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Sept. 18, 2000
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NEWS RELEASE

'GROWING PAINS' TEEN IDOL KIRK CAMERON BRINGS ABSTINENCE MESSAGE TO AREA STUDENTS

DAYTON, Ohio — He may be best remembered for his run on *Growing Pains* and his status as a teen idol. In his role of Mike Seaver, his audience saw him as a warm-hearted trickster. But today he takes on a more serious role, discussing the importance of his faith in a Hollywood environment that often challenged it.

His belief in the importance of sexual abstinence and a pro-life philosophy are the messages he brings to young people, speaking to high school and college students.

Kirk Cameron will address students at the University of Dayton at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25, in the Kennedy Union Ballroom on campus. The presentation is free and open to the public.

While in Dayton Cameron will also speak at several area high schools and an elementary school. On Sept. 25 he will speak at Alter High School at 9:30 a.m. and at Incarnation Parish Center at 1 p.m. On Sept. 26 he will speak at Carroll High School at 9 a.m. and at Chaminade-Julienne High School at 2 p.m.

His trip to Dayton is a joint effort between Dayton Right to Life and the University of Dayton Students for Life.

Cameron spent seven years on *Growing Pains*, playing a role for which he was awarded several People's Choice awards and a Golden Globe. He went on to star in a Disney movie, *You Lucky Dog*, and *Kirk*, a show for the WB Network.

In 1989 Cameron and his wife, Chelsea Noble, established Camp Firefly and the Firefly Foundation. A retreat for terminally ill children and their families, Camp Firefly is held yearly at Calaway Gardens in Georgia.

Cameron has also been named "Father of the Year" by the National Fatherhood Initiative. "My kids are precious gifts from God," he said. "I want to do whatever it takes to give them the best future I can provide."

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For information, contact **Julie Penno** at the Dayton Pro-Life Education Foundation, at 223-9227.

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