s Club, the two men started making chicken and steak sandwiches on Stonehill Road in front of the former Rudy’s Fly-buy store. “We didn’t have much, but a few students came to try our sandwiches,” Perez said. “Apparently they liked our idea.”

Sales grew to 20 and 40 sandwiches per night that year, and last September, the partners decided to expand the business. “It’s the key to success,” Perez said. “The van made the guys look more professional.”

For us, a shared vision to overcome challenges. That work of MBA students. and CrunchAid, a student campaign for fighting AIDS in Africa. They also donated more than half the proceeds made during UD’s Relay for Life April 18 to the American Cancer Society. The two men agree success could not have happened without their invaluable partnership. For a shared vision was the key to success,” Perez said. “During hard times and the frustrations of getting the business started, it was good to have a partner to remind the other of our original dream.”

Not only have they accomplished all their original business goals, but they’ve added service as another business focus. The entrepreneurs give 5 percent of business profits to FACE AIDS, a student campaign for fighting AIDS in Africa. They also donated more than half the proceeds made during UD’s Relay for Life April 18 to the American Cancer Society. The two men agree success could not have happened without their invaluable partnership.

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They remember those winter nights they sold sandwiches in snowstorms. “Back then, we were crazy,” Ayuso said. “But if you want to make something big, you’ve got to start low and keep the vision to overcome challenges. That was just how much we wanted to succeed.” —RACHEL BADE ’09

FREE CONSULTING

The work of MBA capstone students was cited by the city of Dayton among the successes of its BusinessFirst partnership, which connects local businesses with resources for growth. The city pointed to recommendations that could bring an annual benefit of $100,000 to a marketing firm, $70,000 to a tool company and $25,000 to a welding company.

Managing your money


- Keep a financial journal to get to know your expenses.
- Avoid ATM fees.
- Pay off credit cards each month.
- Don’t ever go without health insurance.

RISE Forum draws more than 2,000 to campus

At RISE Forum, top financial practitioners on the battered and beleaguered economy, CNBC financial correspondent Steve Liesman looked out at the youthful, dark-suited audience and delivered a hopeful message:

The glass is definitely half-full. Respondent Steve Liesman looked out at the youthful, dark-suited audience and delivered a hopeful message:

“You may not make the big salaries,” he said, “but what an interesting time to be involved in finance, where finance is evolving on the front page of the paper, where everybody and their brother is talking about this story, and this story touches out and touches so many people’s lives in so many ways. It may seem like dark days for getting into the field, but I think they are extremely bright days. In that regard, we are going to be reshaping the entire financial industry in this country. All these young kids in this room are going to be a part of that. It’s going to be tough when you get out, but the industry is going to be in extremely bright days. In that regard, we are going to be reshaping the entire financial industry in this country. All these young kids in this room are going to be a part of that. It’s going to be tough when you get out, but the industry is going to be in

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SPEED MARKETING

Where do you go to learn about digital marketing? To UD students, apparently. Students in finance, business, computer science and marketing classrooms are learning digital marketing techniques. The course is offered in nine digital marketing classes offered through the University’s School of Law.

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**ENTREPRENEURS**

**Planning the business**

Something for free won the $15,000 top prize at the School of Business Administration’s Business Plan Competition. Alexander Oibel, an MBA student from Augsburg, Germany, won for his plan for Free Copping 101, under which students would get free copies, while advertisers pay printing costs in exchange for an ad on the back of each sheet.

The project was managed by Noam Cohen, president of Just Business Inc.

“We have more than 4,000 universities in the U.S., there are nearly 18 million potential customers,” said Dean McFarlin, chair of the management and leadership department and NCB Professor of Global Leadership Development.

**Leadership Development.**

Other winners included an LED grow light system, an LED cone for highway and other construction, a radio frequency identification tagging system and a fishing net that would help a single fisherman land a 40-pound bass.

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**Leadership Development.**

**Planning the business**

**The graduate’s lament**

Graduation day for Charles Little and his fellow seniors came on May 3. But earlier endings came for other parts of their UD experiences — the last class, the last test and, for Little, the last game, a loss to Kansas in the second round of the NCAA Division I men’s basketball championship tournament.

Little, the only senior on the team, finished his career having played more games than all but two men players in the history of Flyer basketball. He finished 41st on the all-time scoring list with 996 points. He finished on a team that was highly successful, compiling a 27-8 record, making the program’s first NCAA tournament appearance since 2006 and making the second round for the first time in 19 years.

He also finished with high praise from his coach, Brian Gregory, who told reporters after that second-round game, “We wouldn’t be playing here if it wasn’t for Charles Little.”

Talking of his time season, Gregory said that the Flyers’ playing in Minneapolis that day “speaks volumes for whom he’s come as a man. Because he has grown up. He will graduate in May. He will go overseas probably and play professionally … He’s a guy that is fun to be around and, you know, going to be a big part of this program because that’s what we do now. Our former players are actively involved.”

Little, as he spoke to the reporter, put into words the thoughts of tens of thousands of UD seniors as they reached graduation: “It just sucks that it’s over.”

**Writing the bible**

After an undergraduate career with Flyer Enterprises, the senior finance major was named CEO of the student-run business’ seven divisions for 2009-10, a job she will undertake while pursuing an MBA. Among her goals is to standardize processes across the operation and then, she says, to write a “bible of financial processes.” Such a guide would address Flyer Enterprises’ greatest challenge — the annual transition of senior leadership.

“We want to sustain Flyer Enterprises for years to come,” Neff said. “We have to record all of our knowledge so we can pass it along to the next leaders.” Undocumented errors are losses at risk of repetition, she says, and undocumented successes are missed opportunities. Flyer Enterprises has annual sales of $1.4 million.

**AMONG THE WINNERS**

The men’s and women’s basketball teams as well as the football, men’s and women’s golf, women’s soccer, men’s tennis and women’s indoor track teams received NCAA Public Recognition Awards for their Academic Progress Rate scores. Each team posted a multi-year APR in the top 10 percent of its sport. Only six of the 16 NCAA Division I schools had more than eight teams cited.

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**UD women finish at 21-14**

Finishing 21-14, the UD women’s basketball team (with a 70-55 defeat of Oakland) won its first postseason game since becoming a Division I program. The Flyers’ 20th win of the season had been an overtime upset of nationally ranked Xavier in the quarterfinals of the Atlantic 10 Conference tournament.

**MEDIA HITS**

Media nationwide mentioned the “University of Dayton” or “Dayton Flyers” about 2,700 times during the first week of March Madness. The New York Times alone had 15 mentions. From a town that hosted basketball, sports columnist Matt Story of the Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader wrote:

“University of Dayton Arena. If there is a better venue in which to watch college basketball than the quirky little gem of a gym, I haven’t seen it.”

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AROUND THE WORLD

MORE STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD

Number of University of Dayton students traveling abroad for study or service

Record number of Fulbright winners

For the first time in a single year, three University of Dayton students have been awarded Fulbright scholarships for international study. Sara Streti, a senior majoring in teacher education and German, and Jessica Mueller, a psychology graduate student, are each heading to Germany. Meghan Manning, a senior majoring in teacher education with an emphasis in special education, is going to Korea. All three will teach English.

The students will leave in August and spend 10 months in their host countries. The Fulbright award provides travel and living expenses as well as enrichment and language instruction opportunities.

This academic year has seen a record 658 University of Dayton students traveling abroad for study or service. Enrollment in overseas experience at the University is 5 percent ahead of the previous year’s record pace, in contrast to a nationwide decline in applications to study-abroad programs.

From the West Bank to Egypt

Senior Zac Sideras spent the spring semester abroad at Birzeit University near Ramallah in the Palestinian Territories. He’ll spend the fall term in Egypt as a recipient of a 2009-10 David L. Bursch Scholarship from the Institute of International Education, the scholarships are funded by the National Security Education Program.

According to John McCombe, associate director of the University of Dayton’s honors program, “Traditionally, schools with strong foreign service programs such as Georgetown and George Washington have dominated these awards.”

Three hundred and sixteen alumni of the University of Dayton have served in the Peace Corps since its founding in 1961. The 26 alumni serving in 2008 ranked UD as 23rd among medium-sized schools.

According to Maureen Knorring ’07, who served in Guatemala having graduated in international studies and business leadership, “It’s almost hard not to get involved in service at UD.”

On the inside looking out

Zac Sideras stands by the wall around the Palestinian city of Qalqilya.

“Something bigger than me”

“I have always felt that I had a calling to volunteer,” said Katrina Deckott, a senior biochemistry major, who expects to be assigned to sub-Saharan Africa, teaching math and science and assisting with health care. “I want to be involved in something that is bigger than me, and the Peace Corps is the doorway.”

MEDIA HIT

China Daily, the largest English-language daily in China, talked to University of Dayton students about their experiences studying in America. “I’m meeting new people,” said MBA student Yvonne Zhou ’07, “going beyond my comfort zone, taking calculated risks — the last one on and on.”

CREATIVITY

“A Barren Bowl,” a spring ArtStreet exhibit, featured the work of students from Holy Angel School in Dayton who were taught for 14 weeks by Ellen Schneider, right, not as part of required coursework or observation, but as part of the fine arts education major’s honors thesis. Schneider developed a unit combining African culture with pottery creation and conducted research investigating whether learning activities support students in the art-making process.

When not working on her thesis or teaching or taking courses, Ellen Schneider was creating her own art including “Caged,” below, which won best of show in the University Honors Program Art Exhibition (on display at Alumni Hall 125 through Oct. 31).

Caitlin McCauley, a senior visual design major, won best-of-show honors in this year’s Horvath Exhibition for her work “The Innocents,” a print-medium piece based on a photographer Taryn Simon’s “The Innocents.” It’s made possible through a memorial gift to UD from Josephine Horvath in honor of her husband, Bela Horvath, a Hungarian realist painter who came to UD after fleeing his home country.

Looking forward

A new eight-week summer arts program will bring professional artists to Dayton to work with local young people in creating art. The Blue Sky Project — founded in 2004 in a Chicago suburb — has made Dayton a permanent home after forming a partnership with the University of Dayton.
SNAPSHOT

PREACHING HISTORY

Though it is only Wednesday, Tyler is dressed immaculately in a three-button, gray pin stripe suit, crisp white shirt, and green paisley bowtie as he sits in his office at Mother Bethel and discusses the path that led him to the episcopate of his denomination. His shaven head and neatly trimmed beard and mustache, flecked with gray, lend an authority to his words, delivered in a resonant but never loud voice that reflects Tyler’s quiet poise. At this point in his career, Tyler says, he would be the same — likely leading a seminary, not running a church. He had begun preaching in his hometown of Oakland, Calif., just before graduating from high school, and continued while attending college in Atlanta and graduate school in Berlin, Germany. After graduating, Tyler continued to preach, moving from Ohio to the West Coast to Missouri and back to the Coast again. But his interests lay elsewhere, and in 2008, he returned to Ohio and enrolled in Dayton’s Ph.D. program in educational leadership.

After earning his doctorate, Tyler and his family moved east, and he began working at the New Brunswick (N.J.) Theological Seminary. Soon the local AME church assigned him to a small church in West Chester, Pa., a western suburb of Philadelphia, and then to a church in Camden, just across the Delaware River in New Jersey. The church hierarchy was becoming aware of Tyler’s vast interest in history and in promoting the AME church’s legacy; his dissertation was titled “The African Methodist Episcopal Church: The Life of a 19th Century Educational Leader, 1811–1865,” and he had started a blog, “Tyler’s AME History Notes (markkellytyler.blogspot.com),” which gained increasing prominence during his campaigns for the national church’s official historiographer position. Though he lost to the 30-year incumbent — “an AME institution,” Tyler calls him — it was by just a handful of votes, much to everyone’s surprise.

The defeat was merely the first domino to fall. Immediately after the historiographer election, the church elected its bishops, and the pastor at Mother Bethel, like Tyler the longest of the African-American bishops assigned to the church, lost to the 20-year incumbent — nobody ever thinks, as a pastor, that you’ll ever pastor this church,” he says. “It just means so much to AME preachers around the world. It is just such a unique honor.”

Tyler is respectful of Mother Bethel’s astounding legacy, but rather than allowing himself to be smothered by it, he seeks to continue it. He refers to Allen and other figures from the denomination’s early days as innovators — African-Americans with the boldness and vision to launch a black church when virtually no one else would consider such a thing. Later, in a move that divided the church, its leaders required that all pastors be educated so that they could read the Bible and fully understand which texts they were preaching. Similar vision is needed in current times, Tyler says.

“We need an education that is relevant by today,” he points out. Tyler notes that while literacy has long ceased being an issue, the church should do more to prepare its pastors for the complexities they face now: financial and stewardship issues, for example.

“You walk into a church like this with a budget that’s almost $1 million, and we just pray to God that you know something about finance or that you picked it up along the way by osmosis,” he says. “I argue that if we understand the historical fight of the 1840s, the fight today ought to be preparing people for the job that we ask them to do, and to that deeply is the issue of leadership.”

As Tyler stands each week at the pulpit and looks out at the crowd that extends back, toward, at the crimson-rimmed balcony that lines the sides and back of the church, at the heavenly light filtering in through the gorgeous stained glass windows, he thinks of his innovative predecessors and tells his congrega tion that they should continue to move forward.

“The great thing about his tor, I say just this Sunday in a sermon, is that those who went before us would never try to get us to stand still and live in the world that they lived in,” he says. “We can’t just sit back and wait for someone else to do it for us, we really have to be on the cutting edge. To me, that’s the best way that you honor that legacy.”

THOMAS W. DURSO

Thomas W. Durso is a freelance writer at Philadelphia University.

<CONTINUED CONVERSATIONS>

PRCLUSION PROPHET, BISHOP RICHARD ALLEN, THE AME CHURCH, AND THE BLACK FOUNDING FATHERS

Richard S. Newman
A highly readable 2008 biography of the AME church’s founder, Richard Allen.

MOTHER BETHEL
http://markkellytyler.org
The newly updated Web site of the second-oldest black congregation in the United States includes a virtual tour of Tyler’s church and the Richard Allen Museum.

RICHARD ALLEN MUSEUM
419 S. Sixth St., Philadelphia
The collection, housed on Mother Bethel’s lower level, includes Allen’s Bible, tickets to early 19th-century prayer services, records used by the all-black regiment in the defense of Philadelphia during the War of 1812 and the church’s Episcopal pew, carved by Allen’s hands and inlaid with glass tiles in the balcony, as well as other treasures.

DOCUMENTING THE AMERICAN SOUTH
http://docsouth.unc.edu
The repository housed at the University of North Carolina, includes free digital editions of Bishop Richard Allen’s autobiography and Bishop Daniel Payne’s History of the AME Church. It is an “unprecedented cultural history site for students of early black American history,” says Tyler.
AMERICA’S AFFAIR WITH THE AUTOMOBILE

This guy loves cars. And, while not working on his, he wrote a book about the rest of us Americans who have had — and will have again — a love affair with the automobile.

BY THOMAS M. COLUMBUS
What will be the role of the automobile in the future life of Americans is a matter of much conjecture. What has been in the past is the subject of the recently published The Automobile and American Life, by John Heitmann, professor of history and holder of the Alumni Chair in Humanities at the University of Dayton. This spring he talked with University of Dayton Magazine about automobiles and about Americans.

"Until the 1950s, Americans, and particularly car companies, paid little attention to the problem of automobile safety," John Heitmann writes. "The typical American automobile had dashboards with numerous hard protrusions, no seatbelts, poor brakes and tires, non-collapsible steering columns, doors that opened on impact, soft seats and suspension systems, and windshield glass that shattered easily. These features were the consequence of manufacturer neglect, consumer preferences, the psychology of driving, and the failure of government to further public interest."

Q: In your book you have a warning: "Be wary of historians who claim that they can look into their crystal balls and see the future." Yet, as journalists around the world write about today's turmoil in the auto industry, they try and try to see the future, they seek you out as a source. Do you enjoy that?

A: Dealing with the media is an uncomfortable role. When I first became Alumni Chair, a colleague mentioned the job's public role. I thought, "I don't have a public role." I never thought I'd have so many interviews. I just turned one down with Radio Jamaica. It's their first time. I get some great papers.

What changed that?

A: A number of faculty members have sat in on my senior seminar on the automobile and American life. One of them, Ed Garten, helped me with a number of classes. He was more interested in contemporary matters related to the auto industry. Historians don't like to work near the present — that's journalism.

Are there particular difficulties with being an expert for the media about the auto industry?

A: That's my history is much better than my future. It's got great fun. It gets great evaluations. More than half the students do very good work. Even the worst papers are interesting. One of the best — by Peter Calka — won a national prize. [Editor's note: Calka's "Consumers, Cadillacs, and Civil Rights: The Social and Cultural Impact of the Automobile in Ebony, 1925-1955" won the 2008 student paper of the year award from the Society of Automotive Historians. An essay by Calka on pioneer leader Richard T. Frankensteen '32 appears in this issue of University of Dayton Magazine on Pages 22-23.]

Is there a central purpose to the seminar?

A: To create new knowledge. I challenge the students in areas we don't know anything about. And that is reflected in the book. It doesn't deal just with what has been written.

What does the book deal with?

A: It's not an auto buff history. It's not just about cars. I do love technology and beautiful aesthetics in auto design. But I'm really interested in human beings, their daily lives and how the auto fits into those lives. The automobile has profoundly shaped our everyday lives. It's had an effect similar to that of the communication revolution. The automobile has changed how we use our time, the pace of our lives. Over the last 10 or 15 years, historians of technology have been focusing more on culture.

In what way?

A: They are looking at how cultural shapes society in its choices about technology. With the automobile we have chosen a technology that kills up to 40,000 people per year. In two years that's more than the number of U.S. deaths in the entire Vietnam War. We don't do that with any other technology, except maybe handguns.

"There is a kind of creative destruction in the auto industry now. As it dies and is reborn, there will be a lot of opportunities for young people. For older people, it's going to be painful."

My history is much better than my futurology. We do learn from the past. But there are many new conditions in the auto industry for which there are no past analogies. It is more globally connected. Technology changes. Government is more involved — there wasn't much government oversight of the auto industry until the late 1950s.

With those caveats, what does your knowledge of the past and observation of the present lead you to say about the future?

A: There is a kind of creative destruction in the auto industry now. As it dies and is reborn, there will be a lot of opportunities for young people. For older people, it's going to be painful.

Your Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins is in the history of science. How did you move to writing about today's turmoil in the auto industry?

A: My students had never seen Rebel Without a Cause or Thunder Road. Some had heard of Steve McQueen, but only a few had seen Bullitt. They knew of McQueen because of the Lightning McQueen character in the Disney movie Cars. Then we added films from the 1970s including Aliens and documentaries. They were a big deal then, but nobody had written about them.

What sort of writing do you have the students do?

A: They do long papers. I assign topics I want to learn more about. I get some great papers.

It's my history. It gets great evaluations. More than half the students do very good work. Even the worst papers are interesting. One of the best — by Peter Calka — won a national prize.


"It's a pretty safe bet that Detroit is not going to be Motown in the very near future," said John Heitmann, a professor at the University of Dayton who studies the auto industry.

--wsj.com (The Wall Street Journal)

"We can't really compete when we have those kinds of contracts," he says. "It's the health care, it's the seniority, and it's the work rules. In flush times, when life was good and you could sell many different vehicles and particularly trucks at very high profits, GM could survive like that. But it was just a matter of time before things caught up with them."

--National Review Online

[On why auto executives occasioned more animosity than bankers] The reason for the more personal debate is that consumers have a very different relationship with car companies, said John Heitmann, a professor of history at the University of Dayton in Ohio. "The bankers were only excessively greedy for the past 10 to 15 years," he said. "Detroit Three management has been in debt and greedy — with the exception of former Chrysler chairman Lee Iacocca — for about 50 years."

— McClatchy News Service

The historian as media expert: a chronicle

As financial crisis hit automobile makers, John Heitmann — Alumni Chair in the Humanities and lover of cars — moved beyond being a teacher and a scholar to being an expert for the mass media in their search to put the automotive industry's problems in perspective. A selection from the last several months of Heitmann in the news:

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"It's a pretty safe bet that Detroit is not going to be Motown in the very near future," said John Heitmann, a professor at the University of Dayton who studies the auto industry.

--wsj.com (The Wall Street Journal)

"We can't really compete when we have those kinds of contracts," he says. "It's the health care, it's the seniority, and it's the work rules. In flush times, when life was good and you could sell many different vehicles and particularly trucks at very high profits, GM could survive like that. But it was just a matter of time before things caught up with them."

--National Review Online

[On why auto executives occasioned more animosity than bankers] The reason for the more personal debate is that consumers have a very different relationship with car companies, said John Heitmann, a professor of history at the University of Dayton in Ohio. "The bankers were only excessively greedy for the past 10 to 15 years," he said. "Detroit Three management has been in debt and greedy — with the exception of former Chrysler chairman Lee Iacocca — for about 50 years."

— McClatchy News Service
It’s topics like these that the seminar students cover.

Yes. And so do students in a larger class that enrolls about 35 students, mostly business and engineering majors. (The seminar ranges from about 12 to 17 students.) The larger class writes shorter papers. But I challenge them as well to write on something that’s never been written on. So we’ve had papers on the automobile and suicide (from which I learned there is a statistical jump in auto accidents after an apparent suicide), on drinking and driving (a topic long ignored), the use of autos in crime, and women pioneers related to automobiles. The students are teaching me. And I’m teaching them about creating new knowledge — which is at the heart of a university.

Do your interests in the automobile and culture extend beyond America?

Certainly to my own Porsche 911 Targa. And with the UD Summer Study Abroad Program this summer in Leipzig, Germany, I’m teaching European Automotive History and Technology. There are three other faculty (Becky Blust and Sean Falkowski of engineering, Becky Blust and Sean Falkowski of engineering, Technology. There are three other faculty teaching European Automotive History and Technology. There are three other faculty teaching European Automotive History and Technology. There are three other faculty teaching European Automotive History and Technology. There are three other faculty teaching European Automotive History and Technology.

“‘In 1930,’ Heitmann writes, ‘the Nancy Drew mystery series began with The Secret of the Old Clock. And young Nancy drove a blue roadster . . .’ Scholars have interpreted Nancy’s blue car as a symbol of her independence, a message that would be conveyed to millions of young women readers in the decades that followed.”

The Secret of the Old Clock

“‘In 1930,’ Heitmann writes, ‘the Nancy Drew mystery series began with The Secret of the Old Clock. And young Nancy drove a blue roadster . . .’ Scholars have interpreted Nancy’s blue car as a symbol of her independence, a message that would be conveyed to millions of young women readers in the decades that followed.”

Union man

After being recognized by Oakland Motors and the Chrysler Corp., the United Automobile Workers turned next to the Ford Motor Co. According to the UAW, the 1930s speed-up and stretch-out of the assembly line took a toll on Ford workers. During the Depression, Henry Ford’s legendary paternalism had given way to militant security. To guard his possessions and prevent unionization, Ford created a Service Department made up of gangsters led by Harry Bennett.

“The task of organizing the Ford workers was led by Richard T. Frankensteen ’32 and Walter Reuther, second and third from right, respectively. Intent on avoiding direct conflict, they led a group of women in handing out fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuther was so careful as to give the women a map designating private and public property. As they distributed the fliers reading ‘Unionism, not Fordism.’ Reuter...
The historian as media expert: a chronicle

[On the closure of the General Motors SUV plant in the Dayton suburb of Moraine]

The plant closure nearly marks the end of GM’s dominance in a town that once housed five of the automaker’s presidents in the late 1960s, said John Heitmann, a history professor at the University of Dayton.

“Next to Detroit and Flint, this was No. 3,” Heitmann said of the Dayton area. “That’s a lot of power. This was a great GM town.”

Heitmann said he had thought the area’s skilled labor pool and favorable geography would entice the automaker to keep the plant open, but its future was ultimately doomed by what he called an outmoded product — the fuel-guzzling SUV.

“The future of Dayton is certainly not in the auto industry anymore,” Heitmann said of the number of jobs in the region’s auto production and auto parts industries. “We’re kind of an historical relic.”

—The Associated Press

[On how the auto industry and Ohio’s economy might affect the presidential election.]

“All kinds of politicians from both parties have come to Dayton and have always said that they would deal with economic issues, like unemployment, in Ohio but it seems like very little has been done. So, they’re here to get votes, but then we don’t see them again.”

—ABC World News with Charles Gibson

In the 1930s, at the top end of the American automobile market were Cordis and Duesenberg and Lincolns and Cadillacs. But the sales leader in the luxury car market was Packard. In Dayton, a restored original Packard dealership — The Citizens Motorcar Co. — has become America’s Packard Museum. The museum features over 50 automobiles on display in the restored Art Deco showroom, service department and pavilion. See http://www.americaspackardmuseum.org/

Published in 1965, Unsafe at Any Speed [by Ralph Nader] accused automotive engineers of disregarding ethical principles and ignoring public safety,” Heitmann writes. “During the 1960 to 1964 model years, the Corvair could go out of control at 22 mph with a turning radius of 50 degrees and front and rear tire pressure of 26 psi.”

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The automobile, generally the American automobile, is ingrained in American culture, in its books and movies and songs. Sam Phillips asserted that his Chess Records recording of “Rocket 88” by Jackie Brenston and the Kings of Rhythm in 1951 marked the birth of rock — though in my book I claim the first true rock ’n’ roll song is Chuck Berry’s “Maybellene.”

Given the economic times, isn’t this passion going to be something of the past?

“I don’t think so. After we are past this, cars will be back in our culture.

We’re reprinting an excerpt from your book describing your affection for your first two cars, a 1959 MGA and a 1966 Ford Mustang. What other memorable cars have you owned?

The worst was a Mercury Capri whose clutch had to be continually replaced. Yes, maybe the worst was my 1979 Malibu that kept blowing transmissions. Then there was the Karmann Ghia. It rusted a lot. I remem-
The historian as media expert: a chronicle

John Heitmann, a University of Dayton historian recognized for his work on the U.S. auto industry, said what will be lost with fewer dealers is what he called the “personal touch” — dealers getting to know individual customers and their needs.

Said Heitmann, “The mega-dealers will survive.”

—Dayton Daily News

University of Dayton automotive historian and expert John Heitmann said something was needed to jolt the U.S. auto industry. A housecleaning of U.S. auto executives probably would do more good than harm.

“Everything rises and falls on leadership,” Heitmann said. “New executives need to be chosen who are passionate about cars, able to read markets better than what has been done in the recent past, and willing to take risks.”

Heitmann, author of *The Automobile and American Life*, urged auto manufacturers to remodel their business plans to refocus on what initially made them successful.

“We need to go back to the roots of the industry when smaller units were the rule, before all of the consolidation and integration took place,” Heitmann said.

“Finance folks should be replaced by production and manufacturing personnel with an intimate understanding of what personal transportation is all about.”

—FloridaToday.com

James Dean, the iconic star of *Rebel Without a Cause* (1955), died in an automobile accident in a Porsche 356 Spyder, like that shown here. Dean’s Porsche, later sold for parts, rolled off a truck and broke a mechanic’s legs. A doctor, Heitmann writes, who “bought the Dean engine and installed it in his Porsche ... died in a fiery crash. A second doctor bought the transmission, and subsequently he would be injured in another crash.”

Several other accidents related to the parts of Dean’s Porsche followed. “Whatever the cause, Dean’s fatal accident created a mystique about Porsches.”

“My first car,” Heitmann writes in the epilogue to his book, “was a 1959 MGA that I bought in high school, a car filled with bondo and needing a ring-job. It was fun at the time and took me where I wanted to go without exception (despite reports of the unreliability of Lucas electrics, it never failed me). With college that car had to go, and as an upperclassman I graduated to a 1966 Ford Mustang, one of the best cars I ever owned. It was also the car in which I took my wife on our first date, and in which she pulled off the knob on the radio, much to my irritation. Since then we have ridden many places together in a number of cars, and we still irritate each other at times.”

“Finance folks should be replaced by production and manufacturing personnel with an intimate understanding of what personal transportation is all about.”
The neighborhood is old. The people are poor. But they may be teaching the rest of the country how to make a school succeed.

BY THOMAS M. COLUMBUS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDY SNOW
Each spring day was a change. The old Ruskin building grace the walls of the new Ruskin school. Ruskin was also chosen as one of five schools to be part of the beginning of Dayton’s Neighborhood School Centers. Each school is paired with a social service agency, so pairing Ruskin with the nearby East End Community Services had an intrinsic logic, except perhaps for the fact that East End was running a computing school in the neighborhood.

As the Dayton Public Schools were tearing the old Ruskin School down with intentions of building a new one, they asked East End to become a partner with the Fitz Center on the Neighborhood School Centers project. “And it became clear,” Lepore-Jentleson said, “it would not be good to have two neighborhood schools.”

The new Ruskin has East End fingerprints all over it. Ruskin is a site-based managed school, which allows for an unusual degree of involvement from the neighborhood community. Not only was there local input into the design of the school, but the principal was chosen by the community. Berry reports to a management council that includes Lepore-Jentleson, other community representatives, parents and two school board members. The council reports to the superintendent, who reports to the school board.

“This is unfamiliar territory for Dayton,” Berry said. “We’re still figuring out our relationships.”

One relationship for which Berry is thankful is his with a graduate school teacher of his, Roberta Weaver, associate professor of teacher education and consultant to the Fitz Center, who encouraged him to apply for the Ruskin principalship.

“She has faith in me beyond my own faith,” Berry said. “She’s been a mom, so she has faith in me beyond my own faith.”

Now that he is principal, he is in a neighborhood in which he has faith, an area where he went to high school at Dayton Belmont — to which he was bused in the days of desegregation. Of Ruskin, he says, “I’m blessed to be at this school.” He pointed out that the composition of Ruskin’s student body, though not economically diverse, is in one way similar to that of the U.S. as a whole; it’s about two-thirds Caucasian (largely Appalachian) with the remaining third split between Hispanic, black and mixed-race.

To relate to it, Berry draws on a diverse back-
The school as family

She came to the school on a Thursday to talk to her children’s teacher about her son’s evaluation. She and her partner were frustrated over his learning disabilities, his attention disorder, his non-participation in classroom activities, and his consistent failure in his education. Their son had only been in school for a year, and the mother was concerned about his future. She expressed her worries and the challenges she faced as a parent. The conversation was facilitated by the principal, who provided guidance and resources to help the family. The principal emphasized the importance of collaboration between school and home, and the role of parents in supporting their child’s education. The conversation was positive and encouraging, with the principal offering to assist the family in finding additional support and resources. The mother left the conversation feeling hopeful and supported, with a better understanding of how to advocate for her son’s needs.

<CONTINUED CONVERSATIONS>

The experiences are tied to the academic standards of each grade level. "The focus," Mario said, "is on academic achievement. It relates to standards in or it doesn’t." DD

Community-building, community-based

In addition to its work with the Neighborhood School Campaign, the University’s Fitz Center for Leadership in Community directed by Dick Ferguson, ’73, has extensive involvement in other community projects. The community-building programs in which the center is engaged include AmeriCorps VISTA, community-based service learning, and Brown Street’s Reunion House, which has served as a catalyst for neighborhood activity.

The center’s effectiveness flows from an intricate web of learning, leadership and service resources. Among the center’s student programs are the Dayton Civic Scholars (social science students who make positive contributions to the greater Dayton community), campus career services, the Public Service Career Center, the Social Justice Center, and the Rivers Institute (an interdisciplin-

cal program that offers resources for students who participate in public service and education programs). Among the center’s faculty programs are the Community-Based Learning Program (a program that offers resources for students who participate in public service and education programs), the Public Service Career Center, the Social Justice Center, and the Rivers Institute (an interdisciplin-

cal program that offers resources for students who participate in public service and education programs).
A new tool to heal people has a possible side effect — it could save animals.

BY DEBBIE JUNIOWICZ '96
ILLUSTRATION BY TED PITTS
It was exciting, challenging, rewarding and, sometimes, disgusting.

"It was so interesting, but there were times we were a little grossed out," said Gardner. "I was the vet student," Gardner said. "Some of the older pigs had a lot of fat tissue. So the veins we got from the unhealthier ones were definitely less pleasant to work with."

She dipped into the bag of porcine vessels anyway — there was work to be done. It had all started with a verbal inquiry from a company that develops and markets advanced medical devices for minimally invasive and open surgical procedures. The industry client had a history of working with the School of Engineering’s Design and Manufacturing Clinic on projects but needed a stronger interdisciplinary approach than the clinic could provide.

Margaret Pinnell, assistant professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, heard about the client’s research needs and immediately contacted biology associate professor Carissa Krane to work on a proposal.

And Gardner, a biotechnology graduate student, became one of several students in engineering, biology and premedicine who had a history of working with the School of Engineering’s Design and Manufacturing Clinic on projects but needed a stronger interdisciplinary approach, and they were hitting a wall, " Krane said. "When we finally got to the team, it was like a scorecard; we knew how the device worked on A, B, C and D. Now, we need to identify the variables they weren’t assessing in order to optimize the device."

The project was a two-phase project. The first phase included the development of an ex-vivo approach to assess the performance of the systems. The second involved additional testing and extensive statistical analysis. An ex-vivo approach generally refers to experimentation or measurements done in an ex vivo tissue in an artificial environment. That’s where the pig vessels came in.

None of us could have done this alone, and we were dependent on student participation. They were the ones in the driver’s seat.

"The company’s test method didn’t mimic physiological systems, and there was poor repeatability," Pinnell said. "We wanted to try to optimize their design despite the inherent variability of the test specimens."

That variability was apparent when the students pulled the bags of arteries out of the cooler.

"You would get days when the vessels would look a lot different, but that was to be expected," chemical engineering major Eric Whitney said.

But some of the seals created by the instrument were stronger than others, and the team worked to develop a procedure to determine which factors had the greatest effect on the quality of those seals.

"They explored the type of fluid that was flowing through the vessel and the temperature of that fluid. The procedure then involved prepping a porcine blood vessel, applying tension by stretching it with force transducers, applying the surgical device and pumping the sealed ends full of fluid until the vessel burst, all while recording the pressure. The team determined that it wasn’t one factor but several combinations of factors that produced significantly different results."

"Working with actual tissue, stepping up and doing a research project that was so practical and so real, it helped confirm for me that I want to work with the human body," Whitney said. "It was exciting, and that excitement was motivating."

"It wasn’t a factor."

"Even if a test didn’t go as planned, we learned a lot. It’s not something that could have happened," Gardner said. "Mistakes were part of the learning process, and one of the biggest early ones was in dealing with the porcine vessels. When the students started working with the arteries, they didn’t have the right equipment.

"We’d work with them when we could, sometimes we’d do some work and put them away," Gardner said. "We actually had to throw batches of vessels away because they went bad. If you didn’t use them right away, you could see the amount of animal testing needed.

The three C’s

Collaboration, camaraderie and communication would prove to be the keys to success for this UD research team.

"We were really gathering all of these entities together, much less bring them together successfully," Pinnell said. "I get to work with some amazing people, and I felt like I was a student again.

"You could just tell when they got into the bag of arteries out of the cooler."

"The company was taking an engineering approach, and they were hitting a wall,"Krane said. "We needed to go back into the discovery phase and see what other parameters were involved."

"It was like a scorecard, we knew how the device worked on A, B, C and D. Now, we needed to identify the variables they weren’t assessing in order to optimize the device."

"With this type of device, if it seals something 5 millimeters in diameter and you tweak it, something could seal something a millimeter, it could be seen as better," Krane said. "But is that the only way it could be made better?"

"The company wanted to make it better. But what would it mean to make it better?"

"That was the most challenging and rewarding part because we were able to work on this project with the students and the UD shredders. It was very exciting, and that excitement was motivating."

"I was a student again.

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"The FDA Center for Devices and Radiological Health regulates the approval of medical devices ranging from dental flaps to replacement heart valves. The approval procedures vary greatly depending on the device, but animal testing can be an essential component.

"The goal of what we were doing was to provide a better, robust ex-vivo test method using by-products that would have been discarded," Krane said. "In doing so, we might be able to decrease the total number of live animals used to make refinements."

"That was the most challenging and rewarding part because we were able to work on this project with the students and the UD shredders. It was very exciting, and that excitement was motivating."

"For the type of device we were working with, the FDA requires..."
The tools we use to address a problem and the approaches we take are quite different yet amazingly complementary. And because of that, this project crescendos.

Moving forward

While the initial project wrapped up months ago, the team remains partially intact and has, in fact, grown to include additional faculty members and students. The industry work has received continuous funding for the past three years.

“We’re providing them with the deliverables that we promised,” Diestelkamp said. “So many times people come to the statisti- cal analysis of the data by math professor Diestelkamp, who found the team’s approach to complementary. And yet amazingly
collaborative effort with UDRI. Such research complements the University’s bioengineering initiative that includes interdisciplinary research, an undergraduate concentration in bioengineering developed in 2000 and a bioengineering master’s degree program that’s only recently been developed.

“It was very rewarding to be involved in a project that was so challenging. It was a laboratory project, the pace is much quicker, and you have to really make the effort to make an impact,” Diestelkamp said.

The research has provided a platform for other students who have translated the various components into a Stander Symposium and four honors thesis projects since its inception.

“The tools we use to address a problem and the approaches we take are quite different, yet amazingly complementary,” Krane said. “And because of that, this project crescendos.”

But beyond the publications, the opportunities and even the research dollars, the student experience remains at the forefront for the faculty on this team. Credit and accolades have never been the primary talking about the same thing — talking to each other, not at each other.”

Gardner and the other students picked up on the communication glitches immediately.

“I found what I enjoyed working on a team like this, particularly a multidisciplinary team, that I sometimes had to be an interpreter or a translator,” she said. “And, now, having the skill to communicate the same concept to different audiences in different ways is invaluable. At Precter & Gamble I work with engineers, researchers, marketing and consumers, so my experience is paying off.”

Class Notes

Class Notes appear only in print editions. Send in your class notes to classnotes@udayton.edu

University of Dayton Magazine

Robert Weldy

Robert weldy@udayton.edu
Biodiversity
lost and found

When John Bickham unravels a mystery, he uncovers its very DNA.

In Central America, the geneticist discovered a new little yellow passerine — a tiny finch-like bird from 13 families of known species in the Rhodospizinae genus, at one time thought to have just one.

"These species are among the most ancient of the New World Passerines," said Bickham, director of Purdue University’s Center for the Environment. "I fear we have lost anything—We’ve lost 2.5 million years of unique evolution not just of that species but of the whole community of native organisms living with them."

Bickham is using the bird — whose naming rights Purdue is selling in support of environmental teaching and research — as a teaching example of the commensal organisms living with them. "If we lose one, have we lost anything? We’ve lost 2.5 million years of undiscovered — totaling 2.5 billion years of unique evolution, as yet undiscovered — of the planet’s genetic diversity."

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Send in your class notes to classnotes@udayton.edu.

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JOAN MARIE HERBERS ’73

Joan Herbers has a successful career. Last year, she concluded a six-year stint as dean of Ohio State University’s College of Biological Sciences. She is president-elect of the Association for Women in Science. And she is clearing obstacles from the paths of other women pursuing academic careers in science.

Ohio State, she says, has no disparity between men and women faculty members in salaries or laboratory space. "Just Ohio State has done a terrific job of getting policies in order."

Yet, women at Ohio State and elsewhere are not retained in the professorates at the same percentage as men. At Ohio State, more than half of women tenure-track faculty leave before the mandatory tenure year, less than a quarter of men do. Women see their professorates "lost."

"To determine the causes of these patterns and to address them, Herbers is principal investigator of Project CECE. (Comprehensive Equity at Ohio State), funded with a $6.8 million National Science Foundation grant.

"Some causes are known. "Women are far more stressed out, "Herbers said. "Half of men faculty have stay at home spouses, compared to 1 percent of women. Women are three times as likely to be single parents. Women are three times more likely to have a spouse, compared to 5 percent of women. Women often feel isolated and may be ineffectively treated in areas such as teaching assignments."

"The team are facilitating the process using a concept called transformational leadership. "We need the social scientists," Herbers says. "We need to do this translational science."

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Sometimes paying the rent isn’t enough

SANDY ROLLINS ’79

“People with means can move,” Rollins says. “People paying the rent sometimes have a difficult time finding a new landlord willing to take them in.”

Rob Rollins, a University of Dayton alumnus and member of the energy efficiency organization Urban Neighborhoods Inc., explained that people who are receiving public assistance through the city’s housing assistance program can sometimes have trouble finding landlords who accept them.

“Sometimes landlords will let people move in only if they have a guarantee from a family member or friend who’s living with them,” Rollins said. “The city’s housing assistance program is a way to get that guarantee.”

But earning a guarantee isn’t the only problem tenants face. Sometimes landlords will only accept tenants on a week-to-week basis, which makes the tenants vulnerable to losing their homes if they can’t pay rent on time.

“People are living in their apartments only because they have the guarantee of housing assistance,” Rollins said. “If they don’t get paid, they’re not going to move in. And they’re not going to be able to stay in those apartments.”

The New Orleans Jazzfest together every year. The director, Jeff Magee, is a UD grad, and the festival is free to the public. Jeff just launched a company called "The Show Must Go On," and he’s hoping that by making the festival free to the public, he can help keep the New Orleans Jazzfest alive.

“I love the arts and the music in New Orleans, and I think it’s important for people to come and experience it,” Magee said. “I’m hoping that by making the festival free to the public, I can help keep the New Orleans Jazzfest alive.”
Mississippi memories

ANGELA PARKER ’87

A year-and-a-half ago, Angela Parker ’87 didn’t think the United States would have its first black president — but it wasn’t because she thought the United States wasn’t ready.

“I just didn’t think Barack Obama had a chance against the Clinton machine,” said Parker, assistant director of clinic support in UDT, the University Information Technology division.

For her father, Frank Parker of Trotwood, Ohio, a Clinton election was unfathomable for entirely different reasons: He witnessed the birth of the civil rights movement.

“Mostly one generation apart, their perspectives seem from different worlds. That’s why Parker stayed in Dayton for the historic inauguration, joining her father at his home to watch it.”

Parker’s father grew up in Chesewood, Man., and recalled rioting the night after the conflict started in April 1968. The city was one of several in the Northwest that saw waves of violence.

“For my father and people who were around during that time, the inauguration of an African American president is something they never dreamed would happen,” said Parker, who majored in biomedical engineering technology. “This will be a very special day for him.”

It was indeed.

“He talked about his father maintaining his dignity,” she said. “It took a quiet strength for a man to remain dignified in an environment where people were constantly trying to rob you of your dignity. He told me, ‘I wish my mom could see this.’”

Parker said her grandmother always voted, but her grandmother never knew because she had to leave before negroes and whites at the polls.

“She told me how they used to chain a ball when the polls opened and closed,” she said. “One time, her father informs the heartland and asked him if he’d vote. It was a yes. He knew better than he couldn’t have voted.

“Though being Washington for the inauguration would have been a great experience, I knew I was in the right place,” Parker said. “One thing that will come true when Obama is a big deal, and I can give witness. I can give witness to what things were like because of what my father told me. I don’t take that fact for granted.”

— Lauren Pauer

A string of childhood ER visits — and the excellent treatment he received — persuaded Bob Sobehart to become a doctor, but his career has hardly focused on childhood mishaps.

Sobehart is an emergency physician for a shock trauma platoon stationed near Fallujah, Iraq, where he treats injured U.S. and Iraqi armed forces and civilian contractors.

Deployed since February, the premiere and married father of two girls is on his second tour with the Marines. He was deployed to Fallujah in August 2004, around the time U.S. troops took over the city, which is 40 miles west of Baghdad.

Not an hour after his arrival in 2004, a task sitting near the battalion aid station was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade. Sobehart performed a cricothyrotomy — a surgical airway procedure — on an injured Marine at the scene.

“That was probably the most intense moment for me,” Sobehart wrote in his memoir. “I was a young medicine student in the U.S., and you never really get to practice it other than in a laboratory setting.”

Thanks in part to Sobehart’s quick action, the Marine survived his injuries.

Sobehart, his fellow doctor and Navy corpsman treated more than 300 patients during the two-week battle, even while under fire. But it was the courage displayed by the Marines and Navy forces, he said, that has stayed with him.

Sobehart, who served in the U.S. at the University of Pittsburgh, has returned to a region he describes as safer than five years ago.

“You never really get to practice it other than in a laboratory setting.”

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Healing heroes

LT. ROBERT SOBEHART ’99

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Healing heroes
Class Notes appear only in print editions.

Send in your class notes to classnotes@uday.edu

Brad VanVleet’s decision to be ‘back home again in Indiana’ after graduation was an easy one.

“I’m a small-town guy. And I love Richmond,” he said.

Returning to help with the family business, VanVleet Insurance, came naturally.

“I want to be involved, look around and think. ‘Why not come back and learn from my dad when I’m young?’” he said.

And he’s always liked helping people. “I love sales.”

But VanVleet wasn’t always his dream. He jokingly said that as a young boy he had dreamed of playing professional football. While he didn’t quite make it into the NFL, he has made the game a lifetime hobby for the Travies, and he brought that enthusiasm back to Richmond, where he is also an active member of the Phi Kappa Thal Society.

He said it’s all about giving back to the community that made him who he is and providing opportunities for his children.

But sports isn’t only the way’s he’s giving back. VanVleet was instrumental in the founding of Richmond Young Adult Professionals, an organization that provides networking opportunities to Richmond professionals.

“Richmond is just like a lot of other Midwestern communities — not a lot of job or industry,” he said.

“A lot of college graduates have to move to the coasts,” he said. “We knew Richmond had the potential, and we just wanted to explore that.”

VanVleet is thriving in his new position, too. He is a member of the Wayne County Area Chamber of Commerce in Richmond, the president of Independent Insurance Agents of Richmond and the 2008 recipient of the Governor’s Award for Tomorrow’s Leaders — all before the age of 30.

“Whe have ever tempted to move to a bigger city? No way, he said.

“Indiana is the perfect place to raise a family. I have a great commute and I love this place.”

Hometown guy
When Carolyn Verst joined DuPont, she spent Monday nights playing pickup five-on-five soccer in Aurinas, Spain. Her teammates were surprised: “Is an American who can play soccer, and she’s a woman!”

Soccer in Spain is a recent interest for Verst, a project engineer tapped in 2007 to help lead the engineering team responsible for launching a $104 million facility to produce viapolyl, a chemical ingredient in DuPont Homest, a flame-resistant fiber used in protective clothing.

During 2008, the chemical engineering graduate traveled to Spain, where she’s been managing the plant’s startup and speaking more and more Spanish.

Called to fill in for her supervisor, Verst had one day’s notice before her first trip to Spain. An older aedor provided packing tips, her boss bided her cultural differences. “Spaniards can be passionate and intense in a work environment,” her boss advised. In the States, Verst had found that teams can cause hard feelings. “Here, everyone leaves friends,” she said. “I’ve learned to be patient with people interpreting each other. It’s how they have things work.”

Verst has had chances to teach as well as learn. Chosen to represent DuPont at the 2008 Construction Users Round Table national conference, she served on the Next Generation Advisory Board, presenting the team’s findings on differences in values, priorities and interaction styles between the up-and-coming and experienced generations.

Through the DuPont Field Engineering Program, she will rotate through several three-year assignments, gaining experience at different company sites. In April she will return to the States. “It’s harder than I expected to be gone this much,” said Verst, who comes from a large family not from Kentucky and spent a summer studying in Australia and one doing interns in Thailand.

Walking internationally has reinforced “how strong my roots are,” said Verst. “...
Nowhere is nice
ERICA CAUDILL ’08

Nowhere is definitely somewhere for Erica

Caudill — somewhere very special, in fact.

“I just love it here,” Caudill said from her home in Ketchikan, Alaska. “It’s just beautiful.”

Ketchikan, of course, was to anchor one side of the recently completed “Bridge to Nowhere.” “Nowhere,” locals knew, was Alaska. “It’s just beautiful.”

Caudill moved to Ketchikan after a one-year contract to check for the Alaska Superior Court. And while it sometimes feels like the beginning of law school — researching issues for the judge, checking case citations, making recommendations — it suits her just fine. She sought a desk job because she hadn’t decided which areas of law to pursue and knowing clerking would give her a broad experience.

“I really like it, and part of it is, there’s a lot of community in Ketchikan,” she said.

Caudill first fell in love with Alaska while visiting in 2004. Then, the summer before her third year of law school, she landed an internship with the public defender’s office in Ketchikan. Under a temporary permit, she was able to fully represent clients, carrying her own courtroom and appearing in court. “When I moved back to Ohio, I knew my heart was still in Alaska,” she said, as she went back.

Caudill is, in fact, one of two ’08 UD law grads in Alaska. The other, Sarah Sipe DeMola, also a supervisor court clerk, is working north of the Arctic Circle. Caudill, a Cleveland area native, is not sure what she’ll do after Nowhere. “I am so happy where she is. The scenery is breathtaking,” she said, “and I get to live in Alaska.”

—Vince McIntire ’72

Class Notes appear only in print editions.
Send in your class notes to: classnotes@udayton.edu

Records Updates Only
Send information for records to: Advancement Services, University of Dayton, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH 45469-2003.
Please remember all student info.
Be sure to include your name, year of graduation and major. For this records office, please include all phone numbers. Please also include any major addresses, asking whether you wish to be approached in Class Notes. Also include major name and spouse’s name (if applicable). If you’re sending information about your children, please include birth dates rather than ages. Please do not send announcements of engagements or pregnancies. Photo of alumnus is welcomed and published in special portraits. Notes may take up to two issues to publish.

Stay Connected
To be sure you receive the latest news between issues of University of Dayton Magazine, please send your email address and other information at alumni.udayton.edu. Click on “My UD” to register on the alumni network.

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A HOUSE WITH A VIEW — AND PERSPECTIVE

For 2005 graduates Sean Corcoran, Matt Heyrman, Nicholas Tabernik and Chad Warren, it was more than just a place to hang their hats — it’s where four friends discovered a lasting bond that they want to share with future Flyers.

They all left UD with great memories and good jobs. While moving Warren to Maha- arashtra, India for his first job after graduation, Heyrman, Tabernik and Warren came up with the idea of a scholarship. Inspired by a family they knew, they designated the scholarship as an endowment for a student whose immediate family has felt the financial impact of a personal or emotional handicap, which can make saving for college difficult. They decided to name it for the home they shared for two years.

“UD has impacted our lives in so many ways,” Warren said. “The 431 College Park Endowed Scholarship is our way of ensuring others will have the opportunity for a world-class education while establishing lifelong memories and friendships.”

Heyrman summed it up this way: “If this scholarship can ensure the recipient can come to UD and experience four of the best years of their life, then it’s all worth it.”

—JERIEN PARMA

A first for a president and provost, a first for an alumni chapter

The trip follows a similar outreach effort in Kuwait earlier this year. “This was a pioneering visit, perhaps the first of any American university president and provost to Kuwait in recorded history,” said Barakat, a senior lecturer in business administration and economics at Notre Dame University–Lebanon in Beirut, who coordinated the event.

“To have Dr. Curran and Dr. Saliba in the region shortly after visits to China and India makes us realize the importance that UD puts on its internationalization efforts and the role they envision for us,” he said. “Our alumni as true ambassadors for UD, will help by communicating the Marianist heritage in our local community. We can be a bridge between cultures and civilizations — unfortunately now needed more than ever.”

Barakat left Lebanon during its civil war to study at the University of Dayton. He returned to campus last summer for his 30th class reunion and now helping his alma mater launch a Middle East alumni chapter, the University’s first international alumni chapter. He considers the effort “a small debt repayment” for what the University did for him.

“UD proved to be both my family and my home.”

JEROEN KRAMER

The 21 Laws of Sales Success / JACE SCHERER ’67

Working for more than 40 years in sales, Scherer has developed 21 principles that lead to increased sales. “Sales doesn’t have a great reputation because too many people are more concerned with making the sale than solving problems for the customer. Every sale is really a solution to a problem. Building trust is the key.”

The Power of Critical Thinking / LEWIS CRUZ ’75

Healing with the third edition this September, Vaughn’s textbook explores the essentials of critical reasoning, argumentation and logic. “It’s very well written and is an excellent resource for students in the humanities,” said a student. “It’s a good book.”

Beyond Light / ROSEMARIE BILY ’52

Bily’s science fiction novel is the tale of two brothers who discover an ancient people that guide the planet. “Bily’s science fiction novel will help by communicating the Marianist heritage in our local community. We can be a bridge between cultures and civilizations — unfortunately now needed more than ever.”

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ALUMNI BOOKSHELF

Above, Joseph Saliba and Daniel Carrus in Lebanon. Top, Saliba with Edgard Barakat ’78 ’81.

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ALUMNI BOOKSHELF
Kirkendall is all fun and games — until you’re up against your big sister and your dad in the league championship.

Mary Kearney ’07 can tell you firsthand. She and her team lined up to her team’s name, Tank’s Bar and We’ll Kick Your Ass, taking the summer nights throughout the summer in Clarendon Park in Lakeview.

“There were other plots and subplots in the season, like Jen’s Campus South buddy Pat Lamb’s ’78. When Lamb asked about playing in the league, Sarah said he could be ‘a sub of a sub.’ Mary got wind of the snub and put Tank’s Bar in the league, which boasts about 150 players on eight teams who play Wednesday nights throughout the summer in Clarendon Park in Lakeview. Alumni in chapters across the country are playing their games seriously.

For the Cincinnati chapter, it’s summer sand volleyball and winter broomball on Fountain Square, where the games are broadcast live on the 42-foot-high video board. In Cleveland, there’s the Flyer Classic Golf Outing. For the Washington, D.C., chapter, it’s flag football and softball in the Capital Alumni Hotspots, where they take on alumni chapters from Boston College to Stanford. On Ohio Day, they go up against Ohio State, Ohio University and Xavier. Think games against that last school get intense?

“Hell yeah, man. People are sliding, getting hurt because they really want to win,” said Meg Thibodeau ’05, a high school math teacher and the chapter’s softball coordinator. “The rivalries are still alive and well.”

For more information about your chapter, visit the chapter pages at http://alumni.udayton.edu/
Michael Webster ’88 vividly remembers brisk, wintry walks from campus to NCR’s Sugar Camp complex where he worked while earning a bachelor’s degree in management.

“Not exactly the ‘walk a mile in the snow’ stories you embellish for your kids, but I always appreciated the chance to move freely among the academic and professional worlds. That gave me perspective and insights I rely upon today,” says Webster, chief strategy and communications officer for NCR Corp. in Atlanta.

The young executive takes pride in NCR’s largest philanthropic move — one that will allow his alma mater to embark on the biggest expansion in school history.

According to historical accounts, Julia Patterson, S.M., endorsed the business proposition. Zehler, told her sons, John and Frank, that she would allow them to invest the small family fortune to start a cash register business only if Brother Maximin Zehler, S.M., gave the University his beloved music teacher who led sing-along in Boll Theatre until his retirement, gave the University his renowned music collection.

Sauer’s personnel listing instrument, on display in the Marianist Archives in Roesch Library, was a practical solution to the challenge of skycracking high school enrollment nationwide. He wrote, “In 1924, we were conducting five high schools; you will find us in charge of six of those schools — an increase of over 100 percent in seven years.”

In Sauer’s time, Marianists traveled yearly with their trunks to Cincinnati to await the reading of assignments. “Sometimes, if you had to move one person, you had to move another, which was cause to move another,” said Father Paul Viesen, S.M., archives director. As the wooden blocks shifted, Marianists were off to new assignments. “Some of it was the domino effect, and some of it was we kept a wider perspective of things.”

Viesen fingered the wooden blocks, pulling out ones glued with yellowing slips of paper typed with recognizable names: Father Norbert Bonn, Brother Al Sauer, Brother Frank Delb — who recently celebrated his 100th birthday, Norbert Burns, Brother Al Rose, Brother William Wohlfeiler, S.M., founder of the University’s chemistry and chemical engineering departments, was a double-three.

These were the numbers on his domino, one of 300 wooden tiles that also bear names of Marianists and locations worldwide. Brother George Sauer, Society of Mary Cincinnati Province inspector from 1924 to 1938, arranged them in eight tight rows to ensure every school had its teachers and every Marianist had his assignment.

Today, it’s a bit different, Viesen said. “I’ve been here since 1984; I’ve taken root.”

“We recognized the opportunity to empower the University of Dayton to develop the property for the benefit of future generations, and we considered it a privilege to contribute,” Webster says.

“It’s one of numerous contributions NCR has made to its neighboring university over more than two decades. In all, NCR has donated more than $15 million to UD, including nearly $3 million for the Anderson Information Science Center and $1 million for professorships in law and technology and global leadership development.

“The relationship between NCR and the University of Dayton is unique in its longevity — it dates back to the very year that NCR was founded in 1884 — and its closeness,” Webster notes, pointing to archival history.

Not all philanthropic gifts to the University of Dayton come in the form of a check.

**Motoman Inc.** donated top-of-the-line robots to create the Motoman Robotics Lab in the School of Engineering. SAS Automation is lending a hand. Actually, hands. As part of a five-year agreement, SAS is providing “end-of-arm” tools to the robots. These robots are known to dance, usually after hours. Go to http://www.youtube.com/UDDayton and watch how they unwind after an arduous day with researchers and students. Value: $537,000.

• In January, 165 huge boxes of Christmas creches and related materials arrived from Dixon Under Australian collector Elisabeth Von Mullekom-Cserep donated more than 2,300 items to the Marian Library — the largest single gift it had ever received. The gift enabled about 600 three-dimensional Nativity scenes from more than 80 countries to the library’s massive creche collection, making it one of the largest in the world. Value: $150,000.

• George Zimmerman, a beloved music teacher who led a popular annual Christmas Carol sing-along in Bin Theatre until his retirement, gave the University his treasured Kawai grand piano and bench and a selection of American sheet music. It sits grandly in the band room in Redland Hall. Value: priceless.

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Letter to a son

I sort through photos, ticket stubs, report cards, news clippings. I struggle with a mother’s sense of watching her child turn into a man.

This winter, after learning you’d been accepted to the University of Dayton, we pulled into the Arena for a Dayton Flyers game, and you acknowledged, “I’ve been going to games all my life, and I’m finally a member of the Flyers family.” But you’ve always been a Flyer. I learned I was pregnant just days after earning a master’s degree in English at UD. Seconds after phoning your father, I bumbled the news to my colleagues in the green of the stands, they’ve endorsed stories of your life for the Flyers and your own exploits on the court.

You learned to count and make colorful “masterpieces” at the child care center on campus. You mastered the hack float at the P&G, you earned “Camper of the Year” honors at the Oliver Purnell basketball camp. Your drawers are full of Flyer T-shirts. Dayton Flyers floor mats grace the floor of your Toyota. One spring, a high school guidance counselor knocked on the door of your honors English class, grinned and flashed the score of the Flyers’ A-team game directly at you. Your teacher was not amused.

Now, as you graduate from high school, you hesitate, not knowing what to expect. Here’s a little secret to college life. It’s not about earning a degree. It’s about making a life.

One day, you’ll be part of the Red Scare, screaming, “We are UD!” In the next minutes, you’ll be boisterously merged in the University of Dayton “Anthem” at your graduation ceremony in the same arena.

Listen to those words, rising and falling in the distance.

“Your alma mater calls. UD, we hear you calling.”

—John Stines ’04

Flyers noticed

I was at the Minnesota St. Paul airport, bound for a flight to my hometown of Canton, Ohio, last March, wearing a University of Dayton jacket and the grin I’d had since watching the Flyers beat West Virginia the previous day.

The woman in front of me in line turned, saw a jacket and said, “Well, you had fun yesterday, didn’t you?”

She’d come to town to watch North Dakota play and I knew why.

“Weird, why did you have that jacket on?”

I was thrilled to be there. I was proud.

“North Dakota fan’s reaction sums up why the 2008-09 UD men’s basketball team’s trip to the NCAA tournament and to the Metrodome was huge for the university, the UD fan base and the outsized attention the hockey team, by dint of its history, the intensity of the games, the่น the teams often made the scene so beautiful.

The chasm that had existed since my departure had been narrowed. That first breathtaking paddle into the city of Dayton gave me an entirely new perspective. There we all were, experiencing two of the most seemingly contradictory and opposite environments — nature and urban development. They seem to clash. But it was their unity here that made the scene so beautiful.

For alums like me, who have wandered far from the school, the sports teams often remain one of the strongest ties.

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I was at the Minneapolis St. Paul airport, bound for a flight to my hometown of Canton, Ohio, last March, wearing a University of Dayton jacket and the grin I’d had since watching the Flyers beat West Virginia the previous day.

The woman in front of me in line turned, saw a jacket and said, “Well, you had fun yesterday, didn’t you?”

She’d come to town to watch North Dakota play and I knew why.

“Weird, why did you have that jacket on?”

I was thrilled to be there. I was proud.

“North Dakota fan’s reaction sums up why the 2008-09 UD men’s basketball team’s trip to the NCAA tournament and to the Metrodome was huge for the university, the UD fan base and the outsized attention the hockey team, by dint of its history, the intensity of the games, the

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For alums like me, who have wander
A time to invest in our mission

The unfolding economic crisis has forced a number of universities to cut budgets, halt faculty searches and delay construction projects. From Harvard to small liberal arts schools, universities have felt the shifting sands.

The University of Dayton is not recession-proof, but we remain on solid financial footing and in better shape than many institutions. We also know we must act — not simply react. While others retrench, we move forward. That’s a tribute to decades of careful stewardship and a willingness to take prudent risks.

Moody’s Investor Services, after a March analysis, praised our operating performance, healthy enrollment and strong research volume and gave us an A2 rating — a feat in these economic times when endowments have dropped. The analysts wrote, “The stable outlook reflects our expectations that the University of Dayton will maintain a stable student market position and will continue to achieve positive operating performance.”

Thanks to our Marianist founders, this is a university that faces adversity with courage, faith and a forward-thinking approach. Tough times bring new opportunities for those who are positioned to pursue them. This is a time to invest in our mission. It’s a time for us to adapt and boldly shape our future.

It’s a transformative moment. We’ve faced such moments in our 159-year history. Each time, guided by mission and vision, we boldly transformed ourselves, growing into a top-tier national Catholic research university.

Today is no exception. We are responding to the signs of the times with full marketing. When faced with an enrollment crisis in the 1970s, we aggressively recruited students outside Dayton and became a largely residential campus. Today, we face another enrollment challenge. Between now and 2022, the number of high school graduates in Ohio is projected to decline 12 percent. We have re-established recruiting efforts on the East Coast and are opening new markets in China, India and the Middle East. It’s paying off. First-year international enrollment jumped 81 percent last fall. This spring we recorded more out-of-state applications than in-state ones for the first time.

That helped push applications to a record 12,000. We are responding to the signs of the times with curricula and research that improve the human condition.

In January, we launched the state’s first master’s degree in renewable energy. The Research Institute, whose annual sponsored research volume is expected to climb to $90 million this year, is partnering with the Air Force Research Laboratory to construct and operate the country’s first federal research facility that will create jet fuel from coal and biomass.

We’re responding to the signs of the times with financial discipline. We will use Ohio Higher Education Facility Commission revenue bonds to finance the first phase of the $14 million renovation of Stuart Hall and embark on a $2 million second phase of renovations for the Virginia W. Kettering Residence Hall this summer. We are not scheduling any capital projects without the necessary financing or private support in place.

We’re responding to the signs of the times by investing in top-flight faculty. We attracted a large, strong, diverse pool of high-quality candidates for 39 faculty positions. In the natural sciences, five of the six new hires are women. We recruited a national leader in geothermal energy for the new clean and renewable energy program. We attracted distinguished scholars of religious studies from the faculties of Georgetown and College of the Holy Cross, strengthening our position as a leader in the study of U.S. Catholicism.

For the University of Dayton, this is an extraordinary time of opportunity. The Blessed William Joseph Chaminade’s words, “New times call for new methods,” guide us into a future that holds great promise.

Graduation. It’s more than your last day here. It’s everything you did to get here.

Opening your mind to new knowledge and perspectives. Opening your heart to new ways of leading and serving.

Breaking bread with Marianists.

Leaving it all on the court in intramurals.

It’s also the next step forward. The opportunities we create. The lives we make better. The changes that make a real difference.

And each time you give to the University of Dayton, you ensure that our transformative community will be experienced for generations to come.

YOU MIGHT THINK THIS IS HOW IT ENDS.

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A workout is a workout. In 1902, the latest campus facility was the swimming pond seen in this photo from the 1907 St. Mary's Institute scrapbook. Near the “ole swimming hole” were a fishing pond and skating pond, all located roughly where the pools, courts, weight rooms and running track of RecPlex stand today.

Courtesy of University Archives