Fired up over robotics
‘UD Apprentice’ competition to benefit homeless shelter

Members of UD’s chapter of Phi Beta Chi, the professional communication fraternity, have organized “The UD Apprentice,” a competition to be held April 10-11. Teams of UD students will use Dewey’s Pizza menu items to come up with a new product for the restaurant located near campus. The students also will design promotional materials to advertise their creations.

Dewey’s Pizza managers will select the winning team, then the restaurant will add that team’s new product to its menu for at least a month. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of that item will go to The Other Place, Dayton’s daytime homeless shelter. Dewey’s Pizza also will sponsor a pizza party for the winning team members and 20 of their friends during UD’s finals week.

“It’s really important to build new ties with the business community as new businesses pop up near campus,” said Kat Miller ’05, annual events chair for Phi Beta Chi and a public relations major. “UD students will have the opportunity to be creative and come up with new ideas, which they can add to their portfolios or résumés, and help the community at the same time.”

The competition will begin on Sunday, April 10, in Kennedy Union, when teams of four or five students will be given details about what products they are to create. They will have less than 24 hours to perfect their ideas. A panel of UD judges will evaluate the first round of the competition the next day, narrowing the field to three UD teams.

Those three teams will present their products and promotional materials to the Dewey’s Pizza judges at the restaurant. The Dewey’s judges will select the winning item based on how it looks and tastes, as well as its marketability, said Chuck Lipp, Dewey’s regional manager.

‘Catholics After the Crisis’: Peter Steinfels to address sexual abuse scandal

The New York Times’ former senior religion correspondent Peter Steinfels remembers the first case of sexual abuse in the Catholic church that he encountered as a journalist in the late 1980s. “It was ‘he said-he said’ and I thought, ‘How do we report this? What is fair?’” Steinfels said. “It was very difficult to figure out what the reality was.”

Almost two decades later the subject continues to challenge Steinfels, a visiting professor of religious studies at the University of Dayton. Steinfels will offer his perspective at the concluding lecture of UD’s “The Wounded Body of Christ: Sexual Abuse in the Church” series. He will discuss “Catholics After the Crisis: The Choices We Confront” at 7 p.m. Monday, April 18, in the Kennedy Union ballroom.

“One of the things I’d like to do is explain what the sex abuse crisis has taught me as a correspondent,” Steinfels said. “But I also want to talk about some of the choices we have to make as Catholics.”

According to Steinfels, there are both theological and institutional choices to consider. Some degree of self-examination — not only the examination of others’ failures — is necessary. That is why he has been reflecting on his own experience as a religion reporter.

“So much of what we know about the incidents is known because of litigation,” Steinfels said. “It has brought to light important and previously undisclosed facts, but it also makes it difficult to figure out where the whole truth lies.”

In 1997, Steinfels left his position at The New York Times to search for larger and more fundamental truths about the state of American Catholicism, not only about the sex abuse cases he had covered. That search culminated in his book, A People Adrift: The Crisis of the Roman Catholic Church in America, published in 2003.

“Because I have written extensively on both the immediate scandal and the larger context of Catholic life, I sometimes see complexities that aren’t a part of the general consciousness,” Steinfels said. “Wearing both hats, as a writer and a Catholic, often produced a good deal of anguish, but in both roles you ultimately have to try to serve the truth.”

Japanese-American internment focus of Holocaust Awareness Weeks lecture

As part of Holocaust Awareness Weeks 2005: America and the Holocaust, historian Roger Daniels will lecture on “Prisoners Without Trial: Japanese-Americans in World War II” at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 20, in Sears Recital Hall.

Daniels, author of a book by the same title, is the Charles Phelps Taft Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Cincinnati and a past president of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era as well as the Immigration History Society.

His presentation, which is open to the public, is part of UD’s Diversity Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, Hebrew Union College. Daniels will also meet with students in the Core program’s ASI 112 classes before his lecture.

Daniels served as consultant to the Presidential Commission on the Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and is a planning committee member for the immigration museum on Ellis Island. His recent works include Not Like Us: Immigration and Minorities in America, 1890-1924 (1997); an expanded edition of Coming to America: A History of Immigration and Ethnicity in American Life (2002); and Guarding the Golden Door: American Immigration Policy and Immigrants (2004).
Interfaith panel to present findings on why young people stray from religion

It’s a demographic that religious leaders describe as the “black hole.”

A significant number of 20-to 30-year-olds have seemingly disappeared from U.S. churches, synagogues and mosques in recent years. While some religious leaders seem unfazed, steadfast in their belief that the young people will return, others question that passive approach.

“The thinking was that they would return when they had children of their own, when there was a desire to pass on their traditions,” said Father James Heft, S.M., director of the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies and chancellor and professor of faith and culture at the University of Dayton. “But the theory that they are simply taking a little time out seems to be less and less true.”

An interfaith team of researchers has examined this issue and will present their findings as they discuss “Congregations That Get It, Understanding Religious Identities in the Next Generation” at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 7, in the Science Center auditorium.

The panel of University of Southern California Center for Religion and Civic Culture research associates includes Tobin Belzer of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion; Richard Flory, Biola University; and Brie Loskota and Nadia Roumani, from the USC Center for Religion and Civic Culture. The researchers, who represent the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths, explored congregational life in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York to discover how young people view religious, spiritual and congregational affiliations.

“All of us face a common culture, and it is useful and worthwhile to work together where we can,” Heft said. “There is collaboration here, but we also respect our differences.”

The University of Dayton will be the first stop for the panelists, who will present their findings in Washington, D.C., Hawaii and California later this year. The study was undertaken through a partnership between the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies, USC Center for Religion and Civic Culture and Office of Religious Life, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and the Omar Ibn Al Khattab Foundation.

—Debbie Juniewicz

Dayton Codebreakers premieres in Boll Theatre April 15

Joe Desch carried a secret to his grave. During World War II, the 1929 electrical engineering graduate headed a top-secret program at the National Cash Register Co. to develop a code-breaking machine that helped bring the war to an end.

Today, his daughter Debbie Desch Anderson, journalist Aileen LeBlanc and the Montgomery County Historical Society are bringing that story to light in an hour-long documentary, Dayton Codebreakers, that will premiere at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 15, in Boll Theatre.

Tickets are $4 and can be ordered from the Kennedy Union box office at 229-2545. The filmmakers will be available for questions and answers after the premiere.

The piece will air on ThinkTV Channel 16 at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, and ThinkTV Channel 14 at 10 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20.

“I hope that one benefit of this video is that the story will reach a younger audience — in addition to the Dayton community — who might find in it a bit of encouragement, a bit of inspiration, in the power of pursuing what you love,” said Anderson, who served as researcher and associate producer. “In Dad’s case, his love of science enabled him ultimately to save the lives of thousands. I’m pleased with the film.”

Desch’s role in speeding up the end of World War II started to come to light in the early 1990s when documents about the NCR project were declassified. Desch had received a Congressional Medal of Merit from President Harry Truman in 1947 — the highest wartime honor for civilians — but had taken a pledge of secrecy about his role in the development of a high-speed code-breaking machine called a Bombe, which was used to decipher German Naval enigma codes and allowed Allied Forces to track and destroy German U-boats. Desch left some documents, including the written pledge, to his daughter after he died in 1987.

“It was a puzzle that Debbie took on herself and spent more than 12 years researching her Dad’s involvement,” said LeBlanc, former news director for WYSO-FM Radio who produced a piece on Desch for National Public Radio in 2002. “Joe Desch was an amateur radio operator and largely self-taught in the field of electrical engineering, which was just emerging. UD saw his talents in engineering, and NCR recruited him to start an electrical research laboratory. Then the Navy came to him for the Bombe project.”

Two dozen engineers and 600 WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service), who assembled the machines, worked with Desch on the project.

In all, 120 of these machines were built “under incredible secrecy, and no word of them leaked until declassification by President Clinton in the early 1990s,” according to Anderson, who graduated in 1971 with a degree in English from UD.

Anderson and LeBlanc used Desch’s same “can-do spirit” to raise $100,000 over the past two years from local foundations and individuals to research and produce Dayton Codebreakers.

“It was two women going into foundations and saying, ‘Give us money because we have a story to tell.’ Dayton has a reputation of breeding innovators and entrepreneurs but also one of not singing our own song. We’d like to change that with this documentary,” said LeBlanc, who wrote, produced and directed the piece.

For more information on the documentary, see http://www.daytoncodebreakers.org.

—Teri Rizvi
Firefighting robots ignite interest in engineering

Imagine designing a fully autonomous robot capable of locating and extinguishing a fire, while avoiding obstacles along the way. Now imagine building the robot out of Legos.

Russell Hardie asked students in his introduction to engineering design class to do just that.

“In the past, students have built airplanes out of foam, designed racing wheelchairs, and even analyzed and redesigned hair dryers and blenders,” said Hardie, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering. “This year we decided to change things up a bit. Robotics is a great way to expose students to different aspects of engineering.”

Teams of no more than three EGR 101 students were responsible for designing and constructing firefighter robots. The “brains” of the robots were Lego RCX microcontrollers, and students programmed them using NQC — Not Quite C — language.

Design teams equipped their robots with custom built light sensors, touch sensors, motors and software that allowed the robots to seek out a lit candle and circumnavigate brick obstacles while en route. When the robots reached the candle, they extinguished the flame with adapted battery-powered, hand-held fans. Robots were able, using sensors, to detect if the flame was extinguished.

“This was such a fun experience,” said Chris McGuinness, a first-year electrical engineering student. “I learned the basics of circuit analysis and computer programming. Building the robots really confirmed for me that I am in the right major.”

McGuinness’ robot successfully extinguished the flame.

“Getting the robot to run was difficult because when you first build it, you have to work out all the bugs and kinks so that it will complete its mission,” McGuinness said. “But once you get it working it is really rewarding.”

—Lesley Whalen

Mary garden, planted by UD volunteers, takes root

The daffodil shoots pushing up in the courtyard between St. Mary Hall and the Chapel are the first promise of beautiful things to come.

Planted last November by faculty and staff members and spouses, the 1,200 daffodil and tulip bulbs are the beginnings of a Mary garden taking root in what UD staffers are calling “Mary’s Courtyard.”

Like most good gardens, this one is the result of people working together, contributing ideas, talent and time, said Pat Detzel, director of institutional studies. Detzel credits Tom Burkhardt, UD vice president for finance and administrative services, with championing the project, and facilities management staff with providing support and expertise.

“I was tickled to death with how it worked out when we all planted together,” said Detzel, who was relieved to see volunteers turn out with gardening tools despite the chilly morning. Several new dogwood trees have also been planted in the courtyard. “They should provide a nice backdrop for the spring-blooming flowers,” she said.

When completed, the garden will feature a mosaic of Mary, created by Brother Don Smith, S.M., that emphasizes flowers associated with the Blessed Mother. Plans call for the mosaic to be installed in a brick-surrounded, arched niche on the wall between St. Mary’s and the Chapel. The Madonna lily, oxeye daisy, rose, tulip and carnation are some of the Mary flowers that Smith is working into his design.

A landscape architect will be hired to design the garden and the niche. Detzel hopes to have a design plan and preliminary planting done by May, so that the garden can get started this summer. The gardening group also wants to display garden plans and photos of the mosaic in progress when a new exhibit opens in the Marian Library in May.

The exhibit of 54 paintings of Mary on loan from Poland runs May 17 through Sept. 9.

“Almost every painting features beautiful flowers, and many have flowers in their title — Madonna of the Roses, of the Lilies, of the Nasturtiums, of the Gladioli, of the Chrysanthemums, of the Carnations, of the Dying Flowers, Litany of Flowers, the Green Madonna and Madonna Covered with Cherry Blossoms,” Detzel said. “Each painting is based upon a Polish poem or folk story about Mary.

“If all goes well, perhaps we can have a dedication of the garden on or before Sept. 9, when the exhibit closes.”

As the garden takes shape, UD gardeners will be asked to contribute plants called for by the design and to volunteer to maintain it. “This is really a community garden,” Detzel said. “We want people to contribute in any way they can.”

This spring, the daffodils and tulips will put on a colorful display in Mary’s Courtyard, thanks to the contributions of colleagues Kerin Bowen, Barbara Day, Pat Detzel, Monica Duffy, Laura Elizabeth, Margaret Good, Pat Johnson, Jacinta Mergler, Karen Rosati, Luke Rosati, Ken Soucy, Zoe Soucy, Teresa Terrell, Kelly Wood, Sue Zielinski and Carl Zielinski.

—Deborah McCarty Smith
Dayton Civic Scholars Program paves path to public service careers

While he was in high school, Kyle Lauterhahn ‘08 spent two summer weeks in El Salvador and Guatemala, serving as a teacher’s aide in a school for children whose parents made their living picking through trash in the Guatemala City dump. Lauterhahn volunteered at an inner-city grade school and one for autistic children. For five summers, he has attended a Christian leadership academy to hone such skills as group leadership and public speaking. And in all three elections since he turned 18, he has served as an elections official.

Lauterhahn wants to take his community service work to a new level — and now the University of Dayton offers a program tailor-made to get him there, the Dayton Civic Scholars.

“I’ve always been brought up to be concerned about other people and their wellness of life, and that turned into an interest in politics,” said Lauterhahn, an international studies and economics major who recently was selected to be in the first group of Dayton Civic Scholars. “I like the issues; I find civil service fun — and it’s my calling.”

The Dayton Civic Scholars program was designed for students interested in a career in public service. As with other scholars programs, the Dayton Civic Scholars will be a cohort, meeting regularly during their sophomore through senior years. Approximately 15 students will be accepted into the program each year, until the group reaches a total of 45 students.

“The goal is to take these students to the next level in civic involvement, and we hope the students will end the program knowing a lot more people,” said Dean Lovelace ’72, director of the program, run by the Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., Center for Leadership in Community. “But we also hope the students will develop an appreciation for the work of public servants, both elected and nonelected, and they’ll become activists in their communities, wherever they end up living.”

The students will meet monthly during the academic year, participate in service-learning projects and internships, and take at least three courses from an approved list that includes courses in sociology, anthropology and social work; political science; and psychology. They also will participate in the Fitz Center’s Leadership in Building Communities seminar and such workshops as grant writing and census research. The program will begin with a four-day seminar in May.

“This gives the students an intentional pathway,” said Ariel Hoehl, graduate student assistant with the Fitz Center. “It creates a straight line for them to get internships and learn about other opportunities to get involved, then experience things they can bring back to the classroom.”

The program was born during a meeting of social science department chairs and Fitz Center director Dick Ferguson, who were brainstorming ways they could contribute to academic excellence on campus.

“We decided we would put together a group of students interested in urban affairs and social justice, so we could build a relationship between the students, the University and the community,” said Chris Duncan, chair of the political science department. “It’s a way to link students together, then link them to the campus community, then to the city of Dayton.”

Indeed, the program aims not only to connect students with the community while they’re students, but to connect them with community service beyond their years at UD.

“These are students who actually are intentionally preparing to go into work in an urban environment,” said Ferguson, adding that between 30 and 50 alumni who have taken the Leadership in Building Communities seminar have gone on to careers in some type of urban public service. “We expect this group to have a higher percentage of people going into the community in this type of work.”

Dayton Civic Scholar Jacqui Zubko ’08 is one of them. Her high school volunteer work included helping at a women’s shelter, sorting clothes at Goodwill and tutoring. She plans on a career in immigration.

“This is a really great opportunity to get out there and network for internships and jobs,” she said. “I’m thankful UD has such a program.”

—Kristen Wicker

Fran Pesch never anticipated that sitting on a jury and watching Law and Order would make her a more effective acting coach.

The actress and director who won a DayTony award for directing the Dayton Playhouse’s The Laramie Project prepares skilled actors to play the roles of clients and witnesses — all geared to help UD law students learn skills like interviewing, negotiating and plea bargaining.

Pesch is working with law professor Dennis Turner, who is designing the mandatory skills proficiency test as part of the new UD School of Law curriculum to begin in fall 2005 requiring law students to pass eight simulated legal exercises.

“The simulations give students the opportunity to make mistakes, but mistakes that don’t hurt a real client, and mistakes they will never make again,” Turner said.

Turner records the simulations and puts them on a CD for each of his students so that potential employers can see them in action. After sitting in on a simulated client session at the University of Massachusetts Medical School last year, Turner saw how it benefited these soon-to-be professionals and decided law schools should be doing the same thing. He then began incorporating role-playing into his courses.

“There is no script,” Pesch said. “It’s all improvisation, and things can change in a heartbeat. You never know what the students are going to ask, so the actors really have to be able to think on their feet.”

Simulations range from cases of domestic violence to depositions. In the “bad news” simulation, students must inform a couple whose son recently bled to death that they have no case.

“The advantage of the simulation is that we can expose students to a variety of realistic situations,” Turner said. “Students learn how to deal with scenarios they will likely encounter after they graduate. In some simulations the actors were so good that the students had a difficult time completing the task because it seemed so real.”

Lori Bowman ’04 said Turner’s simulated client class was invaluable to her well-rounded law school experience. “The different scenarios gave me confidence and prepared me for the difficulties I may encounter when dealing with real clients,” she said.

—Lesley Whalen
Who was Brother Stander?

Brother Joseph Stander, S.M., started his UD career in 1960 teaching mathematics. Over the next four decades he also helped to shape the traditions of academic excellence that define the University. He served as assistant dean (1967-69), dean of graduate students and research (1969-74) and provost and vice president for academic affairs (1974-1989). Stander, a champion of UD’s Honors Program, also helped to establish UD’s Research Council grants and Faculty Development Fund grants.

In 1989, he returned to full-time teaching. “In the classroom, despite his exploration of the rarified atmosphere of higher mathematics, as indicated in his dissertation topic, ‘Structural Forms of Some Special Quaternion Matrices,’ students appreciated his ability to help them break down mathematical complexity in ways they could understand,” Father Joseph Lackner, S.M., said of Stander, who died in 2001.

“He was not only a wonderful mathematician and a wonderful human being,” said Sister Dolores Linn, S.M., chair of the Mathematics Department. “He was able to open doors for students and get them excited about mathematics. His work on the Honors Program was wonderful. He was a true champion of academic excellence.”

Mertz said Stander “was an academic leader who understood the value of experimentation and challenges. He was a great supporter of students, always helping them to be the best that they could be.”

Stander’s legacy “will be the many students who will grow in their academic careers because of his interest in them,” said Father James Heft, S.M., who was Stander’s colleague for many years. “We are all the better for knowing him.”

What’s a Red Mass?

The Stander Symposium opens with a Red Mass to celebrate the gift of wisdom at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, in the Immaculate Conception Chapel. All are welcome.

The Red Mass, a Catholic tradition that dates back to the 13th century, when it officially opened the term of the court for most European countries, continues to be celebrated in many U.S. dioceses. Participants gather to invoke God’s blessing upon all protectors and administrators of the law and to request guidance from the Holy Spirit for the conduct of the legal profession.

At the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington, D.C., the Red Mass is celebrated to mark the opening of the judicial year and draws Supreme Court justices and members of Congress, the Cabinet, diplomatic corps, and other government departments, sometimes including the President of the United States.

The best $5 you’ll ever spend: Celebration of the Arts

Applaud and celebrate UD’s performing arts groups as they take the stage in downtown Dayton’s Victoria Theatre for an evening of performances at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5.

Performers include the Ebony Heritage Singers, UD Jazz Ensemble, UD Orchestra, UD Chorale, the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, UD Dance Ensemble and UD theater students. Herbert Woodward Martin, UD professor emeritus of English, will narrate the event.

Tickets are $5 and are valid for RTA transportation to and from the event. They’re available at the Kennedy Union box office. Call 229-2545.

By now, you know the highlights. The 17th Annual Brother Joseph W. Stander Symposium and Honors Convocation will bring the entire UD community together to present or perform their finest work in a 31-hour celebration of academic excellence April 5-6. Details can be found on the Web site, http://symposium.udayton.edu. In the meantime...

Showcasing students

Students are the focus of the Stander Symposium, and their work will be showcased in poster, panel, performance and display sessions too numerous to list in their entirety. Here are a few highlights of student research topics:

Goal: Net-zero energy use

Senior mechanical engineering majors Greg Raffio and George Mertz will discuss the conceptual design of the Eco-house, a net-zero energy student residence that the University will build in fall 2005. The students, who have been working with professors Kelly Kissock and Kevin Hallinan, will analyze the energy use of current student housing and identify energy-saving opportunities. They’ll discuss using the “whole-system inside-out approach” — starting with energy end-use to energy distribution systems and primary energy conversion equipment — to guide the overall design.

The students see the energy-saving nature of this house potentially saving the University more than $75,000 over the next 30 years.

Mertz and Raffio agree that the biggest energy waste comes from resident behavior, such as leaving computers on at night, leaving windows open unnecessarily and using water in excess. Improving occupant behavior is one of the methods they’ll discuss.

“We are really working to create a community where everyone realizes what needs to be done to make a positive impact,” Mertz said.

The varieties of dialogue

Lora Robinson, senior religious studies major, will share her experiences of interreligious dialogue in India. Her presentation will draw on the works of S. Wesley Araiaarajah, former Deputy General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, and James D. Redington, S.J., associate professor of interreligious dialogue at the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley. She will explore how a balanced combination of the various types of dialogue can lead to more effectiveness.

Holding the honeysuckle at bay

Anyone who has tried to eliminate honeysuckle from overtaking a yard or garden knows the difficulty in trying to remove weedy pest plants. Woody trees, shrubs and vines account for nearly 40 percent of invasive plant species in the eastern United States. Alternating between stages of active growth and dormancy, perennial woody plants must re-establish vascular connections and regrow foliar leaves at the start of each growing season. Can knowing about a plant’s seasonal processes be used to control their spread? Is there an optimal time in a woody plant’s seasonal growth cycle to apply a herbicide, such as Roundup, where it will be taken up and incorporated by the plant most effectively?

“You need to know when a woody plant is metabolically active and either storing or transporting materials to living cells,” said Mark Fuchs, a graduate student in biology working with Brother Don Geiger, S.M. Fuchs will present “Design of Rational Methods for Controlling Invasive Woody Plants Based on Seasonal Development and Physiology.” His presentation will examine seasonal shoot
A user's guide to entire UD community together to present or perform their finest work in a 31-hour celebration of academic excellence April 5-6. Details can be found on the Web site, http://symposium.udayton.edu. In the meantime, Campus Report offers some background to help you enjoy the festivities.

**Keys to the keynote**
Former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo will address “Values and the Pursuit of Social Justice,” an address written specifically for the Stander Symposium, at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, at the Schuster Performing Arts Center. Admission is open to the campus community and the public, but a ticket is required. Call the Kennedy Union box office at 229-2545.

**Honors Convocation: Everything old is new again**
The Honors Convocation (7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, in the Kennedy Union ballroom) recognizes students for outstanding achievement. Joan Herbers ’73, dean of the College of Biological Sciences at Ohio State University, is the guest speaker.

The convocation revives a UD tradition, frequently held in early March to observe St. Thomas Aquinas Day, in which several famous UD alumni have participated. In 1964, Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., won the Anthony Horvath and Elmer Seger Award of Excellence in the senior electrical engineering class. Phil Doepker, now an engineering faculty member, won the annual Techni-club award of excellence. His 3.707 grade point average was the highest cumulative average among full-time graduating students of UD’s Technical Institute.

The last Honors Convocation was held April 8, 1970, when the honorees included Thomas E. Burkhardt II, now UD’s vice president for finance and administrative services. He received the accounting department’s award of excellence to the outstanding senior.

**Immerse yourself**
Ann Hudock ’93, an assistant representative with the Asia Foundation in Hanoi, Vietnam, is the guest speaker at the International Cultural Immersion Dinner, at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, in the Kennedy Union ballroom. The dinner features a tribute to Brother Phil Aaron, S.M. (See story, Page 11). Copies of the student-produced book Interconnections will be available for sale. Tickets are $35 or $25 for students. Call the Center for Social Concern at 229-2524.

**Think fast**
That’s what the inaugural UD Ethics Bowl will require teams of students to do to determine which course of action would be ethically justifiable or preferable in a particular case study.

Based on a similar event hosted by the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, the UD Ethics Bowl will feature four teams considering six ethical case studies drawn from actual situations.

Team members will have only a moment to consult. Their responses will be evaluated by judges for their clarity, reasonableness, sensitivity to ethically relevant factors and their relative importance, and strength of research. Teams will be expected to demonstrate facility with Catholic social teaching.

**Matching methods to middle-schoolers**
One size doesn’t fit all when it comes educating middle school students, says Angela Caracciolo, a junior middle childhood education major.

“Just because I have all seventh-graders, I can’t use one teaching method with them all. I have one set of skills and concepts I want them all to grasp, but the way students get to those skills and concepts will be different” from student to student, she says.

She thinks this approach to teaching, called differentiated instruction, may be especially effective at the middle school level, where students in the same grade can vary widely in their academic, social, emotional and physical development.

Differentiated instruction relies heavily on ongoing evaluation of students through frequent formal and informal assessments that let teachers gauge student comprehension and adapt the teaching accordingly. As a result, struggling students’ needs are addressed, and the highest-achieving students continue to be challenged.

Caracciolo is in the first year of a two-year study that examines how differentiated instruction fits into the National Middle School Association’s characteristics of effective middle schools, published in 2001 by the nation’s leading association of middle school educators. Her goal is to determine whether differentiated instruction is, in fact, effective at the middle school level when evaluated in the context of the NMSA standards.

**Mapping mountains**
A vast expanse of mountains near Elko, Nev., will become a little more accessible and a little less mysterious, thanks to the mapping project of senior geology major Andrew Folfas.

Folfas, working with geology associate professor Allen McGrew, is transferring data that the two had to hike with sledgehammers last summer to dislodge rocks to be tested and identified. Folfas says the data help explain how the Rocky Mountains were built, as well as explain the complex stretching, smashing, twisting and thrusting that created the Humboldt Peak area.

Folfas and McGrew hope to publish this never-before-mapped area. With ArcGIS, researchers can interact with and add to the data, for example, by searching for all Pre-Cambrian marble layers and seeing, in bright colors and patterns, how each rock layer is related to the others.

Of his interest in Nevada’s mountains, Folfas says, “I’ve always been a hard rock fan — igneous.”

The Humboldt Range rock is so hard that the two had to hike with sledgehammers last summer to dislodge rocks to be tested and identified. The ArcGIS map will combine this fieldwork with McGrew’s years of research and paper notes.
We have a boiler room on campus? Not many people know the boiler room exists because of its out-of-the-way location. But the boiler room has been operating under the walkway between Baujan Field and Zehler Hall since the Humanities Center was built. Its five boiler machines provide heat to 17 main buildings around the heart of campus, but those machines don’t run themselves. Four men operate the boilers all year round.

Larry Ledbetter, Ray Feltner, Joe Manning and Michael Romer are the boiler repairmen. Ken Sopczak is the boiler room supervisor. Larry Ledbetter, Ray Feltner, Joe Manning and Michael Romer are the boiler repairmen. Ken Sopczak is the boiler room supervisor. Louis Holmes has worked at UD for five years.
"My friend, I am going to tell you the story of my life, as you wish," begins Black Elk Speaks, a canonical book of Native American studies written by John G. Neihardt and first published in 1932.

UD graduate student and author Damian Costello is mindful of stories' beginnings and endings. In the opening pages of his own recently published book, Black Elk: Colonialism and Lakota Catholicism (Orbis, 2005), he notes Neihardt's decision to end Black Elk Speaks with the image of the Lakota holy man — who fought in the Battle of Little Bighorn and survived the 1890 Wounded Knee Massacre, in which 260 Lakota were killed — lamenting the Lakota defeat decades later:

“You see me now a pitiful old man who has done nothing, for the nation’s hoop is broken and scattered,” quotes Costello. “There is no longer any center, and the sacred tree is dead.”

Despite the available evidence that Neihardt, not Black Elk, composed these words, Costello adds, “This ‘death of a dream’ passage became the most quoted passage and the enduring image of Black Elk.”

Costello’s study offers a more nuanced image, one he developed as he wrote his master’s thesis under the supervision of William Portier, who holds the Mary Ann Spearin Chair in Catholic Theology at UD.

“I put way too much time into this,” said Costello, now a doctoral student in the department of religious studies. “When I got done, Dr. Portier said, ‘Hey, someone might want to publish this.’”

Portier sent a letter of recommendation and sample chapter to Orbis Books, which had previously published his work and that of UD professor of religious studies Terrence W. Tilley.

“Ten days later, they asked for the whole thing,” said Costello. “Ten days after they got it, they offered me a contract.”

Costello spent the summer of 2004 writing and rewriting, a process he found frustrating. “You feel like the more you work on it, the more holes you see that you could potentially write about.”

His sister, Christal — “the brains of the family” — served as his unofficial editor.

Costello’s book examines two common and contradictory understandings of Black Elk: Neihardt’s version of Black Elk as the tragic embodiment of a defeated but unchanging Native American culture, an interpretation he calls “the essentialist Black Elk,” and that of Black Elk as a “sell-out” to white culture and colonial conquest with his conversion to Catholicism in 1904.

Costello argues that both versions are misleading. Black Elk’s Catholicism was “a profound response to the brutality of colonialism,” he writes. Even as he adopted the Catholic faith, he turned its teachings against colonial practices that harmed the Lakota people and undermined Lakota culture.

“He lived Christianity in a Lakota context much like the Rastafari of Jamaica” until his death in 1950 by working for peace and to alleviate suffering and poverty caused by colonial practices, said Costello.

Costello offers a new understanding of Black Elk in his conclusion, that of a Catholic holy man lamenting the failure of the West to live up to Christian values yet hopeful for Christian redemption and reconciliation: “Black Elk, a great saint of the colonial era, still calls all people through his vision and the witness of his life to hear the Lakota Christ: colonialism must end so the sacred tree may one day bloom for all people.”

—Matthew Dewald

**Damian Costello**

Author and grad student

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Down under: Ray Feltner, Ken Sopczak, Larry Ledbetter and James Holmes

and is the first person to answer all emergency calls, including fire and electrical problems. He once received an emergency call saying there was a possum stuck in the elevator at St. Joseph Hall. Although this seemed strange to him, he called Animal Control to ensure the safety of the animal. He and the officer went to St. Joe, where they found a person trapped in an immobile elevator. The caller had had an accent and had reported a person — not a possum — in the elevator.

Walking up from the boiler room, Sopczak proudly talks about his employees, whom he describes as “loyal hard-workers that go above and beyond the call of their jobs.” When the Great Miami River rose in January and groundwater forced its way into UD Arena, Sopczak says his men were the ones to help.

“They go unnoticed most of the time. People only know they’re there when they have problems. They’re the unsung heroes of the University.”

—Jaimie Guerra
take a break with…

Miryam Award honors contributions to support women’s advancement

University of Dayton senior Ashley Neu and the Annie T. Thornton Women’s Leadership Conference received the 2005 Miryam Award, presented March 31 in Immaculate Conception Chapel.

The award recognizes a UD person or organization whose actions have enhanced the climate for and supported the advancement of women.

Neu, a psychology and journalism major with a minor in women’s studies, provides communications support for the UD Women’s Center. She is responsible for the newsletter, works on the Web site, and does some public relations work.

Ironically, Neu learned about the Miryam Award when she was assigned to write about last year’s winner.

“I am honored as a student to receive this award, and I hope it sends a message that students have not only the opportunity, but the responsibility to better this campus for women.”

Award recipients are given $1,000 to designate to an organization that fits the cause of the Miryam Award. Neu wants to give the award money to an organization on campus that deals with women’s eating disorders and is considering the “Diet is a Four Letter Word” program.

Neu, who received UD’s 2004 John E. Riley Award for sustained campus leadership, promotion of Marianist ideals of service and contributions to enhance the quality of student life, participated in a summer immersion program to Cameroon, where she studied violence against women and worked in a women’s center.

The Annie T. Thornton Women’s Leadership Conference has grown in its impact and influence since its inception just four years ago. In March, the conference welcomed civil rights leader Coretta Scott King as its keynote speaker.

The conference strives to empower women by providing resources and skills that will prepare them to be leaders in the 21st century. Its goals are to promote the development and recognition of women’s leadership, to facilitate discussions about critical issues concerning women in the community and to build a sisterhood that transcends race, religion, and socioeconomic status.

Amy Lopez, director of Kennedy Union and conference services, nominated the leadership conference for the Miryam Award. “I’ve been observing this event for several years and watching all the effort and hard work that the committee has put into it and they are very much deserving of that honor,” said Lopez, who has participated and presented at previous conferences.

At the Miryam Award ceremony, several organizers of the Women’s Leadership Conference were recognized, including Debra Monk, Daria Graham, Yemi Mahoney and Steve Herndon.

—Jaimie Guerra

Dan McCray

Award-winning UDRI engineer works to make aircraft repair safer to humans, environment

Dan McCray didn’t invent the wheel. He just found a better way to roll it. McCray, a materials engineer at the University of Dayton Research Institute, discovered how to use an existing product to reduce the hazards associated with bonded repairs to aircraft – while improving the performance and reducing cost. His work has earned him the Institute’s 2004–05 Wohlleben-Hochwalt Outstanding Professional Research Award.

McCray’s research is considered critical by the Air Force, which has sponsored the work, because of concerns over the toxicity of chemicals and processes used to prepare aluminum surfaces for on-aircraft repair, said Roger Rondeau, a UDRI senior materials engineer who nominated McCray for the award.

“State-of-the-art metal surface preparations for adhesive bonding of aluminum alloys primarily consist of anodizing or etching processes using strong acids or bases,” Rondeau said. “These processes typically contain hexavalent chromium and generate contaminated wastewater. They can also be lengthy and complicated processes, requiring a high level of skill and knowledge of chemistry by the person performing the repair.”

For the past several years McCray worked to devise an alternative surface-preparation method using Boegel-EPII, a relatively innocuous pre-bonding solution developed by the Boeing Co. Although the solution was commercially available, there were no identified or documented methods for incorporating it into this type of repair process, Rondeau said. “Applying his expertise in adhesive bonding, Dan devised the pretreatment steps essential to proper bond durability, designed the test matrices and performed testing, reduced all of the data and developed the final process procedures necessary to ensure a high-quality adhesive bond,” Rondeau said.

In addition to writing technical reports and presenting on the subject at conferences, McCray has performed the bonding work needed to return Air Force jets to operation in the United States and Denmark, and is providing training in the new technique to Air Force and Navy personnel across the country.

“His work can provide the Department of Defense substantial savings in maintaining its aging aircraft fleet by reducing the cost of bonded repairs as well as the risks and hazards to maintenance personnel and the environment, eliminating costs associated with disposing of acids and chrome-contaminated wastewater, reducing the amount of time and labor required to perform surface preparations, and increasing bond durability – thereby reducing the amount of rework necessary on bonded parts,” Rondeau said. The process is “not only safer, cheaper and easier to use, but will yield patches that are much more likely to endure over time.”

McCray will be honored at the UDRI awards banquet April 15. Charles Blair, a coatings researcher in the materials engineering division, will receive the 2004 Outstanding Technician award, and Sheila Liskany, an administrative associate in the metals and ceramics division, will be honored as the 2004 Outstanding Support Person.

—Pamela Gregg
Immersion in international learning

Brother Phil Aaron, S.M., has earned a reputation for ruining people's lives, but that won't stop current and former students from honoring him at the Stander Symposium immersion benefit dinner on April 5. When Aaron retires from campus ministry and begins a sabbatical at the end of this semester, he leaves numerous alumni whose lives have been radically changed because of his influence.

“I take no credit or blame,” said Aaron, who has invited and prepared students to undertake immersion experiences in Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Guatemala, Colombia, India and other countries.

With the proper orientation, an international immersion can be “a profound experience that will alter a student's self-identity,” Aaron said. “It changes their whole view of the world.” He once told a parent, who was concerned for his daughter's physical safety in Colombia, “you should be more worried about her head, because it’s going to be changed.” He cautions students, “Don’t tell me you’re going there to help people, because there’s not much you can do to help them, and it’s a bad motivation.”

Aaron is off for an immersion of his own. He will head to New Zealand next winter to work on a sheep farm, having discovered WWOOF, an organization and Web site for “willing workers on organic farms.”

If not quite the retirement he'd fantasized about — living on a mountaintop with a horse, dog and sheep, it’s close. “If I can’t do it full time, maybe I can do it for a while,” said the 72-year-old Marianist who plans to work four hours a day on the farm in exchange for room and board. “I can ride,” the Pittsburgh native said. “And I love dogs. I don’t know anything about sheep.”

The plan is reminiscent of his start in the immersion business, taking a bus from Dayton to Mexico City in 1980, knowing little Spanish and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done. Aaron, then director of UD’s Strategies for Responsible Development, helped and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done. Aaron, then director of UD’s Strategies for Responsible Development, helped and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done. Aaron, then director of UD’s Strategies for Responsible Development, helped and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done. Aaron, then director of UD’s Strategies for Responsible Development, helped and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done. Aaron, then director of UD’s Strategies for Responsible Development, helped and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done. Aaron, then director of UD’s Strategies for Responsible Development, helped and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done. Aaron, then director of UD’s Strategies for Responsible Development, helped and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done. Aaron, then director of UD’s Strategies for Responsible Development, helped and fewer people, to demonstrate to students it could be done.

Giorgio knows that he and Rowcliffe are just two of the unknowable number of students who have been changed through Aaron's influence. “Tracking the work Phil does is like counting fireflies. The people he has impacted are all over the place, acting differently because of knowing him, but no one can tell until they occasionally flare up for all to see.”

—Deborah McCarty Smith
Monday, April 4
Joseph F. Rogus Lecture
4:30 p.m., Kennedy Union east ballroom
Father James Heft, S.M., will address “Catholic Education and Social Justice.”

Tuesday, April 5
Stander Symposium
■ Red Mass, 4:30 p.m., Immaculate Conception Chapel
■ International Cultural Immersion benefit dinner, 6 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom. Tickets ($25 students, $35 nonstudents): 229-2524.
■ Celebration of the Arts, 8 p.m., Victoria Theatre. Tickets ($5): 229-2545.

Wednesday, April 6
Stander Symposium keynote address
3:30 p.m. Schuster Center
Mario Cuomo presents “Values and the Pursuit of Social Justice.” Free, but tickets required: 229-2545.
For complete Stander Symposium events and details, see http://symposium.udayton.edu/.

Thursday, April 7
“Congregations That Get It, Understanding Religious Identities in the Next Generation”
7 p.m., Science Center Auditorium
Panel discussion. See story, Page 3.

Friday, April 8
Faculty meeting
3 p.m., Kennedy Union east ballroom
Reception following in Torch Lounge.

UD Dance Ensemble
Spring concert
8 p.m., Boll Theatre
Additional performance at 8 p.m., Saturday, April 9. Tickets: 229-2545.

Friday, April 15
Dayton Codebreakers
7 p.m., Boll Theatre


Monday, April 18
“Catholics After the Crisis: The Choices We Confront”
7 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom
Visiting professor Peter Steinfels presents the concluding lecture of UD’s “The Wounded Body of Christ: Sexual Abuse in the Church” series.

Wednesday, April 20
“Prisoners Without Trial: Japanese-Americans in World War II”
10:30 a.m. Sears Recital Hall
Historian Roger Daniels’ presentation is part of UD’s Diversity Lecture Series and Holocaust Awareness Weeks 2005.

Booksigning
1:30 to 3 p.m., UD Bookstore
UD authors Thomas Hunt and Monalisa McCurry Mullins will sign Moral Education in America’s Schools: The Continuing Challenge.

Saturday, April 16
Kotchenga Dance Company
8 p.m. Boll Theatre
The World Rhythms Series presents Kotchenga, a West African dance company featuring mask dancers, stilts dancers and drum corps. Tickets ($18 public, $16 seniors, $9 students): 229-2545.

Wednesday, April 27
Last day of classes

Monday, May 2 - Friday, May 6
Examinations
Second term ends after final examinations.

Sunday, May 8
Commencement exercises
10 a.m., UD Arena

Wednesday, May 18
2005 Ohio Forum: Mark Winegardner
7:30 p.m., Kennedy Union ballroom
The Ohio Humanities Council presents the 2005 Ohio Forum featuring Mark Winegardner, author of The Godfather Returns. Winegardner, an Ohio native, is director of creative writing at Florida State University. Free and open to the public.