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Media Advisory: Marianist Brothers and Priests Recognized for Large Gift Contribution

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Sept. 26, 2000
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NEWS TIPS

MEDIA ADVISORY

Marianist brothers and priests who work at the University of Dayton will be recognized for their help in making the single largest gift from an organization to UD's \$150 million "Call to Lead" fund-raising and image-building campaign.

Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., president, will announce the gift at approximately **4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 29**, in the Kennedy Union Ballroom during the faculty/staff kick-off portion of the largest campaign in UD and the city of Dayton's history.

The gift comes from the Cincinnati Province of the Society of Mary. Approximately half of the gift comes from a portion of the salaries that the province receives for the services of the 41 members who work at UD. The rest comes from an allocation the province makes to UD of the gifts that it solicits through the Marianist Mission, its fund-raising arm.

During UD's last campaign in the 1980s, the Marianists gave \$5 million.

Marianists take a vow of poverty and live a simple life together as equals. They draw their inspiration from Mary, the mother of Jesus, and believe strongly in service to youth and the poor. At UD, many live on campus at Alumni Hall or share houses in the student neighborhoods. They work in various capacities — from the president to a facilities worker, from a new English professor to a retired religious studies professor who's taught a popular marriage class taken by more than 20,000 alumni.

When UD launched the Call to Lead Campaign last November, John McHale, a 1978 UD alumnus and Internet entrepreneur, pledged \$10 million, the single largest individual gift. In all, he's promised \$11.4 million.

The campus kick-off celebration starts at 3 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Plaza with food, drinks and music by the UD Marching Band. The program starts at approximately 4 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Ballroom.

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