University of Dayton Magazine, Summer 2014

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TRUE TEAM, TRUE FANS

WILL PHONE FOR FOOD
GET OUT!
PARDON OUR DUST
Campus slows down in summer, giving us time to stop and smell the flowers in front of Kennedy Union. Photo by Larry Burgess.
18 **TRUE TEAM, TRUE FANS**
It was Dayton's first Elite Eight appearance in 30 years. And the fans went wild. While the men's basketball team displayed “True Team” on its warm-ups, the sentiment also filled the players' hearts and flowed into the Flyer Faithful. We recap 2014 March Madness and look back on the foundations that have made Dayton basketball so storied.

Plus: media coverage estimated at $73.7 million; women's basketball earns fifth-consecutive NCAA bid; game-day superstitions; fans recall being Elite in '84; and feeding Flyer fans in need through Stand4.

37 **AGILE ALGAE**
UD Research Institute has created a solution at the point of pollution with its new outdoor modular algae system. As researchers solve environmental and energy problems with algae, they’re also growing something else — innovative, young minds.
The open door

On a beautiful spring afternoon brimming with hope and promise, Father Jim Schimelpfening, S.M., spoke from the pulpit — and the heart — about the journey ahead for our newest graduates.

“Graduation is a moment on that journey,” he told students and their families at the Baccalaureate Mass in the University of Dayton Arena. “Journeys are so powerful. They are sometimes so powerful that they irrevocably change us.”

Alumni and students wouldn’t argue that point. A University of Dayton education transforms you — and prepares you for a changing world.

As I looked out over the sea of happy faces at spring commencement the next morning, I saw joy mixed with a few tears. Each spring, graduating seniors repeatedly tell me, “I can’t believe I’m leaving UD.”

It is hard to leave this great community. Think of the memories. This class will never forget the thrilling Elite Eight run by the men’s basketball team in the NCAA tournament. Other moments are more private, such as helping a child as part of a service project or pushing yourself to go beyond what you even thought possible in the classroom. They are all important.

This annual ritual always reminds me of an Alexander Graham Bell quote, “When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us.”

There is rarely a straight path to happiness. I reminded our graduates that the plans they make today will inevitably need to be adapted. I urged them to remember Blessed William Joseph Chaminade’s words: “Read the signs of the times.” It is a call to be aware of the world around them, move forward and take advantage of opportunities.

The signs aren’t always positive. Sometimes, I told them, it will be easier to ignore the negative signs in our society and focus simply on getting ahead. We must see the bad with the good and try to make a difference. The world’s population faces hunger, overcrowding, disease, war — and more. Global progress requires the efforts, big and small, of people of all nations. It is the responsibility of this class — and all our graduates — to confront the global challenges, to be the ones who care.

I pray that the University of Dayton has educated these new graduates for service, justice and peace — while ensuring that they are prepared for adaptation and change. I trust that they will become community builders, serving as responsible leaders and promoting justice and peace for all persons.

They are ready for the next door. They have secured a great education and are ready to make a difference in the world.

Another door remains open, too — the door back to the University of Dayton. It is a place that will always be home.
LETTERS

WVUD had influence not only on its students but its listeners. [We] are just grateful the VUD jocks let us hang around. —Kevin Fodor, Dayton

REVOLUTION REMEMBERED

I’m so glad you published the story of WVUD-FM [“Rock revolution,” Spring 2014], not only because of the radio station’s pioneering broadcast history linking professional student broadcasters and the University community with the radio industry.

Almost as importantly, this article now gives today’s communication students at UD a vital perspective about the University’s extraordinary professional radio history from 1967 to 1992 (I was on-air at WVUD from 1982-86). When visiting the campus this past fall, I stopped by WUDR-Flyer Radio and spoke with the students there who, sadly, had no real understanding of WVUD’s storied broadcast history among America’s professional radio stations.

My last visit and this article have encouraged me to continue to financially support WUDR so that Flyer Radio will allow future student broadcasters to evolve professionally as they continue to entertain their fellow students and their (hopefully) ever-widening broadcast audience.

I invite all my fellow WVUD-FM alumni to join me in this Flyer Radio fundraising effort.

PETER O’CONNELL ’86
BUFFALO, N.Y.

I just read the superb article [“Rock revolution,” Spring 2014]. In 1964, I was invited by Joe Burns to have a weekly program on WVUD entitled “The Challenge of Modern-Day Marriage.” It was a 15-minute production once a week where I would have a discussion with three students from my classes. With time, I went to a daily format of two-and-a-half minutes at 6 in the morning and noon. I still have a tape that has written on the cover, “Fr. Burns 10-22-84 to 3-13-85 Challenge of Modern-Day Marriage.” I would rub shoulders with people like Geoff Vargo, Patty Spitler, Chris Cage, Dan Pugh and Mike McConnell. I still meet people who say, “I used to listen to you on the radio.” I hope to be at the reunion in June. Thank you for this opportunity to remember.

FATHER NORBERT BURNS, S.M. ’45
DAYTON

Kudos to CC Hutten and Michelle Tedford for the fabulous job they did on WVUD [“Rock revolution,” Spring 2014]. This is a long overdue, very thorough and well-researched feature on this unique and precious UD institution — a truly unique and phenomenal success story in the history of college radio.

Those of us who were lucky enough to work at VUD were given an amazing career boost that was impossible to get anywhere else in the country. And to think we actually got paid for it (albeit $1.25 an hour!). It broke my heart when the University sold it. All the success I have been fortunate to have in this business I owe directly to the two years I spent doing evening voice of WVUD who helped bring it into its current form.

Thank you again for doing such an excellent job in honoring something that is near and dear to everyone who worked there and to all who listened to it.

STEVE DOWNES ’72
SDOWNES@WDRV.COM
CHICAGO

You are missing the first 10 years of WVUD and Steve Dougherty ’67, the second voice of WVUD who helped bring it from the Hills & Dales Shopping Center to the KU [“Rock revolution,” Spring 2014]. Steve went on to great success in cable...
communications in Denver and was the head of a Brazil-based enterprise for years. In retirement, he is teaching communications and life skills at the Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville, Ky. He was my roommate on Alberta Street from 1962 to 1965. We both married UD co-eds from Louisville. We nine Baker siblings have UD degrees, and Missy (Marilyn Musterman ‘65) and I have three daughters with UD degrees.

RICHARD A. BAKER ’64

POSTED TO FACEBOOK

There is another part of the WVUD story you may not know — the influence the station had on its listeners. I know. I was one of them. In part, because of WVUD, I have been in radio broadcasting for 40 years.

In the early ’70s, I was a young student at Miamisburg High School. My classmates and I wanted to build an FM station at our school. In 1973, our director of education, Tom Robinson, told us to prepare a proposal that could be presented to the school board.

As the leaders of our “radio gang,” both myself and Tim Fox set out visiting local stations. One Friday night, we were invited by Kevin Carroll to visit him in the WVUD studio while he was on the air.

It was the first of several visits. Tim and I would sit on the studio floor while Kevin would tell us about music, formats, the radio business, record labels, how to get music service, etc. We soaked up everything we could learn while hearing songs like “Long Distance Runaround” by Yes and “Highway Star” by Deep Purple cranked up to volume 11 on the station’s studio monitor speakers.

Our fact-finding worked, and Miamisburg was granted a license by the FCC for a station at 89.7 MHZ that went on the air in March 1974 and remained until sometime in the ’80s or early ’90s.

It was at WVUD that I met Patty Spitler, Dan Pugh and Alan McConnell. Later, I would work with them at WTUE as a swing shift newscaster. My friend Tim also went into the business and has been a successful radio program director for decades. He presently works at KIOA-FM in Des Moines, Iowa.

WVUD had influence not only on its students but its listeners, some of whom — like me — are just grateful the VUD jocks let us hang around, and we got careers out of the association as well.

KEVIN FODOR (AKA JASON MICHAELS)

POSTED TO FACEBOOK

A GENTLEMAN AND A SCHOLAR

[Editor’s note: Gerald Kerns was a longtime UD political science professor (1967-2001). He died March 19, 2014.]

I had the good fortune of having my career at UD coincide with Dr. Gerald Kerns’ tenure also at UD. As director of admission, I had many occasions of interacting with him in his role as chairman of political science and director of the prelaw program. My respect for Jerry grew over the years as I knew him as a rigorous and demanding teacher who sincerely cared about his students. My own daughter took his course in Florence as part of her breadth requirement — her first and only exposure to a class in political science. The class gave her an insight and appreciation of the discipline and a lifelong affection for Jerry. On the many occasions I was with Jerry, he always asked about her.

Following his retirement from UD, Jerry volunteered to teach in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UD. When I retired from UD in 2001, his was the first class I took in the program in the fall of 2001, and I proceeded to take every course he taught through last fall when he taught a class on the Constitution and the Supreme Court. He taught every year and filled the largest classroom (80 students) every time. He was so eloquent and so well researched. Many of the 80-plus students were repeaters like me.

I had the good fortune of having lunch with him this past January. The three hours flew by. He was always interested in you, your family, your interests. He also shared his pride and affection for his children and their families and, of course, Karen, the wife he loved so much and lost so suddenly. Among other things we talked about, he was already planning his course for the coming fall term in LLI. We talked about our ages, how we still felt young, and Jerry’s upcoming birthday. He was so excited because his children were all meeting him in Manhattan in February to celebrate the event. Thank God that happened.

Jerry was truly a gentleman and a scholar. I will dearly miss him.

MYRON ACHBACH ’58

DAYTON

More comments on the life of Dr. Kerns can be read and left at udquickly.udayton.edu/scrubbings/2014/04/teacher-par-excellence.

MODERN THOUGHTS

I am a great fan of the UD Magazine and have been for a long time. Your interview with Sister Angela Ann Zukowski [“Digital humanity,” Spring 2014] is probably one of the most important things I have read anywhere.

Both you [author Audrey Starr] and Sister Angela Ann have nailed one of the most important aspects of our culture and society today. I believe that you are correct in observing that technology is not only changing how we do things, but also “it’s changing who we are.” There are enormous implications, not only for education, but for the Catholic Church.

Being old school, I don’t have answers, but your article fits in with my reading of late. Two books immediately come to mind: The Cult of the Amateur by Keen and The Harbinger by Cahn. Both offer much to think about regarding the direction of modern activity.

C.E. GLOMSKI ’63

ELK GROVE VILLAGE, ILL

WINNING ORIGINS

I would like to congratulate the soccer team on a great season and their caring for the young people in the community [“Coming together on a new level,” Winter 2013-14]. I agree that teamwork makes a big difference.

I would like to remind the young players that the winning tradition was started in the late ’60s. At that time very few statistics were kept. I will never forget the season that our mighty defense allowed only
six goals all year, and three of those were scored by Cleveland State as we played in a flooded field after it had rained all night. (It was our only overnight trip for the season, so we were going to play that game. We lost 3-2, our only loss that season.) Names like Pat Obaya, Bill Cheney, Bill Bischoff, Bill Merritt and Bob Ostholter, players from South America, New York, New Jersey and St. Louis, and our coach John Schleppi were becoming stars on campus.

I am glad that Baujan Field is your permanent home. Baujan was the football field and soccer players were not allowed to play on it. We did not know from year to year where we were going to have a field: University campus, behind Founders Hall, Stuart Hill, in the parking lots!

Keep up your great work, remember your past, and have another great season next year.

ROCCO FUSCHETTO ’71
IGNACIO, CALIF.

MORE CANCER FIGHTERS

Thank you for sharing the story about your father [“War stories,” Spring 2014]. UD alumni are working hard on this problem. When I hear the real-life stories of people touched by cancer, it puts a fine point on what Dr. Susann Brady-Kalnay ’87, my wife, is doing in her lab. You can learn more about her here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=A07NJulQgHq and www.case.edu/med/microbio/brady.htm.

JT KALNAY ’85
CLEVELAND

GRANDPA K

The quarterly newsletter arrived today, and the first page I opened to was my beloved “Grandpa K” [“Warm and fuzzy,” Spring 2014]. When I first read the article, tears filled my eyes remembering this dear man.

At first, I was a little bummed. Why didn’t I have a “fuzzy” button? But then this overwhelming sense of peace came over me as I remembered why he was so special to me.

He was my professor for Christianity Today (he has published books on this subject) and Theology of Sexuality. What I remembered from this red/blue beanie-wearing Marianist priest, who at the time seemed to be 110+ years old to me, was his ability to convey a genuine sense of compassion and interest in every single one of his students. We were all his favorites. When I think about my faith and my endless journey in attempting to understand God (whomever we envision God to be), I think of him. I think of his beaming smile. I think of his non-judgmental nature that challenged me to be a better person all the while knowing you are exactly the person who God wants you to be. And while I’m sad I don’t have a “fuzzy” pin as many others do, I feel so blessed to have had the unique relationship I did with him and honored I got to call him “Grandpa K.”

MICHELLE POLCYN WARREN ’93
ROYAL OAK, MICH.

Editor’s note: This letter is an excerpt from Warren’s blog, which can be found at peaceinthejourney.wordpress.com.

FOOTBALL FAN

Great, great magazine — absolutely the best. The article on the KKK [“Forgotten flames,” Winter 2013-14] was outstanding.

Regarding your sports coverage, it’s lacking. The baseball stories were good, but I never read about football. There are stories to tell about where the team is playing and how hard the players are working and the men they grow to be. I live in Florida, and I feel so disconnected from UD football. I try to travel to a game a year, and if you run the schedules, then I will know when the team is playing near me. Especially for us old guys, it’s a big, big thing for us because we are exactly the person who God wants you to be. And while I’m sad I don’t have a “fuzzy” pin as many others do, I feel so blessed to have had the unique relationship I did with him and honored I got to call him “Grandpa K.”

Have thoughts about what you read this issue?

Please send your letters to: University of Dayton Magazine 300 College Park Dayton, OH 45469-1303 magazine-letters@udayton.edu

Please include your city and state. Indicate whether you wish your email address printed. Letters should not exceed 300 words. University of Dayton Magazine may edit for clarity and brevity. Opinions expressed are those of the letter writers and not necessarily of this publication nor the University of Dayton.
Raising their voices
REMEDI A CAPPPELLA

UD’s new a cappella group, Remedy, is finding its groove. It spent this past year performing in venues ranging from the ArtStreet amphitheater to Chicago’s North Shore Center for the Performing Arts. The eight singers perform pop, country and R&B, with their unique mix of voices meshing in original ways. President Jonathan Besecker ’16 said the group’s success is tied to the diversity of voices: “It’s the personalities in the group that really make it. There is a little bit of everything, which allows the group to be cohesive.” It also leads to success; Remedy took third place at the spring Chicago Harmony Sweepstakes.

Under construction
WHAT’S OLD IS NEW AGAIN

Seems like summer campus conversation always surrounds construction. In 2014, chain-link fence surrounds work sites for construction of the new University Circle, demolition for the arcade between St. Mary’s Hall and Chaminade Hall, and the renovation of Immaculate Conception Chapel. Other projects include lab upgrades for Kettering Labs, 1700 South Patterson Building and Shroyer Park; roof repair for Roesch Library and Marycrest; counseling center renovation in Gosiger Hall; and renovation to build the Knowledge Hub in Roesch Library. For more on chapel construction and the big move for the School of Education and Health Sciences, see stories Page 9.

“Rover comes over
OUTTA THIS WORLD

The key to answers about life on Mars lies in a small, finned cylinder — a power generator that is the lifeblood of NASA’s rover Curiosity. Aside from the one on Mars, only two other multi-mission radioisotope thermoelectric generators have been built. One MMRTG is now in its new home at the UD Research Institute’s MMRTG Lifecycle Testing Laboratory, and the second will arrive soon. Researchers will test the MMRTG under brutal temperature swings — 45 to -100°F — to prepare it for future missions to Mars and Europa, Jupiter’s moon. UDRI distinguished research scientist Chad Barklay ’04 helped develop the MMRTG currently powering Curiosity as it roves over Mars.

““The only way to discover the core of a city is to talk with its people. They are, after all, the heart and soul of the city.”
—SENIOR KATHLEEN GAFFNEY, WHO PHOTOGRAPHED DAYTONIANS FOR HER CAPSTONE PROJECT, DISPLAYED AT THE STANDER SYMPOSIUM

“The only way to discover the core of a city is to talk with its people. They are, after all, the heart and soul of the city.”
—SOUTH FLAT KATHLEEN GAFFNEY, WHO PHOTOGRAPHED DAYTONIANS FOR HER CAPSTONE PROJECT, DISPLAYED AT THE STANDER SYMPOSIUM

“We own Memphis.”
—ONE FLYER FAN AMONG THOUSANDS AT THE MARCH 29 UD PARTY IN HANDY PARK PRIOR TO THE FLYERS’ ELITE EIGHT GAME

“In order to achieve gender equality, the girl child has to feel just as important as her brothers.”
—MARY ROBINSON, FORMER PRESIDENT OF IRELAND, DISCUSSING HUMAN RIGHTS DURING HER CAMPUS VISIT MARCH 31

“In this way, we are fulfilling the Gospel message of helping others in need by sharing what we have and what we can give.”
—BROTHER TOM PIEPER, S.M. ’67, CAMPUS MINISTER FOR STUART HALL, ON THE ANNUAL COLLECTION OF 10 TO 30 TONS OF DONATED ITEMS DURING MOVE-OUT WEEK
**CONVERSATION PIECES**

Crafting change

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**Waste not**
**ECOVIM ECO-250**

Churning the night away while students catch some Zs, two innovative machines in the basement of Kennedy Union are significantly reducing the amount of waste UD hauls to a nearby compost facility. In July 2012, dining services won a state grant for matching funds to purchase two Ecovim food dehydration machines, which each process 250 pounds of raw food waste into 25 pounds of nutrient-rich soil amendment overnight. Ecovim has generated more than 117,000 total pounds of material, which helps the gardens grow at the Mission of Mary Cooperative, lay Marianist communities in Dayton’s Twin Towers and Walnut Hills neighborhoods that convert vacant properties into urban farms to help feed their neighbors.

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**Turn, turn**
**LEACH TREADLE WHEEL**

Fine arts majors Tori Seitelman and Courtney Hoelscher wanted to revisit the local and handcrafted side of pottery. With the help of studio technician Geno Luketic, they received funding through UD’s Celebration of the Arts committee to build their own Leach Treadle-style pottery wheel. Then they had to learn how to weld. “Every step of the process is hands-on, from making the wheel to throwing the clay on it,” Hoelscher said. The wheel is aesthetically appealing, functional, transportable and cost effective — run by foot power, not electricity. While the wheel is presently on display in College Park Center, the group plans to seal and waterproof it next year to make it fully functional for in-class use.

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**We’ve got an app for that**
**UDAYTON.CO/MOBILE**

Part of your UD experience now fits in your pocket thanks to the new UD Mobile app launched this spring. Available free on Android and Apple platforms, the app’s home page highlights user-contributed content including photos from campus and UD life. Listen to live streams from Flyer Radio, browse the calendar of events and find your way with the campus map. Students and faculty can also access assignments, grades and class rosters. The app includes links to other apps, such as the digital edition of UD Magazine. Can’t find what you need? Use the feedback function to request what you’d like, and look for added functionality in monthly upgrades.

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“Within this box is the key to ending slavery in our lifetime.”
—WORDS ON THE FINAL EXHIBIT OF THE UD CONSCIOUSNESS RISING CONFERENCE; INSIDE THE BOX WAS A MIRROR

“Within this box is the key to ending slavery in our lifetime.”
—WORDS ON THE FINAL EXHIBIT OF THE UD CONSCIOUSNESS RISING CONFERENCE; INSIDE THE BOX WAS A MIRROR

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“It was a brutal winter, and no one felt it more than our grounds crew. This team put in 1,100 hours of overtime to keep our 400 campus acres clear and safe.”
—JOYCE CARTER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, AT THE SPRING STAFF MEETING
Rojas named dean

Eddy Rojas, director of the Charles W. Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, has been named dean of the School of Engineering. Rojas succeeds Tony Saliba ’81, who will return to teaching July 1. Rojas said he is committed to "engineering that matters" and educating engineering students to act as responsible global members of the academic community.

Saved their spot

As of May 1, UD had received deposits from 2,163 students, exceeding its goal of 1,950 first-year students for the school year beginning August 2014.

It’s been a record-breaking year, with 16,579 applications. Why the uptick?

- Expanded efforts by the deans and faculty in the recruitment effort, particularly for minority students.
- Transparent guaranteed four-year tuition plan with up to $1,000 annually for textbooks.
- National attention from the NCAA men’s basketball tournament run.
- Strategic decision to manage enrollment — especially out-of-state and international — to combat the demographic trends in the Midwest.

Additional value-added distinctions include the four-year graduation pledge; a four-year guarantee of University housing to first-year students who make that choice; and study-abroad scholarships for select programs.

“The University of Dayton has added these features because they align perfectly with our mission,” said Sundar Kumara, vice president for enrollment management and marketing. “We want our students to graduate in four years, experience our distinctive highly residential campus, and study abroad because all graduates need to be exposed to global issues and cultures. It’s part of our Catholic, Marianist mission to prepare students to succeed in diverse and global environments.”
Pardon our dust

Visitors coming to UD during the next year might have to re-learn their way around campus, as familiar roads and pathways are undergoing significant changes in two phases of summer construction.

Soon after graduation, workers began installing fencing near Immaculate Conception Chapel and Chaminade Hall in preparation for the first phase. The Arcade connector between Chaminade and St. Mary’s Hall is being demolished. University Circle is closed to public vehicle traffic at the visitor’s booth to allow for construction of a new two-way roadway to the chapel with a turnaround and accessible parking. Stewart Street will provide the only point of entrance to B Lot, a permanent change to traffic patterns. Some walking paths on the library lawn and on the library side of Reichard Hall and St. Joseph Hall are closed.

Once the chapel closes following a leave-taking Mass July 20, the second phase of construction will begin, and some projects will continue through July 2015. University Circle will be open to the chapel and many library lawn walkways will reopen. The Arcade will be replaced with greenspace. In summer 2015, construction on the road in front of St. Mary’s Hall will transform it into a pedestrian walkway.

Extensive renovation on the chapel will ensure universal accessibility and fuller liturgical participation for all visitors, said Crystal Sullivan, director of campus ministry. The chapel will have seating for nearly 350 people in curved wooden pews with kneelers. New stained glass windows in the nave will borrow elements from the chapel’s original windows and include images of Mary from Scripture. Construction will reveal original rosette windows not previously visible from the interior. The iconic blue cupola will be refurbished. Additions will include a reconciliation chapel, Eucharistic reservation chapel, restrooms, a bride’s room and office space. Upgrades to lighting, HVAC and sound systems will also occur.

The renovation is expected to achieve LEED certification for environmental responsibility and efficiency. The chapel will reopen in August 2015.

During phase two, pedestrian traffic will be restricted around the chapel and surrounding buildings, including St. Mary’s, Chaminade, Liberty and St. Joseph halls. Those walking through campus are asked to take the path to the north of St. Mary’s Hall — which will remain handicap accessible — or to the south of St. Joseph Hall, near Baujan Field and through the Frericks Center connector.

For updates on services through August 2015, visit udayton.edu/ministry. A video explaining the construction is at udayton.co/BHQ.

Green day

It’s not just the grass that’s greener over here. In February, the U.S. Green Building Council certified the new GE Aviation Electrical Power Integrated Systems Center on UD’s campus as gold. The LEED certification acknowledges high performance in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. Among the building’s green innovations is a plumbing system designed to reduce water consumption by 40 percent.

Kurt Hoffmann, environmental sustainability manager, said the University will also pursue LEED certification for the College Park Center sixth floor renovation, Shroyer Park Center addition and the Immaculate Conception Chapel renovation.

This winter, the Princeton Review named UD to its Guide to 322 Green Colleges.
You’ve been slimed

Biology professor Jayne Robinson is busting bacterial biofilm for our benefit.

She and Tracy Collins ’05 received U.S. Patent #8551456 for their unique method of using an organic compound known as a porphyrin to break up and prevent the formation of slimy biofilms, which act as barriers to predators. Eliminate the biofilm and antibiotics become more effective, in some cases up to 1,000 times more effective, Robinson said.

“Used in combination with an antibiotic, these compounds could effectively sterilize surgical instruments and implants, protect burn patients from infection and improve the fight against infections anywhere they occur,” she said.

Porphyrins are activated by light, but Robinson and Collins developed a method that allows them to work in the dark, including inside the body, where they can be applied to fight infection. The compound could also be applied by gel or spray for easy use in medical facilities or homes.

Ready for students

Good news for UD, great news for the health care industry: UD’s physician assistant program received formal approval and is set to welcome its first class of 30 students starting this fall.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant granted “accreditation-provisional” status to the PA program based on a plan that demonstrates its ability to meet commission standards.

“The PA program will draw talented students to the University of Dayton,” said Kevin Kelly, dean of the School of Education and Health Sciences. “Our graduates will make significant contributions to health care within Ohio and across the country.”

Physician assistants practice medicine under the supervision of physicians, including surgeons, and are formally trained to provide diagnostic, therapeutic and preventive health care services as delegated by a physician.

Life among yaks

By Megan Garrison ’14

I packed up everything from the last four years of UD yesterday. I packed up spirals and binders and journals, I packed up pens and pencils and highlighters. I packed up notecards and paperclips and a very worn stapler. But most of all, I packed my community, my home, my school into a few boxes and a large red suitcase that will travel with me to Mongolia.

At the start of my last semester of senior year, I was accepted into the Peace Corps, a 27-month commitment to service that would place me in the challenging but exciting country of Mongolia. Where they follow yaks. Drink fermented mare milk. Hunt wolves on horseback with eagles.

And while that all sounds impossibly bizarre, I know that Mongolia has real needs in terms of service. I know that most people live without running water, or plumbing, or even in a house (although they do live in gers, which are basically large, circular tents with wood burning stoves in the center to survive those nights when the weather drops to -40 degrees).

But what I know the most is that UD prepared me for this adventure on which I am about to embark. It gave me a sense of service, of giving back to those in need. It gave me the ability to make friends with anyone, anywhere. And it gave me the support and room to grow into a person willing to go halfway around the world.

I am no longer a student at the University of Dayton. I am a Flyer forever, though. And this Flyer is going to Mongolia.
40 years of music that heals

Music therapist Debbie Bates ‘96 remembers the day her client died.

Bates had met the woman three months earlier when the patient entered hospice. While the medical staff helped address physical symptoms, Bates helped her and her family forge positive memories and revisit old ones: She assisted the woman and her husband in composing a song about their life together.

“I was there with her on the day she died surrounded by her family,” Bates said. “I saw her take her final breath while I was singing the song she had written.”

Other moments in her career stand out, including premature infants she helped soothe with heartbeat lullabies.

Now a senior music therapist at the Cleveland Clinic, Bates is one of 240 alumni of the music therapy program, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

Throughout those four decades, the program has partnered with more than 20 agencies in the Dayton area to serve health care needs and has attracted hundreds of students who want to work in a service profession while utilizing their passion and interest in music to help people.

All students must spend a semester working with older adults with dementia at Bethany Village retirement community, preschoolers at Cleveland Elementary School in Dayton, and adults with addictions and other psychiatric disorders at Nova Behavioral Health.

“The residents here love it when the music therapy students come, because we can increase their sessions from once a week to twice a week,” said Liz Crombie Marsh ’09, Bethany Village music therapist.

On April 24, four sophomore music therapy students led a group of 13 residents at Bethany Village as they played classics from the 1940s and ‘50s. The students brought out bongo drums and tambourines and led the group, coaxing them into toe-tapping, scarf-waving, tambourine-playing sing-alongs.

At the conclusion of “Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree,” one of the residents told the students it was the first song he ever learned, going all the way back to second grade.

“You have a good memory,” said Jonathan Higgins, a sophomore music therapy student.

“Let’s face it, it was a good song,” the resident smiled back.

The music therapy students work with groups of 10 to 15 residents, addressing interpersonal skills, physical goals such as arm movement, and cognitive goals such as recalling lyrics and reminiscing, Marsh said.

While the idea of music as a healing influence has been around since the time of ancient Greece, music therapy as a profession formally began in the early 20th century in military hospitals.

“Music is in us in a way that oftentimes words or interaction are not,” said Marilyn Sandness, professor emerita and former music therapy program coordinator (1974-98). “We all have an association with music from the time we’re babies falling asleep to lullabies. Music is a significant part of life’s big moments: cultural events, weddings, birthdays. It reaches us in our emotions. It can bring out responses sometimes when nothing else can.”

In 1973, a handful of music majors petitioned their department chair to add a music therapy program as the profession was in its early growth stages.

Sandness led the program for 24 years, retiring as professor emerita in 1998 and handing the reins to Susan Gardstrom, who is the program coordinator today.

During her tenure, Gardstrom added faculty and expanded students’ hands-on experiences. She also added courses in American popular music, functional music skill development, improvisation, music and psychotherapy, and the process of referral, assessment, treatment, evaluation and termination.

“Our students graduate with a variety of distinctive skills and experiences that prepare them to become a clinician with a wide range of clientele,” said Gardstrom, including international opportunities such as the 2008 service trip to Jamaica.

And as the music therapy profession has changed over the years, graduates’ options have increased. Once primarily a profession for hospitals and residential programs for persons with mental retardation, music therapists now work in schools, with older adults, people with addictions, behavioral problems, and trauma-related issues, and people with neurological disorders like stroke and Parkinson’s disease, and even in wellness settings to promote healthy living.

“Innovation has always been part of music therapy,” Gardstrom said. “As we recognize different needs, we find creative ways to meet those needs.”

For Bates, that has included working with a man battling cancer for 14 years who shared songs that were important to him and his wife.

“For Bates, that has included working with a man battling cancer for 14 years who shared songs that were important to him and his wife.

“Music tells the story of our lives, it connects us, it reminds us of what it is to be human,” Bates said. “For so many, especially in hospitals, health care is about what’s wrong with you, but music therapy can highlight what’s well with you. That can be very empowering to people who are struggling or feeling defeated.”

—Cameron Fullam
Liquid Hope

Robin Gentry McGee turned tragedy into Liquid Hope and a $25,000 first prize in UD’s 2014 Business Plan Competition. Her father suffered a traumatic brain injury and required being fed through a tube. She replaced the sugary, synthetic mix commonly available with her own organic, whole-food recipe, then turned to UD for business plan help.

Her team members included Jim Danis ’04, who contributed lessons from his own business start-up experience for 5-Alarm, an energy shot in flavors including cinnamon and cayenne. Danis said he encouraged McGee to implement her plan and get into the market while her product is still one-of-a-kind.

Liquid Hope follows in the footsteps of previous competition winners, said Diane Sullivan, competition coordinator and associate professor of management: “They are working to launch and grow a profitable business while also solving a compelling societal problem.”

In Memoriam

This spring, the University community lost longtime faculty, staff and administrators representing decades of excellence in instruction, scholarship and service to thousands of UD students.

BROTHER BILL FACKOVEC, S.M. ’49, a dedicated staffer in the Marian Library, died April 7. He was 88. He began to work at the Marian Library in August 1960. He represented what once was the classical model for a librarian—one with familiarity with literature, history, theology, music and art and facility in several languages (classical and modern, including Slavic languages). He traveled to acquire antiquarian books, and his efforts have resulted in the Rare Book Collection of the Marian Library, which now numbers about 7,000 books.

Professor THOMAS HUNT, a lifelong advocate of Catholic education, died April 17. He was 83. His legacy can be found in his significant contribution to Catholic education history and research as the author and editor of 27 books, including The Praeger Handbook of Faith-Based Schools in the United States, K-12. “He was a tempest, a driven soul passionate about history and Catholic education,” said Father Ron Nuzzi of the University of Notre Dame’s Alliance for Catholic Education and a co-author with Hunt on more than a dozen books.

BROTHER RAY MARTIN, S.M. ’68, “a working brother” in the Society of Mary who served as director of the University’s Career Placement Center, died April 19. He was 76. Martin is remembered for his patience and calm presence, particularly during a 1988 60-hour sit-in in the office of President Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., when 20 students were protesting CIA recruitment on campus. “He was always even-keeled, a very positive person,”

Fitz said. “At that time, he reacted in a positive way in engaging the students over their concerns.”

Physics professor PETER POWERS, an internationally renowned scholar in nonlinear optics, died May 10. He was 69. A member of the UD faculty since 1997, he received awards for outstanding scholarship from the College of Arts and Sciences and the UD Alumni Association. Said Tony Saliba, dean of the School of Engineering, “He was a true role model with a humble spirit, a love for the UD family, and a remarkable ability to build bridges across units within the University and beyond the walls of our campus.”

ERIC SUTTMAN ’81 died April 24. He was 54. He was a part-time faculty member in the department of communication, full-time staff in the department of music, full-time staff in UDit and full-time staff in the School of Law. He was known for banding people together, both to create music and in service to others. During his 33-year career at UD, he taught audio production courses, was technical director for Sears Recital Hall, served as faculty supervisor for ArtStreet, taught electric bass and directed jazz ensembles.

Associate professor of communication DON YODER, a faculty member for 36 years, died April 14. He was 62. He served as department chair and director of graduate studies. He was an expert in instructional communication and the basic course. “In addition to his impact as a capable administrator, Don was a highly regarded teacher,” said Jon Hess, chair, department of communication. “Don was unpretentious, with quick wit and a strong sense of humor. He was caring and gave to others far more than he received.”

Reunited (and we’ve got it covered)

The class parties, the special interest reunions, the run up Stuart Hill; you had a blast at Reunion Weekend 2014 (or are still mad you missed it), and we were there to record it. From stories to videos to the weekend’s best Tweets, visit udayton.edu for full coverage, then tag yourself in photos on the University’s Facebook page. Because the Forever Flyers party? It never ends.
For our next issue, ask your question of Susan Dobkoski Ferguson ’76, director of UD’s Center for Catholic Education, whose work focuses on faith formation, academic excellence and innovation in Catholic education. EMAIL YOUR QUESTION TO MAGAZINE@UDAYTON.EDU.

What is your best childhood memory?
—THOMAS J. WESTENDORF ’78
DAYTON

One of my best childhood memories is going on vacation with the family to Rockaway Beach, to the Irish section, where we would rent a cabin. I would get up early with my dad, and we would go down the boardwalk and get things for breakfast for the family. I loved those early morning walks with my dad. In the evenings we all would go to McGinty’s for Irish singing and dancing.

You are known as a warm pastor and an incredible storyteller. When trying to speak to people’s hearts through a story, what are the most important things to keep in mind?
—BRANDON PALUCH, S.M. ’06
BEAVERCREEK, OHIO

A story, as wonderful as it is, is only a means. What I try to keep in mind is what am I trying to communicate, what am I trying to touch in the hearts of my listeners? Have I myself sensed first what is going on with them? Does this story really fit?

Give us your impression of Pope Francis so far.
—MARK DELISI ’91
LEESBURG, VA.

I admire him. I like the path he is taking. I agree that changes have been needed, and I agree with the things he has said and done, not that he needs my endorsement. I admire his style of leadership, his openness, his simplicity, his courage. I think he is a prophetic Pope.

What do you wish the UD community knew about the work of the Marianist Mission?
—NICOLE TRAHAN, F.M.I.
DAYTON

About 60 very devoted people work in the Marianist Mission; most of them have been there for many years. The work can be monotonous, but it is important because it supports our brothers, priests and sisters who are working directly with very poor children in unbelievably poor conditions and educating them in Africa, India and Mexico. These ministries are not self-supporting because they are with the destitute poor. Our appeals through the Marianist Mission mailings are essential.

At this point in your life as a Marianist priest, what “makes you go?” What drives you every day?
—MYRON ACHBACH ’58
DAYTON

This question is a very interesting one because I don’t think of it very often. I just get up and go about my business. I do so because I promised to. I made my commitment and I am happy and healthy. I like what I do and I am making a contribution, small as it may be. What is important for me is that I am doing some sort of good. I admit it is harder to see that in desk work and letter writing, yet I know this ministry is important. When I was in parish ministry and teaching it was much more evident to see help being rendered. But in the long run, it’s always about doing God’s will.

What keeps you excited about the Marianist charism?
—DAN EVANS ’86
DAYTON

It is so open — to young, middle-aged and old; to celibate, single and married — to bring Jesus to the world and to do so with others.

In your career as a Marianist, what aspects have been outstanding for you?
—STEVE MUeller ’74
DAYTON

One was being provincial of the New York Province of the Marianists; I was blessed at that time to be on the board of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men and met many exceptional leaders of religious orders, both men and women. Those contacts gave me great hope for the future of religious life in the United States.

What is one piece of advice you would give to the younger generations?
—BETH HABEGGER SCHULZ ’07
DAYTON

To rejoice in your many graces and blessings, be thankful for them and share them. Then understand where they have come from and what that entails in terms of responsibility.

For our next issue, ask your question of Susan Dobkoski Ferguson ’76, director of UD’s Center for Catholic Education, whose work focuses on faith formation, academic excellence and innovation in Catholic education. EMAIL YOUR QUESTION TO MAGAZINE@UDAYTON.EDU.
First, there was the tree in the backyard your parents told you not to climb. Then came the rock wall at the mall your friends said was too high. Next was whitewater rafting the summer between sophomore and junior year in college. You remember when you “accidentally” chose the more dangerous left route, even though it’d made news earlier in the week for all the wrong reasons.

Even if these don’t describe the kind of adventures you’ve been on in the past, it’s not too late to start.

“There’s not an age limit on being adventurous,” says Emily Wilk, assistant director of UD’s outdoor education programs. “It all depends on what a person is comfortable with doing.” Campus recreation members can feel more comfortable thanks to UD’s Outdoor Engagement Center. Opened last August near RecPlex in a building that alumni may remember as Rudy’s Fly-Buy, it offers outdoor gear rental, a DIY bike repair station and education clinics.

Wilk offers five tips for anyone seeking a successful time in any neck of the woods.

1. Be spontaneous, at first. Wilk says sitting down and considering all the ins-and-outs is fine once you decide where you want to go. As far as deciding what you want to do, “Go with your gut,” she says. “But also know your limits.”

2. Do some research. Taking a class may seem like a bit of a drag for a spontaneous backpacking trip, but for someone who’s never done it before, it can be invaluable. Wilk says learning as much about the area, the adventure and the people you’re with is always helpful. “It shouldn’t just be about the rush of adrenaline,” she says. “By knowing what local bookstores, restaurants or buildings are nearby, you’ll get a whole new set of places to discover along your path.”

3. Have a plan. What are you going to do first? Where are you going to set up? Wilk says having a plan in mind is important because it helps you make the most of your time. Without one, you could spend hours wandering around. “This is where the research you’ve done comes in handy,” she says.

4. Be prepared. After you figure out where you’re going and what you’re doing, make sure you have what you need. “The last thing you want to happen is to try and go rappelling and realize you have no rope.” Wilk says you also should make sure you’re going to be with a group of people you know, or at least have a friend with you. The Outdoor Engagement Center gives students and staff the materials they need — including backpacks, stoves, tents and sleeping bags — for trips ranging from one day to one week.

5. Have fun. “New experiences are wonderful,” Wilk says. “You get to see new things, meet new people and learn about the part of yourself that you may have thought never existed.” Adventuring, she adds, is one of the most pleasant ways to enjoy the outdoors.

—Mickey Shuey ’14
In the news

President Daniel J. Curran sat down for an extended interview with WDTN-TV’s Mark Allan about the transformation of the University during his 12-year tenure. “Curran's Bold Moves” aired Feb. 27.

Preceding the April 27 canonization of Popes John Paul II and John XXIII, religious studies professor Dennis Doyle told WOR-AM in New York City canonization “doesn't mean that they are humanly perfect” but that the holiness of their lives merits sainthood. Doyle was also quoted in an April 1 National Catholic Reporter story titled “Francis a Complete Break from Predecessors, Conference Says.”

Scientific American mentioned research by biology professor Ryan McEwan in a March 1 story about American chestnut trees.

The Associated Press picked up a story from the Dayton Daily News about the U.S. Department of Energy selecting the UD Research Institute to test the performance of power generators on the Curiosity Mars rover as part of an ongoing five-year, $3.75 million contract. The AP story ran in several outlets around Ohio and RenewableEnergyWorld.com, Bloomberg Businessweek, the Washington Times, the Albany (N.Y.) Times Union and the San Francisco Chronicle, among others.

Bloomberg Businessweek quoted professor and auto historian John Heitmann in a story April 10 about cultural changes leading to the decline of the convertible.

National Geographic “News Watch” mentioned research by biologist Panagiotis Tsonis on newt regeneration in an April 30 story about “Spider-Man” and animals that regrow body parts.

School of Law Dean Paul McGreal talked to the National Law Journal about some states offering or proposing the opportunity to students to take the bar exam as early as their second year. “The idea is that law schools would feel more flexibility to experiment with co-ops and experiential learning,” McGreal said. “I think if you go to that type of a system, there needs to be some discussion about what happens in that third year.”

Politico quoted Vince Miller, Gudorf Chair in Catholic Theology, in a March 28 story about the politics involved in the meeting between President Barack Obama and Pope Francis. CBS Radio News and Alhurra TV, financed by the U.S. government to provide news to the Middle East, also interviewed Miller about the trip.

Bloomberg Businessweek and The Columbus Dispatch picked up a Dayton Daily News story from March 15 with quotes from Bob Kauffman, UD Research Institute distinguished research chemist and fluid analysis group leader, about retailers’ increasing adoption of radio wave tags.

The Washington Post talked to law professor Jeannette Cox for an April 5 story about Wal-Mart’s policies toward pregnant workers.

For a wrap-up of all media coverage, visit udayton.co/BHS.

FACILITIES — Athletics’ new 10,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art training facility (above) will be named the Olsen Athletics Performance Center thanks to a commitment from Thomas Olsen and Mary H. Boosalis, medical professionals who have supported Flyer athletics for more than 15 years. Reichard Hall, located on the east side of the Frericks Center and adjacent to Baujan Field, is currently being renovated.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS — Of the 17 Flyer teams, seven had perfect NCAA Academic Progress Rate scores; 15 scored above the national average of 976. Football’s 994 was second only to Davidson in NCAA Division I.

DUTCH TREAT — The men’s soccer team played a spring game against a professional team, the Dayton Dutch Lions. With cold and snow hiding signs of spring, neither team scored.

RECORDS — At the A-10 Outdoor Track and Field Championships, junior Katy Garcia finished third in the heptathlon with a school-record 4,608 points. At the Mt. SAC (San Antonio College) Relays in California, senior Nicole Cargill set a new school record, winning the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 10:20.88.

NBA BEST — Brian Roberts ’08 of the New Orleans Pelicans led the NBA this season in foul-shooting percentage, .940 (125 of 133). His career percentage of .929 is the best in NBA history for a player with at least 150 free throws made. Roberts’ 848 foul shooting at UD is fourth-best in Flyer history; so, too, are his 1,962 career points.

WINNERS — Senior women’s soccer player Juliana Libertin and senior men’s golfer Andrew Steffensmeier each received UD’s Presidential Scholar-Athlete Award, which recognizes two student-athletes, one male and one female, who have demonstrated academic excellence, qualities of leadership and service to the UD community.

Wealth for ideas

This spring, the School of Engineering received three major gifts to support teaching, research and innovation in education.

$566,411 — Bequest from former electrical engineering professor Reinhold Kubach that will create faculty fellowships to develop teaching approaches and establish research programs and laboratories

$1.2M — Grant from the Kern Entrepreneurship Education Network to support curriculum development in entrepreneurial engineering, enhancing an education KEEN has already named “best in class”

$2M — Award from the U.S. Air Force for continued funding of tuition grants and research stipends for minority students with the goal of producing a diverse, highly educated and highly trained workforce
1 Darla Dugan Ellington ‘90 writes, “We all met our first year on the second floor of Marycrest. Twenty-eight years later, our friendships are still going strong. We try to have a reunion every year, but with kids ranging in age from kindergarten to college, it’s a bit challenging. Last year’s reunion was in Indianapolis, and one of our many activities was participating in the Color Run. Here’s our ‘colorful’ group with UD Magazine.” Pictured, left to right, are: (back row) Rachel Cox Kuhn ’89, Becky Fakes Kronk ’90, Jenny Thomas Teague ’90 and Darla; (front row) Paige Danna Linden ’90 and Megan Larkin Waskiewicz ’90.

2 Gary Gottschlich ’68 and Sharon Plunkett Gottschlich ’68 read their UD Magazine in Pucon, Chile, while visiting their son, who lives in Santiago.

3 Ashley Kairit ’09 writes, “I was showing my UD love all over Dubai.”

4 Former residents of 317 Stone-mill (a.k.a. “The Loud House”) reunited in Hilton Head, S.C. Pictured left to right are 1982 graduates: (front row) Maureen McGroarty Gruss, JoEllen Bouley Gregus and Patty McCarthy Vanderburgh; (back row) Alison Partlan Pontarelli, Maribeth Thelen Harper, Francy Telecky Hughes, Cathy Bramen Bergoine and Kathy Birtlesman Allard. Maureen writes, “We have 24 children between all of us, and 10 of them attended or are still attending UD. It’s the best school ever, and these were the best housemates ever.”

5 Jim Kniesly ’68 took his UD Magazine along on a visit to his sister’s home near Bahia de Caraquez, Ecuador. He writes, “Her home is on the Rio Chone River on the west coast of Ecuador. I visited with my favorite magazine, my brother, my nephew and his two sons in September 2013.”

6 Katie McDaid ’97, Anne Marie McDaid-Washington ’94, Rebecca Genzel-McDaid ’99 and Ryan McDaid ’09 brought a copy of UD Magazine to the Sweet 16 in Memphis, Tenn. Here, they’re in front of FedExForum preparing to watch the Flyers beat Stanford to advance to the Elite Eight. “We are Dayton proUD,” they write.

7 Deborah Tobias ’73 took her UD Magazine along on a trip to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

8 Heather Montgomery Blazis ’95 and Joe Blazis ’95 write, “We traveled with our daughters, Caleigh and Emma, to Sanibel Island, Fla., for spring break and brought along the UD Magazine. This was right after the Flyers’ big run in the NCAA tournament and we heard
Megan Putbrese ’11 and Matt Putbrese ’15 visited St. Petersburg, Russia, with their UD Magazine.

Joe Berry ’86 writes, “This photo was taken while I was leading a global village team with Habitat for Humanity in San Miguel, El Salvador, Feb. 1-9, 2014. We were building a house in the shadow of the Chaparrastique volcano, which last erupted Dec. 29, 2013.”

Gloria Marano ’88 and Gregory Hyland ’04 enjoy the sights in Memphis with UD Magazine. Both alumni found themselves in Tennessee for the NCAA men’s basketball tournament. Marano is the Dayton Alumni Community leader and Hyland is active with day10.

Tom Hirt ’97 and Sara Penry Hirt ’99 traveled with their family (and UD Magazine) to watch UD play in the Maui Invitational tournament in November 2013. They write, “Great games, great setting, and great turnout by the Flyer faithful!”

Members of Delta Tau Nu show off their UD Magazine at the fraternity’s annual golf outing in Bonita Springs, Fla. Photo courtesy of John Geraghty ’74, president of Delta Tau Nu Alumni Association.

Kyle Brown ’06, Shannon Owens Brown ’05 and Linda Thomson, administrative assistant for UD’s residence life office, traveled to Hong Island in Krabi, Thailand, in December 2013 to attend the wedding of an exchange student the family hosted years prior. Shannon writes, “My mom and I have always stayed in touch with her and felt blessed to be a part of her special day. Naturally, we made sure to bring a copy of UD Magazine to read when we left Krabi for Bangkok for some time on the beach. Go Flyers.”

Meghan Dewhurst-Conroy ’91 writes, “I was still a proUD Flyer at the Final Four at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.”

Six recent graduates reunited in Aruba in January 2014, reprising a trip they took as seniors in 2013. “The boys,” as they refer to themselves, include John Muir, Jacob Swartz, Jack Capodice, Mike Schaid, Nick Fister and Zach Babbe.

UD women’s head golf coach Sally Kosters and her husband, volunteer assistant golf coach Ed Chamberlain, and their UD Magazine are “going low” at Furnace Creek Golf Course in Death Valley, Calif.

Heather Kazmer ’00 recently fed and bathed baby elephants at an elephant sanctuary near Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She writes, “Working for Sherwin-Williams has given me this great opportunity to travel, but UD is always close by. Fellow Flyer Jeff Galla ’96 also made the trek to Kuala Lumpur and was kind enough to take this picture for me.”

Jo Balsamo Wood, Kathleen Duffin Partin, Mary Anne Brennan Tobin and Eileen Duffin, alumnae from 1979, enjoy the tablet version of UD Magazine while relaxing in a pool in Costa Rica. They write, “We’re getting ready for Reunion Weekend in June.”

UD alumni Dan Lehman ’84, Martha Reddy Lehman ’84 and Dennis Braun ’86, along with current student Rachel Braun ’16, read their UD Magazine during a stop on the beaches of St. Maarten. The group was on a summertime Caribbean cruise.
TRUE FANS

TRUE TEAM

JILL VONDERHAAR
Call it an outbreak of the Red Scare. Splotches of red appeared and spread. From the floor to the rafters, UD fans packed tournament sites for the 2014 NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Championship. They sold out ticket allotments, bought from online resellers and haggled on street corners. Any seat would do, because nearly every seat was adjacent to a Flyer fan.

At least that’s how it felt, even to coach Archie Miller down on the floor.

“I always say I don’t know how we’re going to play, but I know [the fans will be] there, and they’ll be loud,” he said after the March 27 Sweet 16 victory. “I just didn’t know how many.”

So numerous that every section was flecked with Flyer gear. So thunderous that this writer’s decibel meter overloaded in the Memphis roar. So deafening that the rosary prayers of a young girl in the highest seats were likely heard by only holy ears. So fervent that as the final moments wound down on the Flyers’ Elite Eight loss to Florida, the gator-chomping, a unified chant rang clear: “Thank you, (clap clap) UD. (clap clap)”

This season was defined by the “True Team” dedication the players declared on their warm-ups, when starting pride took a backseat to an all-in enthusiasm and unwavering faith in one another. But there was another set of T-shirts that could have been printed and worn by thousands: “True Fan.” They’d waited 30 years for a stage this big to show their Flyer colors and community pride.

And what a show it was.

IT WAS A TOUGH WINTER many would rather forget: the polar vortex; snowstorms with names like Greek gods and Transformers; and a 1-5 losing slump that sent Flyer fans reeling.

After they racked up early wins against the likes of Georgia Tech and Gonzaga to roll to a 12-3 record in non-conference play, to have the Flyers falter against the A-10 seemed improbable. Call-in shows and Twitter chatter devolved toward extremes, with fans speculating about the longevity of the coach just halfway through his third season. “I imagine Archie must be wearing a fake beard and dark glasses when he runs out for milk and bread,” one fan wrote.

Little did fans know that, in the cold of winter, UD was signing a contract extension for Miller through 2019.

That slump, it turned out, would be golden. It gave the team permission to regroup and focus on what was important, said senior and team co-captain Devin Oliver.

“(Coach Miller] started preaching play-to-win. And guys were kinda like, ‘ehhhhh,’” Oliver said, vocalizing the team’s uncertainty, “and he was like, ‘just play, Just play basketball.’

“And once we started winning and had a little more organization, we knew what we were trying to accomplish.”

Their goal: UD’s first NCAA Division I men’s tournament bid since 2009, when the Flyers advanced to the second round after beating West Virginia, 68-60, in Minneapolis.

One key to season success was cohesion. Players, in the past, were known to follow their own agendas.

“We didn’t have enough pride to listen to one another last year,” said senior and team co-captain Vee Sanford. “This year, as a team, every day was just helping each other and trying to teach. We can all learn from one another.”

They also drew energy from the coaching team and Miller’s palatable drive to win, said senior Matt Kavanaugh.

“His confidence, passion and enthusiasm just rubs off on all the players because, if you’re not bringing it at the same level as him, you’re not going to play, you’re not going to be successful,” he said. “I think he brings it every day in practice, and that gives us a sense of toughness, and that just transfers over into the games.”

It worked. They busted the slump with a 9-1 winning streak that propelled the Flyers into the NCAA tournament and to Buffalo, N.Y., to face Ohio State.

SELECTION SUNDAY was a time for rejoicing for many and of soul-wrenching agony for others who found their loyalties tested by the 11-seeded Flyers’ match-up against sixth-seeded Ohio State. Sophomore Ryan Phillips, the new president of Red Scare, UD’s student fan club, is from one such house divided. Literally, he has Ohio State to credit for his existence.

“My parents met at OSU. It’s in my blood, my family,” he said. “If I had gone there, I would have been a fourth generation.”

Instead, he is a Flyer. So he chose — in good fun — to leave a voicemail for his father: “I’m 100 percent behind the Flyers. If you don’t want to talk to me Thursday, it’s fine.”

On March 20, Phillips — wearing a red Dayton Flyers pullover and black basketball shorts — joined hundreds of students who gathered throughout campus to watch the game. He chose the basement of Kennedy Union where the Hangar’s bowling alley sat silent as students piled in front of the big screen.

It was a nerve-wracking game with 15 lead changes that had Phillips doing calisthenics. With 3.8 seconds left on the clock, Sanford drove to the basket and kissed the game-winning shot off the glass to give the Flyers a 60-59 victory. It was a shot that launched Phillips into his friend’s arms.

“I almost went out and kissed the Chaminade statue,” he said. “It was probably the most exciting game I have ever seen. I don’t think I’ve hugged so many random people in my life.”

It was a bracket-busting way to start off March Madness. Dayton’s win left just 17 percent of the Quicken Loans Billion Dollar brackets intact after the first game of the second round, reported Yahoo.

The upset win was just one of many good storylines for the media to report throughout the tournament. Others included junior Jordan Sibert, who transferred from Ohio State and scored nine points in the win over his former school; Miya Oliver, the sister of Devin Oliver and the darling of CBS Sports, which highlighted her as the Flyers’ greatest fan; and the Miller brothers — Archie of Dayton and Sean of Arizona — who would become the first brothers to coach Elite Eight teams in the same tournament.

There was another storyline that grabbed the heartstrings during the third-round Dayton-Syracuse game: the birth of Maeve Maloney.

Chelsie Berry Maloney ’07 and her husband, Adam, watched the first half of the March 22 game from the delivery room at Kettering Medical Center near Dayton. Chelsie delivered Maeve at halftime and watched the second half while holding her new bundle of joy.

“UD has always been a part of our family,” said proud grandma Eileen Murphy Maloney ’80, “[Chelsie and Adam] had their first date at a basketball game at the arena, and their wedding reception was at the Flight Deck [at UD Arena]. Maeve is certainly destined to be a Flyer.”

While the Maloneys had a good reason to stay in Dayton, many fans refused to let a six-hour drive and occasional blinding snow keep them from the First Niagara Center in Buffalo. Fans sold out Dayton’s 550-ticket allotment and scavenged for more.

By Michelle Tedford
Longtime season ticket holder Jeff Lecklider traveled with 14-year-old grandson Jack Welsh, who always wears to games the same good-luck red socks. Welsh said the cheers of Flyers fans were incredible. "We were overtaking Syracuse," he said.

On TV, it looked like a Syracuse home game, with the university only 150 miles away. The Flyers on the court, though, could hear the Dayton pride.

"When we played Syracuse, you could look up and see nothing but orange," said Sibert. "But to be able to see our crowd and be able to hear them just as loud as the Syracuse fans, it means the world to us and it gives an edge to us in every game."

Said senior Brian Vonderhaar of the Flyer Faithful, "They've always traveled well. Just because it was on a bigger stage, it was even more."

The fans in the stands make a difference on the court, said the team. They can hear the roar during timeouts or free throws, but even when the players are completely focused, the energy can bleed onto the court and help the team gain momentum.

"Especially if we go on a run," Sanford said. "That's when it's pretty big, the fans yelling 'Go UD.' It kind of gets everybody amped up to keep going."

That energy overtook the team that night, with freshman Scoochie Smith and Sibert making late baskets to give the Flyers the lead, and sophomore Dyshawn Pierre sinking free throws to finish off the Orange, 55-53.

Then it was on to Memphis, Tenn., for the Sweet 16, where the Flyers would find themselves the belle of the ball.

**SURE, IT'S NICE TO BE AMERICA'S CINDERELLA**

at first — you get dressed up for the big dance, everyone pays attention to you, wants to be your fan. But in the fairytale, Cinderella just happened to fit the shoe. The Dayton Flyers knew it took skill and sweat and the support of a cast of thousands spanning generations to get back to the place the men's team last inhabited in 1984. "The whole Cinderella thing is kind of out the door," said Sanford in Memphis. "I just feel like a lot of people don't know about the Dayton program, but it's a really great program with a lot of tradition. ... Nothing about the
University of Dayton is Cinderella or small. We have the best facilities. We are on top of our game academically."

It was, though, a bit like magic for fans. They rolled into Memphis by the thousands and were treated to a royal ball. In the historic Cadre building with its crystal chandeliers and towering columns with hand-painted gold-leaf molding, Fiore Talarico ’74 and the UD alumni relations staff threw a party for the first 1,300 Flyer fans to arrive. Kevin Davidson ’06, known for his animated halftime dance to “Sandstorm” while a member of Red Scare, stood in the ballroom wearing his trademark sunglasses and red stocking cap. Bill Uhl Jr. ’89, who played for the Flyers from 1986-90, hugged fans and posed for pictures. Everywhere there was free food and drink, with an R&B band and the Flyer pep band keeping the house rocking.

“It’s such an adrenalin rush,” said Curtis Schultz ’01. He had watched the Flyers win in Buffalo, then drove home to Cincinnati to pack up the family for Memphis. He stood in the Cadre building in the quietest corner he could find with wife Erin Wietmarschen Schultz ’01, brother Nick Schultz, and children Will, 8, and Annmarie, 6, who peeked out from behind a giant foam finger.

Former football coach Mike Kelly took the mic and told the jubilant crowd that UD fans had purchased more tickets in Memphis than any other school. “Let’s make this place tonight just like the UD Arena, baby,” he shouted.

And they did. The announcers from Flyer Radio promised listeners at home that they were not turning up the volume; the FedExForum was really that loud. Small children covered their ears with both hands, pointed elbows jutting into raucous space.

Flyer fans sold out their 950-ticket allotment and nabbed available seats anywhere. At one point, there were three Flyer will-call ticket lines compared to one for each of the other three Sweet 16 teams.

In section 208, row Q, near the roof, a family of five could barely contain themselves during the Stanford game. Mom, Dad and kids came packing prayers in case the team needed backup. A few times, the littlest girl started saying the “Hail Mary,” “Not yet! It’s too soon,” Dad coached, not wanting his team to peak too early.

That night, 10 Dayton players would score as the Flyers beat 10th-seeded Stanford, 82-72. Said Stanford coach Johnny Dawkins, “They were relentless. They came in waves, and they had two players at every position. ... Not only do they keep putting bodies out there, but they’re all good.”

Just as the team was becoming known for its high-energy mass attack, the Flyer fans were gaining notoriety for their size and loyalty. Shots of historic Beale Street showed a sea of Flyer red while security guards at GraceLand wondered if there was anyone left in Dayton.

On the day between games, Oliver ventured out on Beale Street to meet his family for lunch.

“I figured someone would come up to me, a fan,” he said. “But it was pandemonium. I started walking and people started crowding me and taking pictures. Old ladies were giving me hugs. I took about 40 pictures. That’s when I met Roosevelt Chapman (from the 1984 Flyer Elite Eight team). We shook hands and people started cheering.”

Such a reception was likely not contained to Dayton players, but there was one moment Saturday, March 29, that clearly contrasted the anecdotal
Team Dayton

Making the whole greater than the parts equals success

By Thomas M. Columbus

March Madness — the NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Championship — has become one of the biggest events in the sporting world. And it starts each year in Dayton, Ohio.

The reasons for that date back into the mid-20th century. The NCAA tournament, when it began, was neither big in size nor in local impact; the first tournament in 1939 had a field of eight teams. For years, some schools, notably the University of Dayton, preferred to play in the National Invitational Tournament, to go to New York City to play on the big stage.

In 1952, the Flyers played in both tournaments; that was the last time doing so was allowed. UD set a record that still stands: most fouls in a game, 41. The Flyers’ five disqualifications in that game are second all-time.

“That left Coach Tom Blackburn with a bitter taste,” said Blackburn’s successor as Flyers head coach, Don Donoher ’54. “He liked the NIT. He never went back to the NCAA.”

Blackburn, however, is one reason the Road to the Final Four now starts in Dayton. Donoher has two films from the 1950-51 season, the first for UD’s Fieldhouse as home to the men’s basketball team. “In the first, in addition to the permanent seats along the sides of the court,” Donoher said, “there are at one end bleachers brought in from Baujan Field. There are no bleachers at the other end. Two weeks later, there are. The Fieldhouse was sold out the next year and every year thereafter until Tom Frericks built the UD Arena.”

The modern era of Flyer basketball and the Flyer Faithful had begun.

After Blackburn’s death eight days before the 1963-64 season ended, Donoher took over as the Flyers coach. Blackburn had compiled an enviable record of 351-149; Donoher’s was to be 437-275.

For the next season, it was clear the NCAA had become UD’s tournament of choice. Donoher’s entry into it was smoothed by one Henry Finkel ’66, who was to have a nine-year NBA career. Before coming to UD, Finkel had played some college ball and worked in a shipyard. Entering his junior year, Donoher’s first, Finkel was eligible for the NBA. He could have gone to the Lakers. He stayed at UD; he had promised his mother he would get a college degree. The next year, he was drafted by the 76ers. Again, he stayed at UD. Both years, UD went to the NCAA’s Sweet 16. He finished his UD career with per game averages of 13.3 rebounds and a school-record 23.7 points.

Donoher likes Finkel.

Finkel was not at UD in 1967. But “he set the table,” Donoher said, for UD’s run to the national championship game that year. UD lost to UCLA, the third straight year the Flyers had lost in the tournament to the country’s No. 1 team.

At the beginning of the 2013-14 season, the odds of UD even making the NCAA tournament were not overwhelming. A strong showing in the early-season Maui Invitational raised both visibility and hopes. But a dismal January tour of UD with other students in my class right after the Flyers made it to the Sweet 16. I remember thinking that I had lived in Dayton all my life, and I never realized how exciting the campus was. Go Flyers! —Kathleen Nixon ’89

I WAS A SENIOR at Dunbar High School. I took my college

WHERE I WAS IN 1984

I WAS A SECOND-YEAR, full-time grad student at UD on my way to Florida for spring break. We didn’t have iPads or iPhones then, so we would stop at exits to call friends in Ohio to get scoring updates. —Tim Sharkey ’81

I REMEMBER sitting on the floor of the Fieldhouse when we played Georgetown, packed house! —Brenda Trumbore Martin ’85

I WAS A SENIOR at Dunbar High School. I took my college tour of UD with other students in my class right after the Flyers made it to the Sweet 16. I remember thinking that I had lived in Dayton all my life, and I never realized how exciting the campus was. Go Flyers! —Kathleen Nixon ’89

I WAS IN SANDUSKY — even have the Georgetown game on VHS. Remember Donoher saying UD was in fifth place since they played the last game of the Elite Eight. In 1967, I was at Louisville for the Final Four. And in
I was a novice with the Society of Mary. We watched one of the games at Bergamo Center during the Formation Weekend. I had graduated from UD two years earlier. This year, I watched the win over Syracuse in a Marianist Community in St. Louis surrounded by brothers, most of them UD grads. I also texted with fellow grads from Seattle to Kabul. Go Flyers! —Ed Brink, S.M. ’82

I was living in Watertown, N.Y. Four times that winter, I woke up learning that I was living in the coldest place in America. As a former UD cheerleader, it was with great pride that I saw the Flyers win time after time until finally falling to the eventual champion, the Georgetown Hoyas led by Patrick Ewing. I wrote Coach Donoher a letter congratulating him on this wonderful accomplishment. I was even more pleased that he responded to my letter personally. —Chaz Zelows ’80

I was a junior and living in the Ghetto.
Elite in 1984

For one weekend, he might have been the most popular person walking the streets of Memphis since Elvis.

Roosevelt “Velvet” Chapman was the senior star for the 1983-84 Flyers squad that advanced to the Elite Eight in 1984, a run that saw UD dispatch LSU, Oklahoma and Washington before losing to eventual national champion Georgetown in the regional final. Already beloved by the Flyer Faithful, the 6-foot-4-inch Chapman became a national sensation after making good on his “Now we’re gonna find out who the real All-American is” proclamation in advance of the matchup against Wayman Tisdale, Oklahoma’s 6-foot-9-inch All-American power forward.

Tisdale scored 36 points. Chapman had 41.

After the 2014 Flyers beat Syracuse in the round of 32, Chapman, who works as a high school teacher on a Native American reservation in Sioux Falls, S.D., made a 15-hour drive to Memphis for the regional semifinal, traveling back roads and byways in the dark, some with 35-mile-per-hour speed limits.

“It was grueling, but it was worth it,” he said.

Flyer fans young and old flocked to the Flyer Faithful rally (2,233 points), and Chapman estimates he posed for more than 1,000 pictures. It was like 30 years ago, but bigger, he said, thanks to technology and social media that helped garner national support for UD.

“It doesn’t seem like it’s been 30 years,” Chapman said. “I still remember getting ready for practices and sitting at my locker.”

Although 1984 might have felt like yesterday for Chapman, a few fans made it evident that 30 years had indeed passed.

“Kids who weren’t even born when I played wanted to take pictures with me,” Chapman said. “They said, ‘I heard so much about you. You’re a legend.’”

The legend watched proudly as the Flyers defeated Stanford to advance to the Elite Eight before bowing out against Florida, saying he was “highly impressed” with the way the Flyers played during the tournament. He hopes there’s more to come — and that the Flyer Faithful don’t have to wait 30 more years for another great run.

“Let’s do it again,” he said.

Here’s what Chapman’s teammates are doing today.

**DAN CHRISTIE**, 6-2, freshman: Christie lives in Miamisburg, Ohio, and is a financial adviser with UBS. He is involved with youth basketball programs in greater Dayton.

**DAVE COLBERT**, 6-8, redshirt: A Cleveland State transfer, Colbert was ineligible under NCAA transfer rules to play in 1983-84. He played professional basketball in Australia and Israel before returning to Cleveland to coach at John Marshall High School. He died of a heart attack in 2009 at 47.

**RORY DAHLINGHAUS**, 6-8, sophomore: Dahlinghaus serves as director of development for major giving programs at UD.

**TED HARRIS**, 6-0, junior: Harris is an investment manager in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

**DON HUGHES**, 6-9, freshman: Hughes lives in Richmond, Va., and is chief operating officer of Legacy Food Service Alliance, a food service distributor.

**DAMON GOODWIN**, 6-6, sophomore: Goodwin has been head coach of the men’s basketball team at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, since 1994.

**ANTHONY GRANT**, 6-5, freshman: Grant has been men’s basketball head coach at the University of Alabama since 2009; he previously served as head coach at Virginia Commonwealth (2006-09).

**LARRY SCHELLENBERG**, 6-3, junior: Schellenberg is a teacher, guidance counselor and coach at Floyd Central High School in his hometown of Floyds Knobs, Ind.

**JIM SHIELDS**, 6-8, sophomore: Shields lives in Xenia, Ohio, and works as an investment manager.

**SEDRIC TONEY**, 6-2, junior: After a multi-year NBA career, Toney worked as director of player personnel for the New York Knicks and was an ESPN college basketball broadcaster. Now living in Atlanta, he trains players for the NBA draft and stays active in outreach initiatives with retired professional basketball players.

**JEFF TRESSLER**, 6-11, sophomore: Tressler lives in Dayton and works as a systems integrator for BTAS, a defense technology company.

**ED YOUNG**, 6-7, sophomore: Young manages and owns his own medical consulting firm in the Dayton area and serves as a member of the Crotty Advisory Council at UD.

**JEFF ZERN**, 6-9, sophomore: Zern is an electronics engineer with Defense Supply Center in Columbus, Ohio.

**DON DONOHER**, coach: At 82, Donoher remains involved with UD athletics and works as an assistant coach at Bishop Fenwick High School in Middletown, Ohio, the school his grandchildren attended. He remained head coach at UD through the 1988-89 season.

—Shannon Shelton Miller
THAT NIGHT AT THE ELITE EIGHT GAME in Memphis, FedExForum again rocked like UD Arena. Just as the crowd energized the players, the players stoked the fire. With 8:08 left in the first half, Oliver let fly a long three off a Pierre assist to bring the score to 43-29. Jacksonville Jaguars in a huddle — including a formal gala. We wore them wherever we were — including a formal gala. We were set to watch one of the Maui Invitational games at Kathryn's house when I realized I'd forgotten my bracelet, so I quickly drove back to my house to get it before tipoff."

In March, Jamie Horne '14 stood out in a sea of Flyers occupying Milano’s for the UD-Stanford matchup. His bright red, 12-inch-tall squid hat was making its latest appearance of the year. "I won the hat last year during Dayton to Daytona. It's been lucky so far, so I keep wearing it," he said.

Involving other family members — willing or not — is also a common theme. Rick Lewellen '82 and Carol Gibson Lewellen '72 have a tradition of turning off the television and turning on the radio with exactly two minutes left to play, hoping the familiar voices of Larry Hansen and Bucky O'Neill '58 will propel the team to victory.

"Even our 10-year-old grandson thought the superstitions were fun and cheered right along with us. Because the March Madness games were so close, we started to stand up and cheer the last two minutes, too — but honestly, I think my UD-blue nail polish did the trick," Carol Lewellen said.

Catherine Weber Mix '02 reported that her son, Christopher, felt a special connection to this year's squad after attending Archie Miller's basketball camp last summer.

"Having played sports his whole life, and with a dad who is sports crazy, superstition is an innate behavior when watching or participating. But during the Flyers' tourney run, it took on a whole new meaning for our family," she said.

While out shopping the day after the brackets were announced, Christopher saw an Ohio State T-shirt and a pair of Syracuse shorts, both on the clearance rack. He purchased them, only later realizing that the two schools were UD's first opponents.

"He wore the OSU shirt the day before the game; we knocked off OSU. That night and the next, he wore the Syracuse shorts to bed; we knocked off Syracuse. We decided to try his luck a third time, and happened to have a Stanford coffee mug, which he drank from until the Sweet 16 game; we beat Stanford. After three successful 'jinxes,' we scrambled to find some Florida Gator gear, finally nabbing something from a local thrift store. It might not have been as lucky as the other items, but we still enjoyed such a great run by our Flyers," Catherine Mix said.

So, do the superstitions serve a purpose?

As Peggy Wilson, director of operations and finance for the UD School of Law, tells her third-grade CCD students: "If a special shirt makes you feel more comfortable or part of the team, that's fine. Catholics use things like rosaries, medals, art and holy water as sacramentals to make us more mindful of God's constant saving presence in our lives and help prepare us to receive his grace. While we respect such objects for this remembrance, we should not be superstitious toward them, either."

It won't hurt to keep those socks away from the washing machine, though; just in case.

—Audrey Starr

G ood teams have talent and drive; great teams have a fan base so loyal they don’t wash their socks for three months.

From clothing so dirty, it’s lucky, to swearing off Facebook — “I never, ever check in on social media during a game; too many sure things turned ugly soon after,” said Jenifer Gerard ‘08, student-athletes learning specialist — Flyers fans have their own ways of contributing to the team’s success.

Apparel is the most popular good-luck charm. Shelby Quinlivan ’06 and her best friend, Kathryn Mack ‘09, found matching UD charm bracelets before the 2013-14 season.

“We made sure to wear the bracelets for each game,” Quinlivan explained. “We wore them wherever we were — including a formal gala. We were set to watch one of the Maui Invitational games at Kathryn’s house when I realized I’d forgotten my bracelet, so I quickly drove back to my house to get it before tipoff.”

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Michelle Tedford ’94 sat courtside on press row for the Elite Eight game. Sometimes, this job is simply amazing.
Fifth bid, sixth seed

While fans have come to expect great things from Flyer women’s basketball — including this year’s fifth-straight NCAA tournament appearance — the team takes nothing for granted — including its fans.

You are our sixth man.”

It was a statement often repeated by women’s basketball coach Jim Jabir to fans who consistently poured into UD Arena for an A-10 attendance record of 29,808 fans in 12 games.

Jabir’s statement was never more true than on Feb. 23.

“We definitely had that day marked on the calendar for a long time,” said senior Cassie Sant of the rivalry game against Saint Joseph’s, which had beaten the Flyers earlier in the season. “Being senior day was just an added bonus — our emotions were extremely high.”

The game was to be televised by ESPNU, and time was tight. So the team made the decision to recognize the sole senior after the game, not before, as is usual. That put a lot of pressure on her teammates — they all wanted to win, for Sant.

And win they did, 82-56, in front of 3,111 cheering fans to clinch the A-10 regular season title.

Truth is, they all want to win every game — for themselves, their coaches, their teammates and families and professors and classmates and fans and school.

But it was a year when nothing was certain. A string of early road losses showed the team, which finished 28-3 in 2012-13, had some growing to do. Injuries simultaneously took out the team’s two seasoned guards, leaving freshman Celeste Edwards to fill big — and quick — shoes. And then there was the weather, which postponed the Saint Louis road game, canceled or delayed seven flights, and forced the team to travel from Rhode Island by bus 17 hours through a snowstorm.

Despite the havoc, the team finished the regular season 23-8 and 14-2 in the A-10 — while also receiving academic kudos, including the highest NCAA academic progress rating among A-10 teams.

On Selection Monday, the Flyers garnered their fifth consecutive bid to the NCAA tournament as a No. 6 seed, the highest in program history.

“Things get bigger and bigger and better and better every year,” Jabir told fans dressed in red and blue who gathered at the watch party at UD Arena. And he gave them a slice of the credit for the Flyers’ season: “When teams come here, it’s very hard to play here, and it’s because of you.”

The Flyers fell in the NCAA first round to Florida, 83-69. It was a disappointment to themselves, their coaches and their fans, all of whom, of course, wanted a win, and another win, and another.

“This one hurt,” Sant said after the game. “But I know these girls will keep doing big things. Just like we have for the past (five) years.”

To thank their fans for the constant support, the men’s and women’s teams threw a community pep rally March 30. An estimated 2,000 Flyer Faithful filled seats at UD Arena for the last time this basketball season.

When Jabir took the podium, he talked about looking toward the future, about how the successes of this team will drive the returning players and help UD recruit talent to achieve even bigger dreams.

He also addressed the success of the men’s team and the excitement it generated in the community. What they have accomplished, he told the fans, we want to accomplish next year — for you.

“We have all you guys here to honor something that we love to do,” Jabir said. “You are very, very important to what we do. “I’ve always said that it’s your team, not our team.”

—Michelle Tedford
The day in March that @DaytonFlyers became a verified Twitter account with more than 10,000 followers.

Views of YouTube videos that included the tracked keywords.

Tip-off: 7:15 p.m.
FedExForum
Memphis, Tenn.

Tip-off: 6:09 p.m.
FedExForum
Memphis, Tenn.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27
UD vs. STANFORD
Tweets per 15-minute increment, 6:15-11:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29
UD vs. FLORIDA
Tweets per 15-minute increment, 5-10 p.m.

33,845 Tweets

21,076 Tweets

FOLLOW US
FACEBOOK
University of Dayton
Dayton Flyer Athletics
Official University of Dayton Men’s Basketball
Dayton Women’s Basketball

TWITTER
@univofdayton
@daytonflyers
@daytonmbb

INSTAGRAM
universityofdayton
DaytonFlyers

Data from Simply Measured and Facebook insights, March 18-31, 2014, unless otherwise specified. Keywords included dayton flyers, ud, university of dayton, univofdayton, universityofdayton, flyernation, goflyers, weareud, #goflyers, #flyernation, #weareud. 

FACEBOOK SWEET 16 BUZZ
This map displays Facebook mentions of teams that made it to the 2014 NCAA regional semifinals. Each state is color-coded based on which team was getting the most Facebook buzz since the start of the tournament.

2014 UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON MAGAZINE
Priceless

UD is Cinderella story had bling money just can’t buy.

...Unless you have $72.8 million.

That’s the estimated value of the Dayton Flyers’ television and social media coverage during the NCAA tournament run, according to a report by the city of Dayton.

“I would classify this as a rare economic opportunity,” said Hillary Ross Browning ’07, who wrote the report.

Browning conducted the study as the legislative aide for city commissioners Joey Williams and Matt Joseph ’94. They wanted to know if the media portrayal was positive and what the coverage was worth. Her findings: yes, and lots.

The four tournament games alone — looking at only the 40 minutes of playing time — were worth $38 million in advertising dollars. “THE University of Dayton” was an often-repeated meme, garnering more than 16,000 Twitter mentions the day the Dayton Daily News headline appeared.

“University of Dayton” or “Dayton Flyers” received mentions in all 210 of the nation’s television markets, according to TV Eyes, with an estimated minimum of 410.9 million possible impressions. The Flyers’ Elite Eight matchup against Florida on TBS was the second-most watched college basketball game in cable television history with 7.2 million viewers, according to Turner Sports.

It wasn’t easy seeing the diamond in the rough of data, Browning said. First, the data were “dirty,” meaning information from many sources had to be compared and analyzed for repetition. She developed a media model based on studies conducted by universities with recent NCAA success, such as George Mason and VCU. Social media valuation was the most difficult to figure, Browning said. She employed a method that values the life of posts three days out. Public Facebook and Twitter account mentions equaled $726,321.

Add to the city’s $72.6 million figure another $1.1 million. That’s the estimated value of the print and online media recorded by Cision, which showed hits in at least 140 markets with an estimated audience of more than 2 billion people.

The coverage wasn’t all play-by-play and which Miller-brother-is-coaching-tonight. Audiences read about the Flyer faithful, alumni pride, and students picking up the president and carrying him 10 feet down Kiefaber Street. In Sports Illustrated’s “Eleven Things You Might Not Know About the University of Dayton,” America also learned about how we had a higher average men’s basketball attendance (12,438) than seven of the other teams in the Sweet 16, how Forbes recently ranked Dayton the fourth most-affordable city in America, and that since 2008 the size of our beautiful campus has nearly doubled.

It’s Dayton’s story, and it’s priceless.

GET A JOB

Days before Selection Sunday, Richard Nebel ’12 sat across a table from an interviewer and waited for his opening question.

The interviewer glanced at Nebel’s résumé, looked up and asked, “Dayton Flyers … are they going to make the tournament this year?”

Weeks later, with Nebel completing more interviews for full-time jobs and graduate programs, the Indianapolis resident couldn’t stop talking about UD. The Flyers had gone from tournament-maybe to America’s Cinderella, and Nebel’s status as former Flyer Pep Band president — listed prominently on his résumé — lent him just as much cachet with interviewers as his bachelor’s degree in economics.

Call it the post-graduation version of the so-called Flutie Effect — the phenomenon named after Boston College’s rise in name recognition and college applications after quarterback Doug Flutie threw a game-ending Hail Mary pass to beat the University of Miami football powerhouse in 1984.

It’s still too early to determine whether UD’s run to the Elite Eight will result in greater employment or other post-graduate opportunities for alumni, but it certainly hasn’t hurt their chances, said Jason Eckert, the University’s director of career services.

“It’s hard to measure that from a quantitative perspective, but I have heard some stories where it perhaps opened a door for a student or at least worked as a fun opening question to break the ice at the beginning of an interview,” he said. “We’ve also heard from a couple of students who may be applying in places far from Dayton that it perhaps helped them in terms of exposure. Because we had been in the Elite Eight, UD’s name was on the tip of everyone’s tongue for a two-week period.

“Basketball moves the needle. If the tide is rising, why not ride the wave? It helps everybody.”

—Shannon Shelton Miller

PAY ATTENTION

You can take this free publicity to the bank.

$253,877.80

“Hoop Dreams”

NBC Nightly News 129-second story 3/24/14

$55,742.47

“Let the Madness Begin”

Wall Street Journal front page photo 3/21/14

$223,500

“Flyer Ball”

Sports Illustrated Scorecard story 3/31/14

$2,169

The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon 3/29/14

3-second Dayton Flyers mention in monologue followed by, “Stanford students haven’t been this disappointed since they didn’t get into Harvard.”

BY THE NUMBERS

For one shining moment, no one corrected us, “You mean the University of Dayton?”

3,660

Google News hits for “University of Dayton”

6,110

Google News hits for “Dayton Flyers”

45

Percentage increase in unique users to University of Dayton website comparing March 2013 and March 2014

2,871

“Dayton Flyers” mentions on cable and syndicated network TV March 19-30

2 billion

Estimated print and online media audience

7.2 million

Estimated audience for Dayton vs. Florida Elite Eight game

$14 million

Estimated advertising value for the Dayton vs. Stanford Sweet 16 game

$73.7 million

Estimated value of print, online, TV and social media coverage March 18-30

Source: City of Dayton
Taking a stand

Dayton Flyer fans are the best — because they are so giving, according to Stand4. The Flyer Faithful simultaneously cheered the Flyers into the Elite Eight while taking a stand for the Dayton community and feeding Flyer fans in need.

Stand4 is a start-up company launched by Andy Hill ’12 and Sean Johnson ’12. The social entrepreneurs wanted to allow people to support the causes they care about, see the impact from real-time updates and make the world a better place — now. So they built a business that connects the concerns of citizens, who register their support for a cause with a click of a mouse, with companies looking to fill their philanthropic needs.

Stand4 takes a percentage for connecting the company with the nonprofit, broadcasting its involvement and connecting it with its target market. A click can get a child one year of clean water, give a Kenyan farmer an irrigation pump or treat a patient.

Johnson said that, while the bulk of the team is based in Florida, he made a different decision. He called it following the “pulse of the ecosystem.”

“People bring this whole puzzle together. The quality of the person, the quality of the community — that was going to be crucial.” So he came back to Dayton.

When the Flyers made the NCAA tournament, Hill and Johnson wanted to give back to the city that had given them so much. They identified an opportunity to turn pride into good deeds by partnering with Homefull, a local nonprofit working to end homelessness. Every click would provide a needed resource for a Homefull client — food.

The Stand4 team worked throughout the night, with a lot of coffee and strategic planning, to get the technology ready to put their idea into reality.

“At 10 a.m. the next morning, we posted it to our personal Facebook pages, and the thing just took off. We were hoping to get a couple hundred people,” Johnson said. “’We hit that within the first few hours. And within three days, we hit 3,000.’”

The Dayton community made the campaign a success through social media, Johnson said.

“We come in all shapes and sizes. Some are rich, and some are having a tough go. But what makes us Flyers is that we pick each other up when we fall. That’s who we are. That’s what we’re about. A strong, unbreakable community,” Johnson said. “And that’s why for every person who says they’re rooting for the Flyers, we’ll give a meal to a Flyer fan in need.”

On April 24, Stand4 fired up the grills at River Commons, one of Homefull’s programs that provides housing and supportive services to disabled, formerly homeless Daytonians, to serve its first of many meals. Fifty residents stood in line to fill their plates, thanks in part to Flyer fans who chose to stand with them.

—Emma Jensen ’16

Research hub, the base helps drives the Dayton region’s success, fueled by an educational emphasis on the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering and math). On Selection Sunday the local organizing committee hosts its annual Hoopla Challenge and STEM Education Event, which this year drew over 400 K-8 participants and over 1,100 attendees. At the games themselves, cameras panning the crowds show thousands of energized airmen in uniform and students from across the region, a symbol of Dayton’s strength and its future. This year more than 4,500 students and military personnel received game tickets donated by scores of organizations.

Dayton loves basketball and the world now knows it.

The Flyers, however, didn’t play in Dayton; they shuffled off to Buffalo, N.Y. After their first game there, the Dayton Daily News ran a large headline proclaiming the victory of THE University of Dayton (a very large “THE”) over a school in Columbus. Media around the country loved it; it went viral; the town went crazy; and the Flyers, after next beating Syracuse, went to Memphis, Tenn.

The Flyers’ last Sweet 16 appearance, in 1984, had featured late-night games. News of victories traveled slowly, missing the late news and many morning papers. This time around the Flyers were playing early or in prime time; and people who had barely heard of Dayton became converted Flyer fans. Twitter, Facebook and the speed and ease of communication today intensified the energy. Memphis turned into a Dayton party. The Flyers donned warm-ups emblazoned with the words “True Team.” The mass media praised the Flyers’ team play and highlighted how they reflected the values of their city and their school — hard work, resilience and community.

At the core of this celebration of Dayton was the Flyer Faithful. That was not a surprise. It’s been a while since trainloads of fans trooped off to New York City to take over Madison Square Garden as Blackburn’s teams enjoyed their NIT success. But the phenomenon endures.

“A number of people went to Maui,” said Tim Walber ’74, vice president and director of athletics, of that early-season tournament. “We were well-represented at Georgia Tech and Ole Miss. Duquesne looked like a Dayton home game. And in the tournament, it all broke loose.

“Dayton travels extremely well. The bigger the stage, the more they travel.”

And the Flyers — and their faithful — have gotten back to the biggest stage in basketball. UD

A season-ticket holder for both men’s and women’s Flyer basketball teams, Columbus came to Dayton five months after the 1967 men’s tournament. He had to follow that tournament living next door to a North Carolina fan — who turned out to be a good loser.
“Flyer Nation, we made HISTORY.

I’m so proud to call myself a Dayton Flyer. Thank you to everyone who has been alongside us for this run!”
Agile algae

UD has proven that what proliferates in your kid’s fish tank can also survive the deep freeze of a polar vortex. The Research Institute’s new outdoor modular algae system holds promise for alleviating environmental and energy ills by taking the solution to the point of pollution. In the process, we’re growing young minds with some of the most innovative ideas in the algae industry.
Moshan Kahandawala sees big potential in little green algae.
— even on the hottest summer day — and it makes cleaning out the aquarium a time-consuming chore.

But algae are emerging as one of the most promising renewable energy sources in decades. The tiny organisms pack a big punch for challenges ranging from climate change to economic security.

Scientists and students at the University of Dayton Research Institute have taken the research a step further by creating a new way to grow algae — adjacent to the source of pollution and no matter the weather. This modular algae system, they say, can significantly reduce carbon emissions headed for the atmosphere, creating a new solution to a growing problem while growing a new generation of problem-solvers equipped to address issues from foreign oil dependence to water pollution.

“This is all about cleaner air, cleaner water and cleaner energies,” said Sukh Sidhu, head of UDRI’s Energy Technologies and Materials Division and professor of mechanical engineering.

THE SKINNY ON FAT ALGAE

UDRI has been performing research on algae and developing and testing algae-growing systems for pollution control and alternative energies since 2009. That’s when it received a $980,000 pollution-reduction contract from the Air Force Research Laboratory Materials and Manufacturing Directorate. In all, Air Force funding to UDRI for algae research and development totals $3.5 million.

Algae are among Earth’s oldest living organisms, but only recently have they been cultivated on a large scale for fuel, feed and food. Algae are photosynthetic organisms that occur in most habitats, from marine and freshwater to desert sands. They vary greatly in size from single-celled to complex multicellular forms; kelp, the largest algae, can grow to be 200-feet long. And, according to the department of botany at the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History, algae are found in fossil records dating back 3 billion years.

Fast forward from Precambrian times to the modern day, and the many benefits of algae are coming to light. From their rapid growth to their ability to store energy in the forms of oils and carbohydrates, algae are among the most promising long-term sustainable sources of biomass and oils for fuel and food.

As oil crops, the unassuming green organisms are hundreds of times more viable than corn, soybeans and canola, according to Sidhu. Compared with corn yields of 20 gallons of oil per acre, the “fattest” varieties of algae — those with the highest lipid contents — have the potential to yield more than 14,000 gallons of oil per acre, 700 times the yield of corn.

“You would need to take every single acre of food and nonfood cropland that exists in the United States today, multiply it by eight and dedicate it solely to corn to produce enough corn-based ethanol to meet even half of the nation’s transport fuel needs,” Sidhu said. “But only 1 percent of the equivalent of existing acreage would be needed to produce the same amount of biodiesel, jet fuel and ethanol from algae.”

Producing the highly desirable oil is one benefit. But if algae can be grown year-round near the source of air pollution, algae have the potential to be major players in carbon dioxide sequestration.

NEITHER SNOW NOR RAIN ...

Despite their widespread abundance, algae are actually fragile — vulnerable to fluctuations in weather and temperature, which has been a limiting factor for researchers and commercial growers alike. Despite an unseasonably long and cold winter in southwest Ohio, UDRI has been producing a high volume of algae in a new, outdoor system.

“This is a fully automated, closed system designed to operate 24/7, 365, regardless of the weather,” Sidhu said. “Our goal was to design and build an economical and efficient system that could be constructed or implemented anywhere, easily assembled and operated in any climate, and we’ve done just that.”

Initial research focused on testing varieties of algae as well as conditions needed for optimal production. UDRI researchers discovered that there were no “best strains” of algae, rather that variables like weather and temperature were key factors in producing a high yield. Certain strains do, however, respond differently to these variables.

“That’s why most systems are open, such as natural or man-made ponds, and found in warmer climates,” Sidhu said. “And that’s why our system is different. It will operate in any location, regardless of season or climate.”

Operating in this year’s very cold weather — including 11 days of below-zero temperatures — was a concern, said Moshan Kahan-dawala, the program’s principal investigator.

“The unusually cold ambient temperatures experienced in the Miami Valley were particularly challenging,” he said. They found strains of algae that could grow to approximately 5 degrees Celsius, but below freezing they had to create methods to prevent the water from freezing.

“Ideally we would rely on waste heat from a CO2 source, but in our case we relied on a boiler to provide and simulate the waste heat needed to make it through the winter at our outdoor facility,” he said.

The UDRI system is a low-energy, high-throughput photobioreactor. Each module fits in a space equivalent to about a dozen parking spaces. The size and number of modules in a given system can be scaled depending on biomass, biofuel and carbon capture requirements of a particular site.

Water and algae are added to the photobioreactor tubes and, because the tubes are clear, algae process light through photosynthesis to grow. A number of factors can affect growth and biomass yield. One is the gas liquid exchange — the balance between carbon dioxide consumed and oxygen released to maintain high growth rates. Others include lighting, water pH, temperature and the algae species selected.

As algae grow, their density increases. The thicker the algae, the less light is available at the center of the tubes, and growth plateaus. Then it’s time to harvest. Algae and water are separated. The separated water is re-circulated into the photobioreactor for reuse. The harvested algae can have many uses, including oil extraction, pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals (health food), bioenergy and cosmetics coloring.

UDRI’s system is less expensive to operate than similar systems and, according to Sidhu, is already producing algae at or above the target rate established by the U.S. Department of Energy for 2022 — 50 grams of algae biomass per meter squared per day.

“It’s a beautifully symbiotic system — algae feed on carbon dioxide and convert it to a highly desirable oil, which accounts for as
much as 70 percent of the organism’s body weight in some strains,” Sidhu said. “So, we capture carbon dioxide from stacks of coal boilers and other combustion processes before it is released into the atmosphere and run it through algae growing systems.”

Other pollutants can also be captured and run through the system to benefit the algae and the environment. Nitrogen and phosphorus are nutrients that are natural parts of aquatic ecosystems, but too much — from agricultural fertilizer runoff or wastewater treatment plants — can contribute to both air and water pollution. Running this water through the algae can reduce the need for expensive water treatments. When harvested, algae can be used as fertilizer itself.

And then there’s the oil-producing ability Sidhu mentioned. Algae store energy in the form of oil and carbohydrates. These can be extracted chemically or mechanically — such as by pressing — allowing the oil to be used to create biofuels such as biodiesel, ethanol, biojet fuel and “green gasoline.”

And, when you’re done, the dried algal biomass can be pelletized and used as fuel in industrial boilers.

NOT BUSINESS AS USUAL

Change is not an option but a necessity, according to a recent report by the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Control. The IPCC report presented in April, “Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change,” shows global emissions of greenhouse gases have risen at unprecedented levels despite implementation of a growing number of policies designed to reduce climate change. Emissions grew more quickly between 2000 and 2010 than in each of the three previous decades and will need to be slashed by as much as 70 percent by mid-century to keep global temperatures in check, the report states.

“There is a clear message from science: To avoid dangerous interference with the climate system, we need to move away from business as usual,” said Germany’s Ottmar Edenhofer, co-chair of the IPCC working group.

According to the report — which analyzed more than 1,200 scenarios from scientific literature — a substantial financial investment would be needed. But it is possible and economically feasible to avert catastrophic climate change.

“Avoiding further delays in mitigation and making use of a broad variety of technologies can limit the associated costs,” Edenhofer said.

The report doesn’t endorse a single approach but rather a wide range of changes and actions. These include emission reductions from energy production, an overall reduction in energy use and afforestation as well as combining electricity production from biomass and carbon dioxide capture and storage.

The UDRI algae growing system could be an effective alternative to traditional carbon dioxide capture and storage methods.

“We consider this a far better alternative for dealing with CO2 emissions than geosequestration, where carbon dioxide is pumped deep into the earth,” Sidhu said.

Aside from being more cost efficient, UDRI’s growing process is greener — in the environmental sense — than most algae-growing systems, which use chemical fertilizer as a nutrient source.

“Producing algae with fertilizer is expensive and leaves a huge carbon footprint. We use livestock and chicken manure, the same type of nutrient source responsible for the algae blooms at Grand Lake St. Mary’s, Ohio, and other lakes affected by agricultural runoff,” Sidhu said.

GREEN LEARNING

Among the team members contributing to the progress of algae research at the University of Dayton are UD students.

One was Nilesh Chavada ’12, whose master’s thesis examined factors that affect algae growth in photobioreactors.
He worked with other team members to assemble the pilot scale system and, more recently, helped construct heat exchangers, critical to sustaining algae during the winter.

“When I graduated, algae and its associated research was the current trend and most sought after,” Chavada said. He now works full time for UDRI as a biomass production engineer.

Algae research has been part of the education for 15 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students since the project began in 2009.

“An effort at this scale requires a significant investment of human capital,” said principal investigator Kahandawala. “Access to students from various science and engineering fields helps look at problems from various perspectives. During their undergraduate years, we have the opportunity to benefit from their curiosity while they benefit from work experience. It also allows senior staff to take on more challenging efforts by delegating day-to-day or previously established activities to students.”

Saikumar Chalivendra ‘11 has been working on algae research since he completed his master’s degree requirements in 2009. He is scheduled to complete his dissertation on algae technology this year.

He said he gained a greater understanding of techniques to most efficiently produce biofuels as well as ways to reduce the cost of otherwise expensive wastewater treatment methods. He also learned analytical skills needed for the next discoveries in the algae field.

“I had the opportunity to provide solutions for real-time industrial problems,” Chalivendra said. “The biotechnology field will have some of the most exciting opportunities over the next 20 years. The work experience I gained from this project helped me to attain the skills and technical knowledge necessary to be placed in the top biotechnology or nutraceutical companies.”

According to Chalivendra, participating in such research projects provides an invaluable experience for all students.

“Undergraduate students usually work in the summer and, during that period, they gain more comprehensive knowledge of the subject under study, without specific applications in mind. They also get the excitement of learning new things in real research,” he said. “For graduate and doctoral students, working on research projects like algae will help students go through individualized training and will create an opportunity to work in a diverse research environment that is rich in intellectual and technical resources.”

This diverse environment includes various disciplines — mechanical, chemical and electrical engineering — and a range of nationalities. At one time, algae group employees hailed from the United States, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Puerto Rico, Russia, Mexico, Pakistan, Gabon and India, said electrical engineer Anupriya Krishnan ‘06.

“Everyone’s styles and backgrounds are different, so it’s such a learning opportunity,” said Krishnan, an electrical engineer who is working on the automation of the algae photobioreactor. “It’s like a baby; you see it from the time it’s crawling — five tubes — to the 80 that are out here.”

Krishnan said UDRI does an excellent job identifying people with potential and providing them with opportunities to learn and grow in new industries, such as algae. Fellow team member Michael Butcher agrees.

“This project has given me the opportunity to broaden my horizons in a new field of work,” said Butcher, a full-time technician for the algae group. “I have worked in other technical industries, but this has been the most satisfying position that I have held.”

MOVING FORWARD

According to a recent algae industry survey conducted by the Algae Biomass Organization, the algae industry is growing, from increased production of biomass and oils to increased hiring and development of a wider variety of end products.

The survey, conducted in March 2014, included more than 280 responses from companies and individuals involved in directly producing and buying algae or algae-derived products, as well as equipment manufacturers, research laboratories, providers of equipment or materials, government agencies and service providers. Respondents this year continued their optimism that algae-derived fuels are likely to be price-competitive with fossil fuels by 2020; that production will increase in existing and new facilities; and that improved supportive federal policy would accelerate both the production of algae-based fuels, feeds, fertilizers and other products as well as the number of jobs across the industry. The ABO projects the potential for creation of 220,000 jobs in this sector by 2020.

At UDRI, the next step, after demonstrating the technology — which includes proprietary system designs engineered by Kahandawala — will be to investigate the potential application of a fully operational system at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Then, there is the possibility of commercialization.

“The University of Dayton Research Institute has developed the technology to generate a cost-competitive biofuel intermediate in the United States,” Sidhu says. “We’ve taken it from beakers and jars in the lab to full-size and fully operational modules that can be transitioned to the marketplace for commercial use. And we’re pretty proud of that.”

Debbie Juniewicz is an adjunct professor for the department of communication. She wishes the algae in her daughter’s fish tank could be employed to solve the world’s problems.
Golden Flyers

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In praise of color

BROTHER JOE BARRISH, S.M. ’50

Color allows him to say “yes” to life.

“I like to say something positive about life,” said Brother Joe Barrish, S.M., a longtime Dayton artist. “There are a lot of things about life that aren’t so great; but, there are also a lot of things to celebrate.”

A Cleveland native, Barrish has lived in Dayton since college. Today, he is gallery supervisor of Gallery St. John, part of a Marianist center that promotes and encourages artists of the Society of Mary and their associates through display, education, and resource sharing with other nonprofit organizations.

One reason to celebrate: Barrish’s spring show, In Praise of Color!, graced the gallery’s walls through the end of April with vibrant paintings, collages, and prints, including University residence halls and its Immaculate Conception Chapel.

“I feel very strongly about UD, and I believe it is a vital part of life for many, and a cause for celebration,” he said. But, he joked, “UD’s constant renovation plans make it difficult to keep my designs up-to-date.”

UD is important to Barrish, not only because of his alumnus status, but also because he’s a former faculty member. For 20 years, Barrish taught various courses in fine arts, from design to printmaking to etching. He continues to teach art education classes as part of the University’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Barrish’s work isn’t just relegated to walls; it’s also found in laps and churches. He has illustrated two children’s books, Mary’s Flowers and Healing Plants of the Bible, and has created numerous chapel designs, stained glass window projects, and murals. A high point, he says, was having his art displayed internationally at the Setanta Gallery in Dublin, Ireland.

“A colorful life, indeed.”

—Natalie Kimmel ’13
Music man

THOMAS BORLING ’64

If you’re looking for Thomas Borling, follow the trail — of music notes or mountain paths.

You’re likely to hear him playing a piano melody or see him racing along a bike route. Now retired, the college professor and outdoor enthusiast says he’s busier than ever.

“Music has always been more than a hobby for me — it’s my passion,” Borling said. He taught music for 42 years, spending the last 37 at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, where upon retirement in 2008 he was named professor emeritus.

That passion is seen in Borling’s regular gigs as a jazz pianist, performing several nights a week and at concerts and private functions — a tradition he began at UD.

“My fondest memories at UD were the musical ensembles that I performed in, the professors who mentored me and the musicians I met,” Borling said.

During his education tenure, he served as chair of the music department at UST for five years while actively conducting, composing, arranging and recording music on campus and elsewhere. In 1972 — just one year after joining the UST faculty — he directed the Houston Symphony at a ceremony officially opening the university’s Doherty Library. Borling was also director of the UST jazz ensemble for several decades.

Living in a warm-climate state like Texas gives Borling plenty of opportunities to exercise more than just the ivories. If music is his passion, spending time outdoors is his favorite hobby.

“During the day, I always make time for a hard swim or bike workout,” Borling explained, noting that his preferred vacation locations include places he can swim, snorkel, hike, bike or canoe — regardless of weather. “I have a cabin in Minnesota, too, that I love to spend time visiting.”

This year, though, marked one of the sweetest songs Borling has heard: a call to return to campus for his Golden Flyers induction.

“I hadn’t been able to get back to campus since my 25th reunion, so I really looked forward to attending the 50th,” he said.

—Emma Jensen ’16

Class notes are available only in print editions.
To submit your class note, email classnotes@udayton.edu.

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Granting wishes

PATRICIA SWEENEY MOLONEY ’70

Her clients think she’s the fairy godmother of grant funding.

“I’m sure they think I go off and make money someplace,” laughs Patricia Sweeney Moloney when explaining the independent grant writing business she started 10 years ago. “They’re just hoping I have a magic wand.”

Navigating the complex world of grants isn’t magic, she says, but is tedious — aspects her history degree, and life, prepared her for.

“Can’t ask me what my career aspirations were, because at that time, we didn’t have them. We were told to think about getting a job — something to pay the rent, to help get through,” she said. “The piece that stayed with me was that you have an obligation to give back. For me, volunteering was a way to keep my brain from turning into a useless lump of matter.”

For Moloney, entering the workforce at a time when many companies “have a magic wand” is tedious — aspects her history degree, and life, prepared her for.

“Many of my clients are nonprof-

its, like the Caridad Center, a free medical clinic that received $1.2 million in 2013 in grant funds thanks to Moloney’s work — proof that it doesn’t take a magic wand to grant wishes.”

—Audrey Starr

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Vicki Costan Braun ’71 has used her education degree every day — but not in the way she initially envisioned. What’s on the pages of your life story? Tell us in a class note today. Email classnotes@udayton.edu.

“I visited UD on a beautiful May day, and I knew within two seconds of stepping out of the car that it was the place I needed to be,” Braun remembers. Initially, Braun hoped to be a physical therapist, but she found science courses a challenge. Instead, she decided to become a social worker; again, her struggle in chemistry proved a barrier. “So, Brother Ralph Mravintz, S.M., director of admission, told me they’d take me in the School of Education. It was the best decision I ever made,” she says.

In the 1990s, Braun had a freelance publicity business, offering résumé writing and interview coaching. “I traveled to a lot of small cities that experienced heavy job loss, and I also received training in suicide prevention,” she says. “At the same time, I began volunteering with Oak Tree Corner.” She took on the nonprofit’s director spot in 1998, bringing both professional expertise and personal experience — Braun was 10 when her mother died, and she later lost a close family member to suicide. “It’s much more than a volunteer commitment; it’s a calling,” she says. “I started with kids, and I’m back with kids. It feels full circle.”

Visiting the Betty Crocker kitchen has been checked off Braun’s bucket list, but she almost made it into another exclusive kitchen as a UD student. “When I was a junior, I auditioned to be a cook in a Marianist residence,” she says. “I made a baked chicken and strawberry dumplings — I found the recipes in Better Homes and Gardens and thought they sounded elegant. I was so nervous, I think I dropped the chicken on the floor.” (The part went to Betty Brooks Laliberte ’70.)

—Audrey Starr

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PATTY BORNHORST MEINKING ’84

It’s kind of like a boomerang.

For some people, college is like a shooting star: a beautiful, but fleeting, experience. For others — like Patty Bornhorst Meinking — the experience stays with them forever.

“I had a great college experience at UD,” she said. “So, when I had the chance to come back, I grabbed it.”

The youngest of eight, Meinking had six older siblings attend the University before her, so it seemed natural that she’d follow. Her parents both worked full time while running a farm, a solid work ethic also reflected in Meinking’s educational pursuits.

As an undergraduate, she double-majored in accounting and marketing, then earned an MBA from Xavier University before starting a 15-year career with Market Research Services.

“I took a business course at UD that merged my love of numbers with the glamour of market research, which sparked my interest. I also drew upon aspects of language, philosophy, religion and history with the glamour of market research, which sparked my interest. I also drew upon aspects of language, philosophy, religion and history courses to create business relationships — I cannot stress enough how much I benefited from a liberal arts education,” Meinking said.

Those interdisciplinary skills were put to good use as Meinking earned a master’s degree in library sciences from Kent State University. Today, she is acquisitions assistant at UD’s Roesch Library, where she reconciles budgets and acquires special titles, like a 1485 Bible, for library collections. Her business background helps, she said, when negotiating with vendors.

“I couldn’t pass up an opportunity to work at UD. My position marries my business background with library services. I enjoy the variety,” she said.

Meinking is confident the circle of Flyer life will continue. She, along with her husband, Randy Meinking ’85, frequently show off campus to their two children, Sebastian, 13, and Cecilia, 11, and is hopeful they’ll consider joining the Flyer family in the future.

“I love UD and my job; it’s a perfect combination. I don’t plan on going anywhere,” she said.

—Allison Lewis ’14
It was all fun and games until someone stole their porch swing. Then, the 1987-88 residents of 418 Stonemill declared war.

Amy Fister-Lottes ’88 says her fondest campus memories took place on that Stonemill porch. “I miss the camaraderie of living with five other girls who were also great friends,” she said. “I miss hanging out on our front porch swing, laying out in the backyard and hosting BBQs for friends.”

Housemate Theresa Quirk Meyers ’88 agreed. “The best part of being at that house — and being a part of UD — was making lifelong friendships,” she said.

Then, there was the War of 1987. “My housemate stole a life-size Bartles & Jaymes cutout from the guys at 35 Evanston, then put it in our attic window so they would see it on their way to baseball practice,” Fister-Lottes recalled. “They retaliated by stealing our porch swing in the middle of the night — and hanging it on the side of their house, just out of reach. We answered by stealing their Hulk Hogan action figure.”

A truce was finally called, and all belongings were returned during a “peace summit,” Fister-Lottes said.

The jokes continued, though. Fister-Lottes remembers how she and her roommates would laugh nonstop during daily soap opera marathons, family dinners, girls’ nights out and Friday afternoons on the porch spent greeting fellow students on their way home from class.

“I’d describe our house as old-fashioned, with a creepy basement and even creepier attic. There was an odd-looking clawfoot tub that had been converted into a shower, and one room was always too hot in the summer but too cold in the winter,” Fister-Lottes remembered.

Despite the quirks, she’d pick it again.

“If I were a current student, I would definitely go back to 418 Stonemill,” she said. “It was great being near campus, but also close to everything else, while not being right in the middle of the Ghetto. It was a bit quieter on Stonemill, but easy to get to the action.”

—Allison Lewis ’14

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There’s something about Dayton

LASHEA SMITH ’91

1988

It started with a scholarship. It continues with a city transformed.

Dayton native Cieliee “LaShea” Smith has always felt a pull to give back to her hometown — and she sees it in others, too. “There’s something about this city that makes you want to do more,” she said.

In 1987, Smith became the first recipient of UD’s McIntosh Scholarship, which provides a minority student from the Dayton area with a full tuition award and a four-year internship with the city of Dayton. Upon graduation, she was hired as a management analyst in the city’s budget office.

She’s had the opportunity to lead several other notable Daytowners — including Rashad Young, who later received the same scholarship and went on to become Dayton’s city manager — and, Smith said, the experience gave her the best of both worlds.

“I could be on campus and be a student, and then dress up and go to work and be a professional. I could apply the material I was learning in my classes through my internship. The duality helped me to grow up a lot faster. It was a tremendous opportunity to build relationships that I still carry with me now,” Smith said.

Now a 26-year veteran city employee, Smith is finance director. She also manages the scholarship’s internship component, serving as a facilitator for recipients to find positions that suit their interests while enhancing their coursework.

“As a recipient of the scholarship, I can give new interns a unique perspective, and I can relate. I enjoy being able to give back, since I benefitted from this program,” Smith said.

Smith noted that the program — which was designed to encourage minorities to reinvest in their city — has remained relatively constant in structure throughout the years, with scholarship recipients representing a spectrum of majors.

“I’m proud of the partnership between the University and the city, and the investment it makes in students here,” Smith said.

— Caroline Glynn ’15

1989

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Tour de force
KEVIN RUDER ’97

It’s hard running a business; it’s even harder when your partner is on an international concert tour.

It’s a problem worth having, says Kevin Ruder, owner of a global liquor company he co-founded five years ago with pop star Justin Timberlake.

“Justin is on tour right now,” Ruder said when asked what it was like having someone so entrenched in fame be half of his business model.

“That makes it a little difficult, but that kid works harder than anyone.”

After graduation, Ruder took a job with Anheuser-Busch as a contemporary marketing representative.

“I worked for Busch for 10 years,” Ruder said. “The job was great, right after college. It was in my job description to just enjoy people’s company while letting them sample our product.”

The position also led to a meeting with Timberlake. The musician’s enthusiasm for one-of-a-kind tequila and Ruder’s skills in promotion and brand marketing made for a perfect business match, and in 2009, they founded 901 Silver Tequila, named for Timberlake’s hometown area code.

The business quickly took off, and the brand recently merged with Sauza and is expanding internationally. “It’s been really hectic and a lot of work, but we have a strong team that offers a lot of support,” Ruder said.

That team includes several other UD grads. The campus community they remember helps Ruder conduct his business now, he said.

“I do miss UD’s community. People tend to frown when I walk into their house or office without knocking,” Ruder joked. “You could only do that at UD.”

With their new product hitting shelves this summer and joining the global market two months later, Ruder doesn’t see life slowing down — for himself, or his well-known counterpart.

“We started this together,” said Ruder of Timberlake. “He’s not just an endorser. He’s involved, does his own work.”

Here’s hoping Ruder brings his business to next year’s reunion.

—Megan Garrison ’14

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—Megan Garrison ’14

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The goal was either crazy or confident; he’s still not sure which.

“I don’t know that I chose a one-man bicycle fundraiser so much as it chose me,” said Patrick Cutter of his 2010 cross-country charity ride.

Cutter had a successful career as a territory manager when he quit his job and ride a bike from the farthest point north in the U.S. to the farthest point south? "I have been profoundly affected by mental health issues in many ways, from battling my own clinical depression in high school to losing two friends to suicide," he explained. "I had taken up cycling to relieve stress, and during one ride, I had an idea that was as if someone yelled at me: You can do this, and you can do this as a fundraiser for suicide prevention."

Cutter’s adventure began June 28, 2010, in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, and finished Nov. 9, 2010, in Key West, Fla., a distance of about 6,800 miles. Along the way, he raised an estimated $25,000 for Suicide Awareness Voices of Education (SAVE), but the human capital he helped was immeasurable.

"At one point, I was asked to give a speech at a high school in Colorado, telling my story and encouraging students to seek help," he said. Later, school counselors told Cutter six students did.

Ultimately, Cutter — who now works in outside sales — hopes that his fundraiser helped lift the stigma attached to mental health.

"The first step in solving the problem is talking about it, because ignoring it isn’t working. Anyone and everyone can help if we accept that the problem isn’t going away," he said.

—Allison Lewis

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They thought a diaper bag would be enough.

When little Nathan Cayot couldn’t shake a nagging cold days after seeing his pediatrician, his father, Brian, took him to an urgent care center to make sure he was OK.

Back home waiting for Nathan to return, Leslie Cayot was stunned when her husband called to tell her Nathan was being rushed by life squad to Dayton Children’s Hospital.

Cayot barely had time to secure childcare for their other three children before hurrying to the hospital. All she and Brian had were the contents of their wallet, purse and diaper bag, and they waited through a restless night as Nathan, just 30 days old, underwent treatment for bronchiolitis.

“I remember how unprepared we were, but I wasn’t leaving Nathan to go home and get my things,” Cayot said.

Nathan is now a happy, healthy 8-year-old, but the experience changed the direction of his mother’s life.

Cayot began working with members of the Dayton Mothers of Twins club, many of whom were veterans of Neonatal Intensive Care Unit stays, to start Helping Hands of Dayton, which provides families with care kits that include travel-sized items such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, tissues and a certificate to the hospital gift store. Helping Hands delivered its first set of 100 kits to Dayton Children’s in September 2007.

When Cayot started her MBA at UD, the skills she learned and connections she made proved immeasurable to the group’s development. After discussing Helping Hands in a human resources class, a classmate told his wife about the organization, and she offered pro bono legal services for Helping Hands’ articles of incorporation. The organization became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in February 2008.

The charity, which has delivered 6,300 kits in all, also serves Miami Valley Hospital and Kettering Medical Center. Interested volunteers can visit www.helpinghandsdayton.com for more information.

“When an idea develops from your personal experience, it encourages others to help,” Cayot said.

—Shannon Shelton Miller

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Can you UDentify us?

It’s a timeless scene captured in the 1964 Daytonian, but who are these Marycrest residents? To see your name in print, drop us a line if you can identify them. Email magazine@udayton.edu. And see more archival images at digital.udayton.edu.

From our last issue

In the spring issue, two readers identified students from this 1969 Daytonian photo.

Lynn Mead Kress ’69 writes, “That’s me in the football jersey! I can’t remember what the event was, but I was a senior, engaged to Flyer halfback Bernie Kress No. 44. We just celebrated our 44th wedding anniversary May 2.”

Robert “Dave” Wyckoff ’69 recognized a student standing behind Lynn. “As soon as I saw the photo, I knew that the tall guy was someone I recognized. He is Tom Heeney, a member of the student judiciary and the debate team. I did not know him personally, but for some reason he came to mind immediately.”

CLASS NOTES

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Or you may send it to: classnotes@udayton.edu
Be sure to include your name, year of graduation and major. For the records office, please include cell phone number. Please also include email address, indicating whether you wish it to appear in Class Notes. Also include maiden name and spouse’s name (if applicable). If you’re sending information about your children, please include birth dates rather than ages. The magazine does not publish announcements of engagements or pregnancies. Photos of alumni are welcomed and published as space permits. Notes may take up to two issues to publish.

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Or you may send the information to: records@udayton.edu
Be sure to indicate it is not for Class Notes.

STAY CONNECTED

To be sure you receive the latest news between issues of University of Dayton Magazine, update your email address and other information at alumni.udayton.edu.
He calls it his once-in-a-lifetime chance.

The opportunity — to work for well-known Dayton artist Robert Koepnick — came during Stephen Gatchie’s first year in UD’s art program at the Dayton Art Institute.

“To a large degree, I credit Mr. Koepnick for who I am and what I do,” Gatchie said. A former fine arts major, he served as the late artist’s apprentice in the early 1970s. Today, Gatchie is owner of Paragon Furniture Restoration in Dayton.

Koepnick’s work remains on display in Dayton, from the cast aluminum reliefs on the Montgomery County Fairgrounds gates to the relief on the Dayton Metro Library to the bronze sculpture of Huckleberry Finn in the permanent collection of the Dayton Art Institute.

Koepnick headed the sculpture department at the Dayton Art Institute for nearly 40 years, starting in 1936. The University of Dayton awarded him an honorary degree shortly before his death in 1995, and in 2011, University Archives and Special Collections accessioned his personal papers and numerous sculptures.


“Koepnick sculpted both public and ecclesiastical works, which was rather unusual for artists working during that time,” Kelly said. “During World War II, he also worked as a sculptor for the Aeromedical Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. His sculptures have also been on exhibit in museums across the U.S., including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Art Institute of Chicago.”

Gatchie met Koepnick in 1968 in his sculpture class, and it wasn’t long before Koepnick invited Gatchie to work for him at his studio in Ridgeville, Ohio.

Lunch usually consisted of Campbell’s bean soup garnished with cut-up hot dogs. In the summer, the pair installed a horseshoe pit for blowing off steam between projects. A family man and a baseball fan, Koepnick is remembered by Gatchie most as a teacher.

“Koepnick could look at something and automatically tell what was wrong with it, but he wouldn’t flat-out tell you,” Gatchie said. “He had the ability to suggest improvements in a way that students thought they had come up with it on their own.”

“Mr. Koepnick,” he continued, “not only taught me about art; he taught me about life.”

For more information on the Roesch Library exhibit, visit go.udayton.edu/koepnick. To view an online map of Koepnick’s work around Dayton, visit bit.ly/koepnickmap.

—Natalie Kimmel ’13
Sunny days are here again

What’s better than sun, friends and a weekend of fun? All that, plus a crowd of Flyers. Save the date for the 2014 Surf ’n’ Turf, a West Coast UD takeover, the week ending Oct. 25. Highlights of the biennial celebration include two Chris Hickey Memorial Scholarship golf outings at Torrey Pines and Riverwalk golf courses and a pregame party on the University of San Diego campus before the Flyers football team takes on the Toreros. Events in nearby cities like San Francisco and Los Angeles are also planned. For more information, call 1-888-UD-ALUMS or visit udayton.edu/alumni, where details will be posted as they become available.

Top pros

The 2014 UD Alumni Association Faculty Awards go to professors Jack Kanet, for scholarship, and Blake Watson, for teaching. Kanet, Niehaus Chair in Operations Management, is a three-time Fulbright scholar who uses his global connections to give students international business education opportunities. Law professor Watson is known for providing students with academic enhancements and offering his global connections to give students access to more extensive international opportunities.

In the neighborhood

Alumni chapters have long acted as extensions of the campus community — now, their names will reflect it. This spring, the UD Alumni Association approved a name change that will designate alumni chapters as communities, with chapter presidents donning the new title of community leader.

“This is more than just a name change; it is going to change the way we engage our alumni, based on feedback we’ve received from them,” explained Chad Larkin ’00, alumni association board member. “It gives us the added benefit of including alumni spouses, current students and parents, and other friends of the University who believe in our Marianist tradition. Our chapters have always been communities; we just didn’t call them that. As a UD community, we are called to serve a larger purpose and engage fellow alumni, students and the greater community around us, and that is what this shift will enable.”

ALUMNI BOOKSHELF

The Lost Journal

/CHRIS BLEWITT ’95/

Chris Blewitt has always enjoyed learning about American history; now, he’s written the book on it. The Lost Journal is an educational adventure novel that takes readers on a chase through some of the country’s most well-known historical sites to uncover their best-kept secrets. “I enjoy learning about Colonial times and the American Revolution,” Blewitt said. “I visited all the historical places featured in the book, from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C. Those trips, and the actual research, made writing this book very enjoyable.”

Working with Adoptive Parents

/VIRGINIA BRABENDER ’71/

A researcher at heart, psychologist Virginia Brabender dove into adoption literature to learn and understand the field before becoming an adoptive parent herself. However, she found herself disappointed when her readings minimally addressed the bond between adoptive parents and children. Brabender worked with co-editor and fellow adoptive parent April Fallon to develop a book that weaves the experiences of many adoptive families with rich clinical research to engage readers, both lay and professional. “I hope to give a voice to adoptive parents in a way that has not been done before,” she said.

Fighting the Fog

/ANDREA KIESEWETTER HULSHULT ’00/

Andrea Kiesewetter Hulshult can’t remember a time when she wasn’t writing. With her first novel, Fighting the Fog, she hopes others will also appreciate the beauty of English composition. Highlighting the value of hope, courage and friendship, it’s a story of a woman, her best friend and the struggles that come after tragedy strikes. “You shouldn’t let the fog of life keep you from living life to its fullest,” Hulshult said. “I hope people take from this book that they, too, can fight through the fog, and I hope it allows them to escape from reality for just a few minutes.”

What Does an Elementary Principal Do All Day Long?

/WILLIAM RIES ’59/

Longtime educator William Ries was once told that he must have the easiest job in the world as an elementary school principal. Having spent his work days among students — on the playground, at the bus stop, in the lunchroom — instead of behind a desk, he knew that was not the case. “I wanted my seven grandchildren, and others, to understand the challenges that an elementary school principal faces,” Ries said of his book, which tells his experience as a principal in a light-hearted, inspirational way. “My favorite part of writing was saying pleasant things about many of my fellow principals and other strong staff members. Their dedication to children, staff and parents is admirable,” he added.

—Allison Lewis ’14

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One and only

Of the nearly two dozen Greek organizations active at UD today, the brothers of Alpha Nu Omega wouldn’t be nervous if their national oversight board showed up in their backyard. In fact, they probably invited them.

“ANO is a local fraternity — it’s the one and only,” explained Vic Bako ’71, a founding father and current president of the group’s alumni association, which serves as its official board of directors. “We are the longest continuously serving social service fraternity on campus. From the very beginning, our rule was that if a national fraternity approached us, we had to have the unanimous vote of all brothers to go national. We never got that.”

The fraternity marked its 45th anniversary this year. A reunion for alumni and active brothers is Oct 2-5, 2014. Of the more than 700 Alpha Nu Omega alumni, at least 300 are expected to attend. The weekend will consist of a gathering for early arrivers Thursday, the annual golf tournament Friday, dinner and dancing Saturday, and Mass and breakfast Sunday. (Formal invitations will be mailed in August.)

While it was formally welcomed as a probationary member to the University’s Interfraternity Council Feb. 13, 1969, the fraternity’s beginnings really stretch back two years prior, to the 4 East floor of Stuart Hall.

“There were 14 of us who were very, very close in our first year, and we wanted to keep that bond going, but knew that no fraternity on campus would allow 20 of us — our group plus six friends — to pledge together. It would be seen as a coup,” Bako said.

The IFC transition wasn’t without hiccups. After experiencing standoffish treatment, the Alpha Nu Omega brotherhood quit the IFC and walked out, bringing another probationary start-up and a new fraternity with them. Together, they formed their own University-sanctioned version of the IFC.

“This was huge news on campus — we made the Flyer News on a regular basis,” Bako remembered. “At that time, the national fraternities were showing interest in the University. However, they wouldn’t commit to UD, or any school, where the presiding IFC was not unified. With the split we created, it put a halt to the national presence and gave us immense negotiating power.”

Founding father Marty Malloy ’71, who had approached the student senate and received the votes for their new IFC before the walkout, said, “Think of the scene in Animal House — that’s exactly what we did. It had been clear that the established fraternities did not want us or the other two new fraternities on campus. In any event, we actually got a better deal with the IFC than the other fraternities: we were full voting members, and I negotiated no dues into the IFC for two years and two chairmanships on the sports and events committees.”

Now, Alpha Nu Omega is the only remaining member of that IFC (and Malloy went on to earn a law degree from UD in 1977).

The group has also had its share of ups and downs, with temporary suspensions and housing sanctions in the 1990s and 2000s prompting alumni to organize as a formal group nine years ago. With annual meetings, mentoring programs, regular reunions and an endowed scholarship in memory of Col. Paul M. Kelly ’84, an Alpha Nu Omega brother killed in action in Iraq, the alumni association provides aid and oversight for today’s active members.

Bryan Bardine, associate professor of English and Alpha Nu Omega adviser for the past 10 years, is proud of the members the fraternity has recruited recently. “Over the years, we’ve had different types of young men become brothers — I see more diversity in Alpha Nu than in other fraternities in terms of academic majors, ethnicities, etc. It’s a good mix.”

Bako agreed. “We opened our doors to everybody,” he said. “In fact, that’s how we chose our name: Alpha Nu Omega is the beginning, the middle and the end of the Greek alphabet. It’s all-encompassing; everybody’s welcome.”

—Audrey Starr

Local treasure

Alpha Nu Omega has another claim to fame as the only student organization with its own formal collection in University Archives. Comprising 30 binders, the collection includes the fraternity’s original handwritten charter, event invitations, memos, photos and more. AN Alumni Association President Vic Bako ’71 credits Don Puglio ’75 for the effort. “He is our longtime historian and deserves the credit for starting and maintaining our archives,” Bako said. Says Jennifer Brancato, University archivist and coordinator of special collections, “There are other student groups who have sent us photo albums or memorabilia, but Alpha Nu Omega is the only one with a full history and documents that have been cataloged. From an archives standpoint, though, we’d love to see that title disappear and have other organizations start full collections.”

Interested in starting or adding to a University special collection? Contact jbrancato1@udayton.edu.
LOUISVILLE

Reno can call itself whatever it wants; Louisville’s the biggest little city in the world, say Flyers there. In this city, the 700-person-strong alumni community is known as the “few but faithful.”

“Louisville’s a great town for a community like UD alumni because of the nature of the city,” explains John Gueltzow ’06, community leader. “It’s not particularly big, and given that most of our alumni went to one of the same four or five Catholic high schools, a lot of us already know each other or are connected through mutual acquaintances.”

Former community president Traci Hall ’04 points to the impact the group has not just in Louisville but also back in Dayton. “Our community is unique because, while we’re not in Ohio, we’re close enough to host an on-campus event occasionally. We’re small but big enough to make a difference,” Hall said, noting that the Louisville community boasts the largest percentage of alumni who give back to the University.

Gueltzow, who was born and raised in Louisville, now owns his own law practice in town. Louisville alumni are a core group of active members, and Gueltzow cites basketball gamewatches as his community’s favorite event — and 2014’s tournament run was no exception.

“This year was particularly fun. We met at Shenanigans, a friendly neighborhood place. We had nearly 100 people in attendance for the Sweet 16 game against Stanford. The management got really excited, serving drinks in UD glasses and hanging a sheet sign outside to let passersby know it was where Flyer alumni came together,” Gueltzow said.

One thing Dayton and Louisville have in common? Loyal fans.

“We’ve also had outings to Bats games, our minor league baseball team,” Hall said. “We don’t have major league sports in town, but we have minor league teams and our shared love of college athletics.”

In this Kentucky town, though, there’s another sporting event the community looks forward to each year.

“The Kentucky Derby is one of the biggest annual events in Louisville, which means it’s also one of the busiest for our alumni,” Hall said. “But, we always try to join in the excitement, and it’s not unusual to find a red-and-blue crowd at Churchill Downs each May.”

In fact, the horses run so fast, they seem to fly — obviously, they’re UD fans.

—Emma Jensen ’16
Their favorite Flyers may be a team you’ve never heard of.

Ghetto Force, the University’s men’s Ultimate Frisbee team, has a fan base close to home in their families, whether created by blood or by common bond.

Joel Jira ’69 and his wife, Debbie, for example, are no strangers to UD or its athletics teams. Joel’s father, Joseph Jira ’31, played football for the Flyers for four years and was named to the Small College All-American Team in 1930. The couple’s son, Stephen Jira ’14, carried on the family tradition on a different field.

“Stephen loves Frisbee,” Debbie said, noting that they’ve donated funds to the team since 2009. “He loves the camaraderie with the other players. We often drive to watch him and his team, and team members have stayed at our house when they play nearby.”

Paul Kosmerl ’05 and Emily Puchala Kosmerl ’07 also frequently support the team’s efforts after experiencing firsthand the difficulties of keeping a sports club afloat.

Emily, a former member of the women’s Ultimate Frisbee team, remembers how hard it was for the group to fundraise for the team’s many expenses, including travel to and from games. As a graduate looking to give back to UD, she knew where she wanted it directed.

“Traveling to Frisbee tournaments is so fun, and we wanted to make sure that continued,” Emily said. “Paul and I have been in the habit of donating, be it our time or funds, since before we left UD — we have to credit our parents, who taught us well. We feel really grateful for the things we’ve been given, and we know that we should pay that back or forward when we have the chance.”

The Kosmerls aren’t the only ones; this year, nearly 100 UD alumni and parents have supported the University through hobbies and interests that match their passions with student needs.

Groups like the student rescue squad, waterski team and math club have also benefitted, allowing them to buy equipment, offer training and attend conferences. Often, these donors are as mysterious as they are generous.

Alexander Hunton ’14, a member of the University’s aero design team, can’t recall the amount of support alumni have given his group, but he can tell you exactly how much it has helped.

“With the funds, we’ve purchased materials and aircraft components we wouldn’t have otherwise,” Hunton said. “Donations have also helped us attend competitions, like the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Design, Build, Fly competition, and the Oklahoma State University Speedfest competition, where we placed third last year in our first showing.”

Go, team.

—Megan Garrison ’14
What major, which house, when to finally do the laundry: a college student’s life is full of decisions. For nearly 20 years, one familiar voice helped UD students make one of their most important choices: where to eat.

Do you take the easy route and stop by Kennedy Union after class, or do you — knowing that it’s breadstick day — hike up the hill to Marycrest? Thanks to a telephone message programmed by Telecom (now, UDit) and recorded by dining services, Flyers in the 1990s and 2000s could make an educated choice.

Willie Hickey ’88, the longtime voice of 229-FOOD, says the now-defunct menu hotline originated after the department’s secretary found herself inundated with calls inquiring about that day’s options.

“What the soup of the day was, what was for lunch, if we were making their favorite sandwich: people wanted to know,” he says. “So, we started it out of necessity, but it grew, taking on a life of its own and gaining a following.”

While the hotline met the immediate need of chicken-noodle-or-vegetable-beef, it also offered a daily helping of warmth and humor. Hickey began adding jokes — usually bad ones, he admits — to the end of each recording, and coined his now-famous sendoff, “Remember today to eat well and do good work.”

“We all loved Willie,” says Paula Smith, executive director of dining services. “His phrases are still quoted often in our department.”

Hickey spent nearly 20 years in dining services, starting in 1987 as a kitchen production supervisor while still a UD student and working his way up to general manager of Kennedy Union dining. With a few exceptions, Hickey recorded the menu every day for nearly 20 years until he left UD in late 2008. After his departure, dining services retired the phone line and placed menus online. Today, he is a special education teacher at Dayton’s Meadowdale PreK-8 School.

Many students didn’t know who the voice on the other end belonged to — but calling in each day was about more than food.

“It was less about hearing what was actually on the menu and more about getting a kick out of how enthusiastically the voice on the other end read the day’s selections,” recalls Courtney Wendeln Deutsch ’98. “It was like a dramatic reading of main dishes and side items. No one could make a chicken cutlet sound more delicious. And those terrible jokes at the end of each recording were worth waiting for. Kudos to him for taking a mundane job duty and turning it into something fun for students to enjoy and remember.”

As manager of the University’s most popular dining option, in person Hickey found himself with another moniker. “I was also known as ‘the guy in the tie,’ since I was on the floor a lot,” he says. “It was my favorite part of the job. I got to meet and help a real cross-section of campus, from the president to first-year students and everyone in between. Everyone eats.”

—Audrey Starr
The boy who lived

By Thomas M. Columbus

The 11-year-old boy was alone on the platform at London’s Liverpool Street Station. All the other children on the train had been met by someone. He had no idea if anyone was to meet him. Some adults from the train asked him questions. All he could tell them was his name.

The trip had begun like those he had taken to summer camp in the Black Forest, which he says is one of the most beautiful parts of the world.

But his world was not now beautiful. It was 1939. He, Felix Weil, was German. And he was a Jew.

I was among those listening to Weil’s story, which he told this spring as a teacher at the University of Dayton’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. His class, “The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich,” alternated between a summary of the history of the time and a telling of his personal story.

The second class session ended with him alone on the train platform. After he finished speaking, the class sat for minutes in silence.

Before Weil went to his first summer camp, his father had given him the advice that fathers do, telling him he should learn to be self-sufficient. Now he had to be. Weil was one of 10,000 children to flee Germany to England in the Kindertransport program, the only program of its kind in the world.

On Nov. 9, 1938, Hitler’s contempt for the Jews had become obvious. On Kristallnacht — literally Crystal Night, more often called the Night of the Broken Glass — German officials stood by as mobs looted stores, invaded homes and destroyed 700 synagogues in Germany. Thirty thousand Jews were arrested and sent to camps.

“Hitler wanted to see,” Weil said, “what effect this would have on the world. The New York Times covered it on an inside page. There was no recall of ambassadors. No sanctions. Hitler knew he had a green light.”

Although there were countries larger and more able than the United Kingdom to aid Jews trying to flee Germany, few nations did much. Even though the Nazis encouraged emigration, getting into another country for a Jew was a long, difficult process.

Weil was one of 10,000 children to flee Germany to England in the Kindertransport program, the only program of its kind in the world.

In the United States, which took barely 10 percent of its immigration quota, some officials intentionally made the process very difficult. Assistant Secretary of State Breckenridge Long gave instructions on how to do so. And, Weil said, in arguing against a bill presented to Congress, Breckenridge declared, “They may be all beautiful children now, but they will grow up to be ugly Jews.”

As the 11-year-old Weil and 300 other children boarded the train to leave their homes in Frankfurt, Germany, “We were all told,” he said, “that our parents would see us in a few weeks or so. We had all been to summer camp, so a few weeks separation was no big deal. This would be a new country. We would no longer be ‘dirty Jews’ but have a normal life. “Our parents, though, probably had premonitions.”

Weil never again saw his family. The train traveled along the Rhine River north to Holland. “As we crossed the border, SS guards told us we’d never be allowed back. When we reached Dutch soil, Dutch ladies hugged and kissed us and gave us sandwiches and cakes. They were Aryans, but they had not been brainwashed.”

Then after crossing the English Channel, the children took another train to Liverpool Street Station, where all but Weil were met by someone. The volunteers on the train searched their records to see what had happened.

There, on the list of passengers, was the name “Felicia Weil.”
Felix Weil had been saved by a mistake. Years later, Felix tried to track down Felicia, who was not a relative. He was unsuccessful. Presumably she — and his sister — were among the 1.5 million children in Europe who died because they were Jews.

Felix, however, was now one of the 10,000. After a few weeks in temporary quarters, he and two other boys who spoke no English at the time were taken in by an English lady and her adult daughter, with whom they lived during the war.

“We had a caring, loving experience,” he said.

Near the end of the war, he migrated to New York where he worked about a year until he received a “Greetings from the president...” letter that brought not only military service but a faster track to U.S. citizenship. So, in 1946 he found himself in an American uniform in Germany. The SS guards had been wrong; he did come back.

He has over the years been back many times. “The younger generations are different. They are considerate and kind. They want to know what really happened.” And he helps tell them.

Motivated learners

By Robert C. Conard

While I was studying at the University of Vienna in 1956, a flier appeared on campus asking for volunteers to help refugees. I had seen the newspaper photos of young Hungarians, some barely more than children, attacking Soviet tanks with Molotov cocktails. Students and workers had stood up to soldiers but were no match for overwhelming force.

So that fall I went to Traiskirchen, Austria, to aid refugees at a camp on the site of a former military school. It had served the forces of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union; now there was no electricity, no heating, no running water, no window-pane unbroken. This was the temporary haven for freedom fighters fleeing their homeland.

We volunteers, mostly Austrian and foreign students, made up a strange assortment of idealists. We were shocked at the ruins before us. The Austrian Red Cross led us renovating one room at a time, washing, painting, putting in windows, restoring lighting. As a finishing touch, a single light bulb dangled from the ceiling of each room.

In a corner of one building, an enterprising refugee opened a barber shop. A local farmer mowed the old parade ground to create a soccer field; a store in Vienna donated soccer balls; and soccer games provided refugees both exercise and a release of tension.

By winter thousands of refugees were in the camp — all with the goal of getting out of it.

I was struck by how various countries operated their immigration services. The difference between the English and the American methods was the most pronounced. The English representatives interviewed refugees simply to find out who wanted to go to England. The U.S. representatives used a rating system based on how prospective immigrants could best benefit America. Doctors, lawyers, engineers, skilled workers and those with academic degrees received preferred ratings. Even after the ratings, refugees could still be waiting up to three months.

Nonetheless, the cautious Americans accepted the largest number of refugees. Wherever they hoped to go, they would need a new language. We volunteers began to offer classes in 13 languages in a quickly created school. Early in 1957, the principal of this new school suffered a recurrence of tuberculosis that forced him to leave the camp. I was asked to take his place.

The school came at the right moment for the volunteers: Although we were educated, we had few of the practical skills needed in the camp. We were beginning to think our usefulness was over. Now there was a demand for our skills even though at first we had some reluctance, never having taught. And we had no books, no materials: paper, pencils, chalk or blackboards. But we did have plenty of space. The Berlitz School in Vienna provided some books. Stores gave us pencils, paper and chalk. Lacking blackboards, we painted a wall in each classroom black. Each night we repainted them.

We had 3,000 students to teach. They were of all ages, backgrounds and levels of education. We had limited resources. But we had one unifying factor: the refugees’ desire not to be where they were and their longing to be somewhere else.

Conditions in the camp did not allow us to organize the school with set times for classes arranged by levels, with enrollment and attendance checks, with assignments and grading. We designated certain rooms for specific languages and admitted whoever wanted to come. For English, we had several rooms and enough teachers to keep classes running from morning until evening, often without breaks for lunch.

What went on in classrooms other than my own, I do not know. I taught most of the day. I heard no complaints. Many of the refugees stayed in a classroom all day, leaving only to eat. A typical room had few chairs. Most sat on the floor; some, on window sills. Mothers held babies in their arms. Doctors sat next to workers; engineers, next to shepherds, one of whom brought to class each day his dog — whose skills and obedience provided us entertainment.

We probably broke every rule of pedagogy. Motivation was the real teacher. Learning meant new life.

I obtained the prepared questions that would be asked by the Americans interviewing refugees. They learned English as they learned to ask and answer questions. More and more passed their “examinations” and graduated to a start in a new world.

And because of Traiskirchen I became a teacher.

Conard, professor emeritus of global languages and cultures at UD, received Hungary’s highest civilian honor, the Order of Merit, Oct. 23, 2013, the national holiday of the Republic of Hungary. The essay above is an abridgement of Conard’s article “I Never Met a Hungarian Who Didn’t Want to Learn,” Hungarian Review, November 2013.
Laughter and light

It was three days full of belly-laughing, donkey-snorting, mascara-running good times with 350 humor writers from around the country.

And there I was, sitting in Sears Recital Hall, trying not to cry.

A fellow attendee at UD’s biennial Erma Bombeck Writers’ Workshop had just stood up. Her name was Kate. She had come here from Newtown, Conn. “I was funny and lost my funny,” she told us as we rummaged our pockets for tissues. “I came here to find it again.”

We knew she hadn’t just lost it. This writer had her funny ripped from her in her own hometown by the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooter. When would it be OK, she wondered, to laugh again?

It’s when life makes us ask such questions that we need laughter the most.

At the workshop’s keynote dinner, Phil Donahue reminded us of the power of laughter as he talked about his good friend, the late Erma Fiste Bombeck ’49. The father of daytime talk shows and the mother of misadventures had been neighbors in Centerville, Ohio, each raising stair-step children while launching their careers.

In her writing, he said, was an honesty that touched the world. She popped balloons of pretense with daggers of laughter. Her humor was revolutionary.

“Motherhood was sacred,” Donahue said as he intoned popular sentiment: “‘Oh, how blessed you are. Oh, what a wonderful mother you are.’ Mothers were on pedestals. And Erma would do a column something like, ‘I am going to sell my children.’ She punctured that pretense, and she was speaking for millions of women.”

My own mother taped Bombeck’s words to our gold-(enrod-yellow refrigerator door — not the words about selling us, as far as I can remember, though I certainly would have deserved it for digging a pond in the backyard and filling it with frogs, which attracted crows from three counties.

Millions of women also taped Bombeck to their fridges, taking strength from the joys of an imperfect life with this sister who cautioned us to never have more children than we have car windows. It is a community that stretches through the miles and across the decades and that, every two years, materializes at UD, where a young Erma was told by her English professor, “You can write.”

This April, Donahue repeated the phrase, adding a charge to use our words to move mountains. “We have an assembly of people of conscience here … and you may just be the people who will make our lives better,” he said.

With their words and their support, the attendees embraced Kate from Newtown, who later wrote, “My three days in Dayton were extraordinary, and when the laughter died down I learned this above all: the line between tragedy and comedy does exist, and while laughing in the face of any horror is nearly impossible, the only way through the tears and darkness is with laughter and light.”

—Michelle Tedford ’94
Editor, University of Dayton Magazine
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Brother Paul’s lunch counter was the place for students to meet and eat from the 1920s to 1950s. It was sandwiched between St. Mary’s and Chaminade halls in the Arcade connector, built in 1904. The Arcade, more recently used as office space, is being demolished this summer. Next summer, students will again sit in the spot shown in this 1958 photo — outdoors, on benches, surrounded by trees and flowers.