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## Block Talk (February 1987)

University of Dayton. Student Development

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# block talk



February 20, 1987

## McGinnis Center

### **"Next Time It Could Be You Who Wakes Up To Fire and Flames"**

There were *two arson* attempts made, in our ghetto, Saturday, February 7, 1987. Both fires were started at a door of the house, therefore blocking a possible exit.

Fires in the ghetto have gone too far. Many lives and homes are being put in danger. Our attitudes about fires need to change. When students stand around and cheer fires on they are encouraging other students and many other non-students to create additional fires.

Students are worried about the administration tearing down houses and ruining the ghetto. Yet, with the houses being so close together and old, the ghetto could burn down in one night. We need to protect the area we live in. The following are some suggestions:

1. Organize a neighborhood watch program.
2. Report anything suspicious to the police (Campus at 229-2121 or Dayton at 449-1270)
3. Do not obstruct a fire truck's path or throw objects at the firemen.
4. If you see a fire, do not assume that it has been reported. Please call the fire department (224-9241).
5. If your house does not have a smoke detector ask your landlord to install one.
6. If your house has smoke detectors check them to make sure the batteries still work (one of the houses that caught fire on the 7th had smoke detectors but the batteries were dead.)

We are not trying to preach. We just feel that something needs to be done. If the situation does not get under control by the students then other parties might have to get involved (i.e., administration, police department and the fire department.) It's our community, let's try to work this out ourselves.

**THERE WILL BE A "TOWN MEETING" ON FRIDAY, FEB. 20th AT 3:00 PM TO DISCUSS THIS PROBLEM AND TO TRY TO ESTABLISH A TYPE OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS, PLEASE CALL THE SA OFFICE AT x4444 AND TALK TO SOMEONE IN THE OMBUDSMAN DEPARTMENT.**

— Concerned Students of the Student Association

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## It's Your Community and It's Your Life

Approximately 2,800 students reside in the Ghetto which has boundaries of Irving Avenue, Brown and Stewart streets. Throughout this term beginning January 5, 1987 there has been an increase in dumpster fires and we have had two arson attempts on University houses. The safety of *all residents* when these fires occur is in major jeopardy and fortunately we have averted any injuries and major loss of property to this point.

The administration wants to see the Ghetto develop into a good community where our students can enjoy themselves within a safe environment. We intend to preserve the Housing option of houses for students, however *one fire* out of control can eliminate what we have and to rebuild houses will be financially out of the question.

During the past few weeks students, administrators, police and fire officials have been meeting to develop ideas and programs to help stop fires. But remember, all the programs and monitoring of alleys by police *cannot* stop these fires. It is up to you as members of this unique community to take an active role in trying to stop these fires.

I encourage all students to attend the "Town Meeting" being called by the Student Association on Friday, February 20th at 3:00 p.m. at the McGinnis Center. Information on some of the programs we hope to establish will be reviewed. Also, locations on where these fires are occurring and what residents in these areas can do will be discussed.

I appreciate everyone's effort towards eliminating these fires as we strive together to make the Ghetto a safe place and one of which we can be proud of.

Joseph Belle  
Director for Off Campus House

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## DRIVE WITH CAUTION

The Housing Office and the Student Development Office request that everyone be cautious and alert while driving through the University campus area. Concern for the basic rights of pedestrians walking through the area and obeying stop signs and rules of the road will save lives and hassles with insurance companies. Also keep in mind that people who drive in the area are not as familiar with it as you may be. So drive defensively, watch out for the other guy, and most importantly *never drink and drive*.



## Snow Shoveling

Remember that shoveling your sidewalk from your house to the public walk is the responsibility of the *tenants*. The McGinnis Center has snow shovels which can be checked out with a student I.D. When and if our first major storm arrives, please take a few minutes to shovel your *walk*.

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## FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES 1987-88

- Renewals are not automatic - **you must apply annually**
  - Grants, loans, employment programs available
  - Awards based upon demonstrated financial need
  - Priority given to applications as they are received
  - Applications are available in St. Mary's 202 and in the McGinnis Center
  - Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.
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## UPPERCLASS SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Selection Criteria;
  - Academic accomplishment
  - Demonstrated leadership and service
  - Faculty recommendations
- Full time, undergraduate students may apply
- Value - \$500---\$2,000 per year
- Applications are available in St. Mary's 202 and in the McGinnis Center
- Deadline date to apply - March 15, 1987
- Results announced - May 15, 1987
- Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.



## Feature On . . .

# ROGER BAXTER

*Each month the McGinnis Center Office of Community Relations will use this space to feature people who live in this area and/or make an impact through their concern and service to the extended campus area.*

This month's feature story focuses on Roger Baxter, a City of Dayton Conservation Specialist. A Conservation Specialist is more commonly known as the City of Dayton Housing Inspector. Roger has been working with the City of Dayton since June of 1965 and has been working with Housing Inspection Services since 1967. His territorial responsibility was recently increased to include the area from Main Street and Trinity Avenue to Irving Avenue and Wyoming Avenue.

Roger was born in southern Louisiana near the Texas border in the town of Slagla. His father was a minister. Since his father was in the ministry, Roger's family was always on the move throughout his childhood. This allowed Roger to see many different sights around the continental United States. Roger's mother stayed home and took care of the kids. Roger is the oldest of five, he has one brother and three sisters.

Roger went to high school in Horatio, Arkansas. When school was not keeping him busy he had a job cleaning the only two banks in town. And trust him they did, he "had the keys to both banks". He would clean them during off hours of ten cents a day. When Roger was a senior, his high school career was interrupted by World War II. He went on active duty with the Navy in the Pacific until 1946. During that time he was on special assignment in Okanjauwa, Japan and China. Following this tour of duty the Navy decided that they still needed Roger, but he was able to go to college at the same time.

In 1947 Roger enrolled at Ouachita Baptist University. Roger would graduate from college in three and a half years but during these years he spent every summer in New Orleans in the Reserves on Shore Patrol duty. During this time he would keep himself busy driving the football and band bus. In fact that was how he met his wife, Ruth. She was in the band. Once while driving the band to a performance he decided he "was just going to go right up to her and ask her for a date." It just so happens that the day they went out for the first time was February 14, 1949, Valentine's Day! Just after Roger graduated with a BA in business accounting the two were married in August, 1950.

Roger wanted to work with the FBI but he found out that he did not reach the height requirement. He did not have to wait long for a job prospect, Uncle Sam came calling again in September 1950 for active duty in Korea. He received a three year deferment so he could attend New Orleans Baptist Theology Seminary. In 1953 he received a graduate degree in the Masters of Divinity Program. Shortly after he was called to active duty as a Navy chaplain where he was assigned to report aboard the USS Maury, a geographic survey ship that mapped the ocean floor and set up tracking stations around the world to track missiles and eventually astronauts. It was in May of 1953 that Ruth gave birth to their first of two children, Roger III. Roger III presently is an Air Force officer at Andrews Air Force Base. In May he and his family will be moving to Japan where he will be an assistant supply officer at a US base.

Roger would eventually leave the service in 1957. For the next three years he would be a Texas Youth Minister. In 1960 he came to Dayton where he served as Pastor of Mission Center Work at Bethany Church on Buckeye Street. In 1965-66 he taught every subject except Earth Science in the Dayton School System. From 1965-67 Roger worked as the summer recreation leader and eventually becoming a City of Dayton Recreation Counselor. In 1967 he became a City of Dayton Housing Inspector.

It was not until 1982 that Roger was assigned to the University of Dayton extended campus area. When he first came "the area was dirty and dingy with over 110 illegal rooming houses". Much of the problem was "due to lack of housing inspections", even today some illegal rooming houses exist around the Fairgrounds-Frank Street area. "It is both the City of Dayton's and the University's objective to make this area more habitable and enjoyable. I seek to improve the living conditions of both private and university owned housing. The automated dumpsters were a great addition, but please do not burn them. Most of the people were not here before the dumpsters were put in. They do not remember how it was to have to drag out trash cans every Wednesday morning."

If anyone has any questions regarding their housing Roger is always around the area. Or simply call him at the City of Dayton Housing Inspectionl Services at 443-3877.

## Did You Know That . . .

- Operation V.I.P is warming the Off Campus and lowering heating bills. For more information regarding the Dayton Power and Light's Volunteer Insulation Program, call the McGinnis Center at 229-2047 and ask for Tom.
- Chapter 93 of the Housing Code states that every rooming house must have a "valid rooming house permit issued by the Dayton Housing Inspector in the name of operator for the specific rooming house." That the permit must be protected and displayed in a conspicuous place within the rooming house at all times and shall state the maximum occupancy permitted" to dwell in the rooming house.
- Chapter 93 of the Housing Code stipulates that no house put out, or allow to be put out, any overstuffed or interior furniture on the porch of the house. As of the beginning of November, 1984, citations are being issued, so save yourself a few dollars and bring your overstuffed furniture indoors or store it properly. Only approved outdoor furniture is accepted.
- All university houses are equipped with smoke detectors. These smoke detectors are checked every summer to make sure that they are in working order. Sometimes during the school year the battery goes dead or the smoke detector becomes inoperable. For the safety of yourself and others be sure to check your smoke detector periodically. If you find that it does not work, please contact the Off Campus Housing Office at 229-2531 to let us know.

### McGinnis Center Hours

Sunday — Noon to Midnight

Monday thru Thursday — 9:00 a.m. to Midnight

Friday — 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Saturday — 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.

\*Use of the laundry room during off hours - most of the time you will find open wash capacity. Thursday, Friday, Saturday evenings and any day before 3:00 p.m. is best.

**Block Talk** and its opening edition, *Off Campus News*, are published monthly during the academic year by the University of Dayton Center for Off Campus Community Relations (Off Campus Center), 301 Lowes Street, Dayton, Ohio 45409, 229-2047 or 2531. The Off Campus Center and Student Development Staff welcome your comments regarding the newsletter.

Tom Boyle  
Coordinator, Off Campus Center

Joseph Belle  
Director, Off Campus Housing

Clyde Wisch  
Associate Dean of Students

## CLEAN SWEEP

On Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 a.m., the Student Association and the McGinnis Center Office of Community Relations will kick off its annual spring Clean Sweep at the McGinnis Center. In cooperation with city officials, the Second District Police, and the Brown Street Business Association, there will be a massive one-hour clean-up campaign of the off-campus streets, alleys, lots, and the surrounding area.

Clean Sweep is an organized project to get groups and individuals to clean the UD off-campus area. Last spring 24 organizations, over 600 students, helped out with this worthy cause. Once again, cash prizes will be donated by the Student Association and the Off-Campus Housing Office. The two organizations that involve the largest number of participants will receive \$100, and \$75, respectively according to size. In addition, the two organizations that have the highest percent of participation according to the list of names that was turned in at the beginning of the school year will receive \$100, and \$75. To be eligible to win, all presidents are asked to arrive at the McGinnis Center at 9:30 a.m. to receive their final instructions. Organizational presidents will also be required to sign up their group a week in advance in the SA Office, KU-236.

In conjunction with Clean Sweep, a paper drive for the Volunteer Insulation Program will be going on. Prizes for the organization bringing in the most newspapers will be awarded.

As in the past, most of the clean-up will come from the student body. But a special thanks must go out to the Second District Police Department for their participation. Their active involvement in Clean Sweep goes a long way in showing their good working relationship and friendship with the University and the student body. Also, the Brown Street businesses' donation of non-cash prizes, to be awarded following the Clean Sweep, and their helping hands, are greatly appreciated. In addition, Koogler Suburban Refuse Removal and the Southeast Priority Board must be congratulated for their continued support.

The Clean Sweep will go on RAIN OR SHINE. So come on over to the McGinnis Center on March 21, join in the "sweep" and enjoy juice and donuts following the event.

