



Monday, Nov. 30 marked the end of Stewart Street bridge construction, which was celebrated with a community ceremony where a ribbon cutting was the final step in signifying its reopening. JARED SZECHY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STEWART STREET BRIDGE: New, improved and open

MEAGAN MARION
Assistant News Editor

After 17 months, \$16.5 million and a number of workers and planners, Stewart Street Bridge opened Monday afternoon with Rudy Flyer leading a procession of cars across the way.

City officials, residents, students and other members of the UD community gathered on the bridge Monday for the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Former mayor Rhine McLin, UD President Dan Curran and president and CEO of Miami Valley

Hospital, Mary Boosalis, were in attendance.

Dayton’s assistant director of public works, Steven Finke helped design the bridge along with Richard Perales, UD’s campus planning director. Finke’s grandfather was the resident engineer for the original bridge built in 1912 and Finke had the opportunity to work on the new and improved bridge his grandfather constructed.

Reconstruction of the bridge cost \$15.2 million, but add in the design and the total project cost \$16.5 million, Finke said.

Funding was provided by the Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio Public Works Commission, Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission and the city of Dayton. Ahern and Associates Inc. was the contractor who took charge of the construction, according to Finke. The project was finished a few weeks before schedule.

“This was the city’s project,” said Ted Bucaro, UD’s director of government and regional relations. “But they came to us for input about placement and specific features we wanted to enhance.”

The modern design is fully equipped

with 10 foot sidewalks, a recreation trail and pedestrian plazas at both ends. Additional LED lighting underneath the bridge provides an aesthetic view of the Great Miami River and can even change colors, such as red and blue to support the UD Flyers, Bucaro said.

The city’s new bridge has progressed into a six lane passageway across the river from Patterson to Edwin C. Moses boulevards and brings a modern appeal to downtown Dayton as it sets the tone for

See *BRIDGE* on p.3

weather

(Source: www.nws.noaa.gov)
 Sunny skies make chilly temperatures a bit deceiving as the first December weekend begins.

TODAY

34/20
Partly sunny.

SATURDAY

31/22
Sunny.

SUNDAY

37/26
Sunny.

FINALS MAKING YOU FAT?

Learn to manage food cravings and stay in shape during exams PAGE 5



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Dayton, Cincinnati, Cleveland rank in top 20 most dangerous cities

SARA DORN
Chief Staff Writer

CQ Press's 2009-2010 City Crime rankings were released this November and included Dayton, Cincinnati and Cleveland in the top 20 most dangerous cities in the U.S.

Out of 393 cities, Cleveland came in 8th, Cincinnati 19th and Dayton 20th. The findings are based on six crime categories: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft. The city of Dayton's high crime level sometimes carries over to UD, and often times is the main reason for violence and mischief on campus.

"About 63 percent of our arrests last year were not students," Police Chief Bruce Burt said. "We have indi-

viduals from the Dayton area that come to our campus who are not welcome."

Last year's incident in Garden Apartments on Stewart Street where a student was held at gunpoint found Dayton residents, who were not affiliated with UD, guilty. This is a firsthand example of why Dayton is dangerous and the types of danger residents face: guns.

"The majority of the crime in Dayton is gun violence resulting primarily from the drug trade," Burt said.

Although there have been crimes on campus in the past and Dayton is voted as being the 20th most dangerous city in the U.S., most students feel safe on campus. This includes those who have seen the potential

dangers by leaving campus and heading into the city's streets, but usually these students prefer to stay on campus for safety issues after their experiences.

"I've stumbled through the streets of Dayton alone at night and never felt in danger," said sophomore J.T. Allen, a resident of Dayton's suburb, Oakwood. "But I wouldn't want to do it again."

Students from the other cities on the CQ Press ranking list see Dayton as a haven of safety compared to their hometowns. Although Cincinnati and Dayton are close in rank, sophomore Mike Taulbee, a Cincinnati resident, believes his hometown is much more dan-

gerous.
"Compared to Cincinnati,

Dayton's much safer," Taulbee said. "I've driven through Over the Rhine (a neighborhood in Cincinnati notorious for daily violence) and it's not somewhere I want to be."

For many students, worrying about daily violence on UD's campus, although located in a dangerous city, is not a problem. By staying on UD's campus and not venturing far into Dayton's streets unaccompanied, students can, for the most part, be assured a safe experience free of crime, violence or being held at gunpoint.

"I always feel safe at UD," sophomore Caroline Roberto said. "I've never seen anything bad happen and nothing has happened to me."



Dayton statistics	MURDER	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	BURGLARY
Incidents 2008	34	118	574	482	936	2539
Incidents 2009	32	106	587	458	585	2304
Percent Change	-6%	-10%	1%	-5%	-38%	-1%

Crime Log

The following incidents were reported to the Department of Public Safety on Nov. 14- Nov. 16. This log was compiled by Flyer News from actual police reports obtained from the Department of Public Safety.

Criminal Damaging Nov. 14, 1:05 a.m.
Officer Ryan was dispatched to a Frericks Way residence on the report of a missing door handle. Upon arrival, a 20-year-old female UD student stated that when she left her house at 5 p.m. on Nov. 13, her front door handle was in place, but when she returned at 1 a.m. on Nov. 14, it had been completely removed from the door. Facilities Management was called to replace the door handle, and there are no known witnesses or suspects at this time.

Criminal Damaging Nov. 15, 6:48 a.m.
Officer A. Durian was dispatched to a Lowes Street residence on the report of a chair on fire. She met with a 20-year-old male UD student who reported that he was sleeping when he heard objects being thrown against his bedroom window. Upon looking outside he noticed a chair on fire in his yard. The fire was extinguished by UD police. The student stated the chair belonged to a neighboring house. There are no known witnesses or suspects at this time.

Criminal Damaging Nov. 16, 5:26 p.m.
Officer Ryan was dispatched to a parking lot on the report of criminal damaging. A 21-year-old female UD student stated that she parked her car in the parking lot at 6 a.m. on Nov. 14, and when she returned at 8 a.m. on Nov. 15 she noticed that her passenger side mirror was missing. The driver side mirror had gone missing several months beforehand on UD property as well, but was not reported. The student has contacted her insurance agency.

The CQ Press ranks the most dangerous cities based on these categories listed above. The city of Dayton's information was provided by www.cityofdayton.org.

BRIDGE (cont. from p. 1)

our unique city.
Not only can the rebuilt bridge hold more cars than the previous bridge, it can now handle an increase in traffic and provide safer travel for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians.

The transformed bridge instills a sense of innovation for the city, defining special city landmarks such as UD and downtown.

During the construction, Dayton residents and UD students found new ways to get around the city and adjust as best they could. There were not many complaints about the inconvenience of getting around, Bucaro said.

He claimed the redesigned bridge as a new gateway to the university that will once again allow students the opportunity to walk to sporting events at the UD Arena and Welcome Stadium. It will also make getting home for the holidays easier for those using the highway.

Sophomore Anna Scott from Chicago marveled at the bridge.

"I drove on it for the first time ever and it will definitely be a big help," Scott said. "The bridge being out was not really an inconvenience because sometimes it was easier to get off earlier anyways to avoid traffic. It did take me several tries to find a good route around though."

The Stewart Street Bridge is just one of nine bridges to be replaced in Dayton over a seven year period started in 2005, according to a press release from Dayton's Department of Public Affairs.

"The bridge is another puzzle piece for the downtown plan," Finke said. "It's all fitting together nicely."

SOUTH PARK UMC

- New Horizons Contemporary Worship (casual dress)
- South Park Church - Stonemill and Brown St. (across from UD)
- Beginning December 6th
- Time: 11:30-12:15
- Praise Music
- Coffee Bar
- Children's ministry available
- Interactive worship - (Text the Pastor)



Credit card spenders take caution

Irresponsible card usage lowers credit score, affecting financial, career futures

ALICE BLANEY
Staff Writer

With Christmas creeping up as quickly as ever, students should be careful to make sure they budget their money wisely.

Around this time of year, many students tend to overdraw on their bank accounts or spend more than they can pay for without even knowing it because of a little piece of plastic. What some don't know or may not think about while shopping is that this can highly affect credit scores for the future, said Amy Cline, UD's Day Air Credit Union branch manager.

This is where things get complicated and students could find themselves in a financial mess. The word credit score is thrown around as if everyone knows what it means, but for many students this is not the case.

"I didn't know anything about

credit scores when I got my credit card," said junior Steve Zubritzky, who signed up for a credit card through Target his sophomore year in order to get a discount on a camera. "And I still don't know much about them, even though I probably should."

To sum up it up, a credit score is when someone has extended another person a financial trust. This score is made up of five factors; 35 percent payment history, 30 percent capacity (the lower the credit card balances are in relation to the credit limit, the better the score will be), 15 percent length of credit, 10 percent accumulation of debt in the last 12 to 18 months and 10 percent mix of credit, Cline said. Credit scores can range from 300 to 850 and the higher the credit score, the better. Any score 700 and above is considered good credit, Cline said.

Students often get sucked into signing up for numerous credit

cards because at the time it seems like a good idea either because of free gifts, special offers or prizes. But the short term benefits seem worth it at the time, but having plastic money in the hands of students often leads to irresponsible payments that occur because the physical dollar bills are not seen leaving their hands.

Junior Dan Wallace, a finance and marketing major, signed up for his credit card two years ago because of the incentives of cash-back prizes being offered.

"On my first purchase I got \$50 back in savings," he said. "Every purchase I get a certain amount of rewards. I've had it for two years and saved up to \$100 and just recently redeemed the check for it."

Although it is a good feeling to get a \$100 check in the bank, for big credit card spenders often times this won't last more than one or two weeks. Being in college there are many temptations to ignore money saving tips and spend because using a credit card makes it easy.

One reason it's so easy to overspend is how high some credit limits are. For Wallace, holding his credit card resembles holding a \$4,000 bill.

"Using a credit card is easy because it allows you the freedom to spend as much as your credit card's limit is," he said. "Mine is \$4,000 a month, so you do not constantly have to go to an ATM to get cash out. It's in your hands."

According to Zubritzky, it seems that most college students don't conceptualize exactly how much they are spending.

"People don't really realize how much they are spending, because they're just swiping," Zubritzky said. "It was easier for me to pay for my camera with a credit card, but I'm still paying it off."

Actions that can decrease credit scores include missing payments, closing credit cards, opening numerous credit card accounts in a short time period and borrowing more money than one will be able to pay back, Cline said.

According to Zubritzky, he wishes he had known more about credit scores before he got a credit card. Although Zubritzky does not know what his credit score is, he would not expect it to be very good because he has missed credit card payments before.

A factor not always clear is that a credit score can affect many aspects of one's life. When buying a car, having a low credit score will increase the interest on that car, which increases the amount of money one will spend in total, Cline said. Also, businesses have begun looking at the credit scores of people that they are considering hiring and are normally hiring the candidate with the higher credit, added Cline.

Luckily, there are also many ways to improve a credit score. Some simple steps include making

all payments on time, pay down credit cards and don't close credit cards because capacity will decrease.

For Wallace, even though spending money is easier with a credit card, he makes sure to take responsibility for his purchases and pay the sum, no matter how large, on time.

"I spend a good amount of money, especially paying our cable bill and going to the bars on the weekend, but I pay it off in full every month," he said. "I do this so that for the future I will have a good credit score."

But for those seriously having trouble understanding credit scores or needing help getting out of debt, there are people that can help right on campus at the Day Air Credit Union, located next to the post office. Their loan professionals will sit down one-on-one with students and review credit reports, go through what makes up the credit score and how one can increase a score.

Also, the Day Air Credit Union offers informational presentations that can be scheduled through a student organization. To schedule a presentation for your student organization, contact UD branch manager and director of youth education, Amy Cline. You can reach her at (937) 229-2126, or e-mail her at acline@dayair.org.

Contributions by Anna Beyerle, Stephanie Vermillion

campus watch

DEC. SATURDAY

5 EBONY HERITAGE SINGERS

The department of music presents the Ebony Heritage Singers, conducted by Dr. Donna M. Cox, at 7 p.m. in Kennedy Union Ballroom. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the department of music at (937) 229-3936.

DEC. SUNDAY

6 COUTURE FOR A CAUSE

Get up to 75 percent off retail designers such as Prada, Fendi, Gucci, Longchamp and more. All proceeds go towards Kampaign 4 Koronga, which helps women in Africa start better lives. Stop by Kennedy Union Ballroom from 1 to 3 p.m. For more information on this event, visit the Panhellenic Council in KU 209.

DEC.

7 FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

CAB invites you to the Cincinnati Zoo for the Festival of Lights. Departure is at 5 p.m. in front of the Chapel. Be sure to sign up for this free event in the CAB office, KU 215.

STUDENTS COOK WITH SUSTAINABILITY

KAITLIN BERGER
Staff Writer

The University of Dayton Introduction to Food class, Miami Valley Grown and First Baptist Church are putting together a chili dinner set for Thursday, Dec. 10.

The chili dinner is an outreach collaboration to promote education about growing and consuming local foods and to raise awareness about food justice. Miami Valley Grown is an organization dedicated to promoting sustainability and healthy eating by "connecting local producers to local consumers."

"Miami Valley Grown as an organization wants to promote food justice because food insecurity is a concern in our region, and people who garden can help offset hunger," said Treva Jenkins, the outreach chair for MVG.

UD students have fully processed

and prepared all menu items from scratch. All the produce for the dinner has been donated by local producers such as Mile Creek Farm, The Spice Rack, Turken Farms, KJB Farms, Knollwood Garden Center along with family, friends and associates who are home gardeners. The menu includes vegetarian chili, white chicken chili, cornbread, pumpkin cake and apple crisp.

This collaboration with UD is in line with the university's mission and commitment to social justice and sustainability. The dinner has potential to become an annual event, and Jenkins hopes that it will. Dayton City Commissioner Nan Whaley is expected to be in attendance on Dec. 10. Jenkins is excited and appreciative for the support that the city has given to this event. She also hopes to see the event grow to host more guests each

year.

The dinner is open to anyone and will be held in the dining room at First Baptist Church located at 111 W. Monument St. in Dayton. There is no cost to attend the dinner but there is a suggested \$5 donation per person. All donations will go to the Dayton Area Food Bank.

The dining room sits 150 guests and there is no reservation necessary. Guests will be catered to on a first-come-first-serve basis. Parking is free in the east side parking lot at First Baptist Church.

For more information contact Treva Jenkins by e-mail at trevajl@aol.com or by phone at 937-609-8422. If interested in learning more about Miami Valley Grown, visit their Web site at www.miamivalleygrown.org.

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Professor Mary Kundrat and students Oscar Saule, Adam Von Lehmven, and Matthew Gribowicz work on a bridge project at the innovation lab. MIKE MALLOY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

sudoku

Challenge Level: Easy
Source: WebSudoku.com

				8				
4	3	7	6					
1					2	7	5	
7	8	3		1	6	9		
5		2				3		8
		6	3	2		5	1	7
	6	9	1					5
					5	4	8	9
				7				

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Finals week:
Nothing to get
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With the stress of finals many students look for relief anywhere they can. Usually the first stop is the fridge.

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If ya gotta chew, ya gotta chew

For most stressed out studiers, it's not about what they're eating

that matters- it's the fact that they're eating. Whether the sugars from the food keep you alert or the process of chewing makes you stay motivated to read that extra 100 pages, there's something about it that provides comfort. If it's chewing you want, for less than five calories, it's chewing you get with the simple solution of gum. Now in all the flavors of the rainbow, chewing sugar free gum can give you sugar, keep you motivated and keep your mouth moving

without gaining a pound.

Surrender to your sweet tooth

It just turned midnight and you've been studying at the library for over eight hours. You deserve a trip to The Blend for a giant cookie, right? Of course! But instead of eating your way to a bigger backside, look for alternative, healthier ways to cure your sugar cravings. The new 100 calorie snack packs are a perfect way to get sweets into your system when you need them most. Another

alternative is dessert flavored yogurt from your local grocery store for as low as 80 calories.

Don't let the stress of exams lead to post-exam stress of how to get your jeans buttoned. Eat healthy, get exercise and your mind will respond with no other worries than getting that A you need and deserve!

Learn how to handle all your stressful food cravings and keep your body looking fabulous for the new year at www.flyernews.com.

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Flyer News: How is life on 116 Lawnview treating you?

Julie Ramaccia: Super duper. It's the best location in the Ghetto.

Elise Balaj: I love our cute little red house.

Tracey Horan: And the white trim. A true UD house. It has country charm.

FN: What should everyone know about you or your house?



Roommates: Seniors Tracey Horan, Grace Rodney, Emily Mumm, Julie Ramaccia, Elise Balaj and Sheepie (pictured in front center)

Grace Rodney: We like themed things, such as parties and Halloween costumes.

FN: What kind of theme parties and cosumes have you had?

GR: A luau.

EB: A tacky sweater Christmas party. A patriotic party when Julie left to go to Washington, D.C.

GR: A Mardi Gras party.

TH: Body builder and aerobics instructor party.

JR: And we all wore crazy workout outfits ... And we had a bridal shower for Emily.

EB: It was wedding themed.

JR: I think that's it. We have all next semester.

FN: What is the mascot you were talking about earlier?

All: Sheepie.

JR: She's our sixth roommate. Don't tell Res Ed though.

Emily Mumm: And we hide her around the house. And if you find her you have to rehide her somewhere.

TH: We like challenges.

GR: She's been in the bathtub ... in the bed ...

EB: I've turned the shower on on her.

EB: And she's been in laundry baskets, too.

JR: On the toilet.

TH: I put her in your pillow case one time. That was fun.

GR: We've been doing this since sophomore year. She used to be part of a Christmas on Campus scene until we adopted her.

EM: She's probably pretty dirty. We should probably clean her.

GR: You can do that, Em.

FN: Finish this sentence: When your friends stop by 116 Lawnview, they can always find ...

GR: FOOD.

EM: And crazy outfits.

EB: Themed cakes.

JR: I made a Sheepie cake for my birthday.

GR: We made a beach cake for the luau.

EB: And dumbbells for the workout party. It didn't look that good.

TH: I thought it was good.

GR: It was a valiant effort.

EM: We bake a lot.

JR: We eat a lot too.

EM: I only eat unhealthy on Saturdays.

GR: So Saturdays are let's all eat unhealthy.

EB: Even those who don't eat healthy the rest of the week.

GR: Emily plans on Monday what bad things she wants to eat on Saturday.

EB: She'll be craving curly fries on Monday, and she'll say that's what I'm going to have on Saturday.

EM: I want to go back to Burger King. That's the best. That was like the best experience for my taste buds in a long time.

FN: Do you have any house traditions?

TH: Family dinners.

EB: We alternate who cooks.

GR: But there are always vegetarian meals because three of us are vegetarians.

GR: Me, Emily and Tracey.

TH: What WHAT?

EM: And Sheepie.

EB: We also go to Apple Fest. It's this huge festival with apple butter. Well, we go for the apple butter. There's also animals you can pet and tons of

different food.

EM: And crafts.

EM: We also do Christmas on Campus and Dance Marathon every year. We usually win most spirited team or most spirited dancers.

EB: It goes along with our house spirit. It carries over into our activities.

FN: What is your porch most used for?

GR: People watching.

JR: Yeah we people watch a lot. And we play songs for the people who walk by. So if there's a couple walking by, we play a love song. One time they got mad at us. Like really mad.

FN: Any downfalls to living here?

TH: On any given Friday night, we can hear about four different songs at once because our insulation is not good.

GR: We have paper thin walls. When our neighbors are on their porch, I feel like they are in our bed.

TH: When I do jumping jacks upstairs, Grace thinks it sounds like elephants.

JR: And the floors are really creaky. When you go up the stairs, it sounds like a 500 pound person.

EB: Like movies fall off the TV. I don't think it's even normal.

FN: Any final thoughts or philosophies?

GR: This is a drama free zone.

Positive attitude is big in this house.

TH: We support each other.

EM: There's a lot of love.

GR: We are very blessed to have each other.

JR: I think my roommates are the greatest people in the world.

Nativity collection features 'unprecedented gift'

CHRISTINA CHAFFIN
Staff Writer

Every culture has unique traditions for celebrating Christmas.

"At the Manger – World Nativity Traditions," an exhibit of more than 200 nativity scenes, sheds light on different nations and their distinctive portrayals of the birth of Christ.

The nativities, also known as crèches, are part of the annual Marian Library Gallery - International Marian Research Institute display and will be on exhibit now through Jan. 24 on the seventh floor of Roesch Library.

This season's display will also showcase "highlights" from the collection of Elisabeth van Mullekom, an Australian collector who donated over 2,000 nativity scenes to UD's Marian Library last year, a UD press release said.

These crèches from Mullekom's collection are an "unprecedented gift" and are on display on the first and second floors of Roesch Library, accord-

ing to the library's Web site.

Sister Jean Frisk, assistant for the Marian Library's art and special projects, said Mullekom's collection arrived at UD in 165 boxes last January.

"Mr. Van Mullekom built his wife a little museum called The Nativity House," Frisk said. "When he passed away and she developed Parkinson's disease, she decided to give everything to Father Roten at the Marian Library."

The "Rich and Poor" exhibit in the Marian Library Gallery will feature nativity scenes by artists from developing countries, as well as by artists from wealthier nations.

Kathy Webb, dean of UD's libraries, said the crèche collection is a way of celebrating the coming of Jesus.

"The crèches and the text that accompany each of them provide a unique and specific way of looking at the story of Christ's birth," she said. "Each crèche represents what is important to that culture. The sheer number available at this exhibit means

that everyone will see something that is special to them."

The crèches represent Latin American, Native American, Hawaiian and many other cultures.

This year, there is an emphasis on crèches from Asia, Frisk said.

"The large carved wood crèche from China has very large animals," Webb said. "This represents the Chinese belief that nature has a greater influence and power than man."

Though a variety of cultures are showcased, Webb said the best way to fully understand the nativities is to walk around the library and see the exhibit for one's self.

"I love the Christmas display," senior Kondwani Harawa said. "I love the season because I love giving. And, the display is really beautiful and reminds me of what is really important about Christmas."

Crèches will also be on display in KU and in three other locations in the area: Mount Saint John, Dayton Art Institute and Ludlow Falls.

"Jesus Christ chose to be born in Israel, but he could have been born in any place, at any season, in any culture," Frisk said. "He walked among us then, but he continues to walk

among us today ... The question is: Do we welcome him? Do we recognize him? Do we realize the incredible significance of the Incarnation? The nativities remind us to remember."



Sister Jean Frisk, assistant for art and special projects at the Marian Library, discussed a nativity scene to students Tuesday. The "Rich and Poor" collection of crèches is on display now through Jan. 24. PHOTO BY JACQUI BOYLE/A&E EDITOR

FACULTY IN SPOTLIGHT

Music professors to star in one-act Christmas opera

FRANK STANKO
Staff Writer

Student actors and actresses often showcase their talent and entertain audiences on the University of Dayton's Boll Theatre stage.

Starting today, however, a new cast will be in the spotlight.

Boll Theatre will host three performances of the faculty production "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a one-act Christmas opera about a disabled boy who encounters the Magi.

Gian Carlo Menotti wrote the opera, which was first created for American television. For many years after its 1951 debut, live productions of "Amahl" aired on NBC.

UD's faculty production of "Amahl" has gained local attention. In fact, it was the focus of last Tuesday's installment of "Art Focus," which aired on WDPR, 88.1 FM.

"The production is special for us because it is our first faculty opera and the first performance of this wonderful opera at the University of Dayton," said Dr. Linda Snyder, coordinator of voice performance studies for the music department.

Snyder will play the part of Amahl's mother. She is joined by ten-year-old Sam Burt of Kettering as Amahl. The three kings are Kaspar, played by professor David Sievers, Melchior, played by Dr. Robert Jones, and Balthazar, played by guest William Henry Caldwell from Central State University.

Directing the production is Nelson Sheeley from New York's Lake George Opera. He is joined by UD artist-in-residence John Benjamin, the production's musical director. Members of UD's Op-

era Workshop will appear in the production as well.

Sam Kreidenweis, a senior music performance major, has only about 10 measures to sing, but he's on stage for most of "Amahl." He will play the three kings' page.

Kreidenweis said he is impressed by the stature of the production.

"Obviously, a lot of work has gone into it," he said.

Sophomore Tyler Sarkis, a member of Opera Workshop, also put his skills to work for "Amahl."

Sarkis choreographed a short ballet piece for the production; that is, when he and the other workshop members weren't in rehearsal for their recent performance of "Die Fledermaus." At least weekly, the "Fledermaus" cast met to rehearse "Amahl."

Performances for this weekend's opera will be at 1 p.m. today and Tuesday and 2 p.m. on Saturday. After each performance, the cast and directors will answer questions.

Because three elementary schools are bringing students to the Friday and Tuesday performances, both are sold out. However, tickets may be available at the door.

Seats are still available for Saturday's performance.

Admission is free for UD staff, faculty and students with their university ID. For non-students, tickets cost \$3 for children and \$5 for adults.

"Although 'Amahl' is fairly often performed ... when an arts community like UD gets to put it on, I think the whole community should see it," Kreidenweis said.

For further information on "Amahl and the Night Visitors," call the Kennedy Union Box Office at (937) 229-2545 or the department of music at (937) 229-3936.



Performers rehearsed for "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a Christmas opera about a disabled boy who encounters the Magi. Boll Theatre will host three productions of this faculty opera today, Saturday and Tuesday.

PHOTO BY MIKE MALLOY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

a & e drop
local and
global

"WICKED" TICKETS are available for \$20 beginning at 3:30 p.m. today in ArtStreet Studio E. The performance is 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Schuster Center. There are a limited number, and each student is permitted to buy two with a student ID for each. Students must have exact change in cash. No one will be permitted to line up until 3:15 p.m.

END OF FALL BALL: 8 to 11 p.m. today at Always Ballroom Dance Studio. Admission is \$10 per person, \$5 with a college ID. It is open to all dancers. Non-dancers can also attend for free and watch the dancing. Dress for the event is dressy to semi-formal. To learn more on End of Fall Ball or dance lessons, call Steve Schlautman at (937) 238-2112.

SPENCERS: THEATRE OF ILLUSION: 3:30 p.m. tomorrow and Sunday at the Victoria Theatre. You won't believe your eyes as master illusionists Kevin and Cindy Spencer take the stage. Theatre of illusion is much more than a magic show; it's a powerful theatrical experience that you will never forget. For more information and ticket prices, call (937) 228-3630.

FRIDAY NIGHT FILMS: "Sunshine Cleaning" is playing at 9 p.m. today in ArtStreet Studio B. In this off-beat dramatic comedy, a single mom and her slacker sister find an unexpected way to turn their lives around. Neon Movie ticket giveaways take place at each film screening. To find out more, contact ArtStreet at (937) 229-5101 or artstreet@udayton.edu.

forum

“Free speech not only lives, it rocks!.”

Oprah Winfrey, television talk-show host, 1998

fneditorial

PLASTIC:

WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY

Poor college student. This describes most of us at UD who are working to pay our bills and still swimming in student loans.

It's only normal that those on a strict budget will get excited about receiving a magic piece of plastic that lets you spend more money than you have.

Receiving a credit card with a spending limit in the thousands may seem like a dream come true. But, it's important to use your credit card with caution and not pretend like you've just won the lottery.

Credit card companies know how to influence people to spend more money, so avoid these traps as well. In “Credit card spenders, take caution” on page four, junior Dan Wallace said that he signed up for his credit card for the cash-back savings being offered. Other credit card companies offer airline miles and discounts on dining and gas as incentives for racking up a high bill.

Credit card companies know you will spend more if they offer these incentives. Every time you swipe your card, you may justify it by thinking of the cash you will receive back or the discounts you will receive. But, the incentives are not worth the extra debt.

Only spend what you can afford. A credit card is not a magic piece of plastic that puts more money in your hands than what you've earned. That balance will have to be paid off at some point, so why keep piling up the debt?

It's easy to spend small amounts of money, but it can be a scary thing when you see how much all those \$15 and \$50 bills add up. Even without making a big splurge, it's not hard to accumulate several hundred dollars on your credit card every month.

Getting a credit card can be a good decision if you can use it responsibly. You can build credit which will enable you to take out loans. But only spend what you have. Give yourself a budget and live by it so you aren't suffering from the consequences later. Is that new camera, cashmere scarf or extra drink at the bar really worth all that debt?

We didn't think so.

Hell's angels:

Unwarranted incidents on campus cause junior's heart to race, reiterate need for change



MAGGIE MALACH OPINIONS EDITOR

My life flashed before my eyes.

The squeal of tires, the corrupt look of terror, the slow motion of the vehicle coming closer. And closer.

And closer.

Yes, it was traumatic. I still wake up in the middle of the night, broken out in a cold sweat, reliving the nightmare. Over and over again.

It never goes away.

The worst part of all is that this horrifying experience is not unique to me.

If you are a University of Dayton student, or a student on any college campus, you have most likely been thrown into this perilous situation. I'm sorry. I honestly wouldn't wish it upon my worst enemy.

Biking accidents are nothing to joke about. Ha, one might think, how fast could a biker possibly go?

Answer: too fast.

Given the sudden authority of

two wheels, a pedal and (rarely used) brakes, the average student becomes power hungry. No longer is he satisfied with merely walking to class or getting there at a normal pace. Instead, he insists on recklessly zooming around campus at breakneck speed, drunk off the fact that he can roll out of bed three minutes before class starts and still make it to his seat on time.

All of this is accomplished at the expense of his fellow students.

I am in no way opposed to the concept of students biking to class or biking around campus in general. There is, however, a limit.

And it has been reached.

Since the beginning of the semester, there have been numerous incidents that almost cost me my life or, even worse, my new Uggs.

Bikers shoot out of nowhere, weaving between students and professors alike, with no concern for anyone's safety, including their own.

Just last week I was walking behind Kettering Labs when all of the sudden an upperclassman tore around the corner, forcing me to jump out of the way, barely escaping with my life.

A few days later my roommate and I were innocently walking to class when the same student charged down Stonemill, heading straight for us. Like deer in headlights, we froze, bracing ourselves for the inevitable impact. At the last minute adrenaline kicked in and we stumbled out of the way as he whizzed by.

He didn't hit us, but it was too close for comfort.

Incidents like these are not uncommon. And this is a big problem.

Our mostly flat campus allows for bikers to zip haphazardously to and from academic buildings at an alarming speed.

Even worse is Stuart Hill, the Tour de France of Dayton. Collide with a biker soaring down that peak and expect at least 2-4 weeks in the hospital. You might be a little bruised.

I don't want to discourage people from biking around campus, but I don't think it's unreasonable to ask for a little bit of courtesy. Watch your speed, respect pedestrians and remember to share the road.

It's really not that hard.

With finals coming up I really don't have time to get hit by a bike.

fnstaff

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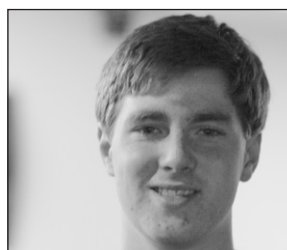
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Word on the street...

Do you think it is smart for college students to have credit cards?



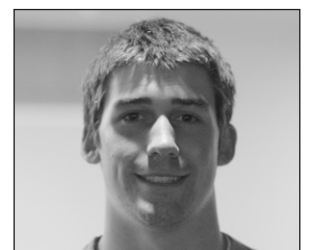
“It's convenient, but not that smart. It makes overdraft a lot easier.”

CONOR VOYLES, SOPHOMORE
PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY



“Yes, because it's a good way for them to establish credit.”

ALEX LOPRESTI, SOPHOMORE
FINANCE/ACCOUNTING



“I get by without one.”

NICK MASSARO, SOPHOMORE
EXERCISE SCIENCE

letters to the editor

‘Vegetarianism’ staff ed innaccurate, morally wrong

Flyer News’ Nov. 20 editorial contains a number of factual inaccuracies and poor argumentation that need be addressed.

A quick Google search for “history of vegetarianism” reveals that it has existed as a lifestyle in eastern cultures since the sixth century BCE.

In more recent memory, the International Vegetarian Union was founded in 1908, and vegetarianism in America has increased significantly since then ... hardly a “hot new thing.” In addition, the terms “carnivore” and “herbivore” are biological terms; they describe what sources of nutrition an animal is biologically capable of consuming.

Humans are omnivores (meaning that we consume a combination of meat and non-meat foods), not carnivores as *FN* claims, and choosing to be a vegetarian does not make one an herbivore as the title of the editorial suggests.

Inaccuracies aside, *FN’s* arguments against being vegetarian for the sake of the environment are inconsistent and fallacious. Specifically, *FN’s* argument about the health considerations of vegetarianism is

completely nonsensical – in the same paragraph, they argue that “being vegetarian has a lot of [health] bonuses” and that “it has a lot of drawbacks.” Arguably, preventing disease and avoiding hormone-laden foods is more beneficial than “a lack of vitamins and calcium.”

On a deeper ethical level, though, *FN’s* position essentially boils down to a code of armchair morality – do what is good, until it is inconvenient.

FN suggests that vegetarianism is disagreeable because it “is a big commitment” with some level of “personal cost.” So taking the little steps like changing light bulbs to save the environment are great, but when it comes to giving up your morning bacon ... well, don’t bend too far over backwards.

The moral stance suggested by *FN* is disturbing, and reflects a shallow, superficial concern for environmental issues. I expect a higher level of argumentation and moral fibre from an otherwise distinguished publication.

NICHOLAS HAYNES

JUNIOR

PHYSICS/PHILOSOPHY

Maine question leaves senior upset about ban on gay marriage

Last month gay marriage was banned in Maine, making it the latest in a series of set backs for the gay rights movement.

Legal rights for gays have been on the downswing since the early 1990s. But rights are not just denied in elections or constitutions, discrimination is more deeply seated.

Despite the fact that many Arabic translators are gay and there is a growing shortage of recruits, a ban still exists on openly gay service.

Housing discrimination based on homosexuality is still nationally legal (14 sates have laws protecting housing rights, but there is no national law protecting these rights). Lawrence King, a fifteen-year-old middle-school boy, was not killed in the Middle Ages or some other regrettable time. He was not killed in a drug deal, or a gang fight, or a car accident. He was killed by another classmate last year for asking him to be his valentine. Something is deeply out of order.

But what happened in Maine is not really about Maine, marriage, or “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” What happened in Maine is really about the basic path gays have been on for a while now.

It is fundamentally a path of assimilation; equally so, it is fundamentally a path of denial. Never in

history were gays considered equal to straights.

In any sense of inclusion, gays were included on the condition they were socially, politically, and economically lesser. Little has changed.

I am not saying that gays need to live apart from straights, but that we have to stop trying to become straight.

Gays who try to assimilate try to reduce sexuality to a “sexual orientation,” and straights often waste little time in picking this phrase up, as if it means something. We are not just our sexuality by any means, but there is a clear distinction between having a sexual orientation and being gay.

Sexual orientation may be the current and politically correct jargon, but facts on the ground prove that no gay person ever uttered the phrase “Mom, Dad, I have a different sexual orientation.”

The question Maine’s marriage ban should provoke is whether or not gays can assimilate to straight culture?.

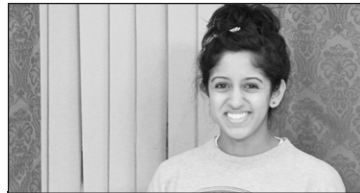
If gays are not straight, why do we try to act like they are? That is my main question.

KURT BLANKSCHAEN

SENIOR

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES/
PHILOSOPHY

Sophomore laments younger generation’s over-sexualization



SEETHA SANKARANARAYAN SOPHOMORE

Eyelashes curled to the sky, glossy highlights without a strand out of place, gleaming French manicure, push-up bra, low-cut shirt with a whisper of lace peering over her chest. This girl is ready to party. Just one problem: she’s a 13-year old, at a classmate’s birthday party, in his living room.

When she walks by in a slim, dark pair of jeans ass-vertising Ed Hardy in gold and rhinestones, my friend leans over and says, with a straight face, “Those are cute jeans, I almost bought them.”

The friend in question is at the ripe age of 20, facilitating the horde of pubescent middle schoolers weaving their way through the house. But all I can do is stare at this girl’s chest in awe and think, “I sure as hell didn’t look like that when I was 13.”

This phenomenon of the over-sexed youth has resurrected itself on a yearly basis in recent times as kids choose from the wide spectrum of “sexy-something” Halloween costumes. But lately, I notice it everywhere. Sometimes it’s impossible to tell how old the girls really are until they open their mouths (“Justin Bieber! Totes!”).

I had a clicking moment over Thanksgiving weekend when I met a spitting image of my eighth grade self at an uncle’s dinner party.

While the youngest children

raged in a Nerf war outside and the adults clustered off to discuss the finer points of the kindergarten soccer team, this girl, somewhere in the middle, stuck by her parents and made her way into the conversation with ease.

Her speech is devoid of likes, ums, and yeahs; she talked eloquently and pleasantly about sports, school and how she got along with her siblings. The adults oohed and ahed at her confidence and complimented her on her academic involvement. And I, like a bonehead, could only muster a “You’re normal! This is how kids are supposed to be! And you look just like I did!”

Here was a girl who could care

At what age do girls start losing their passion, their childhood dreams? I know for a fact not one of those Ed Hardy-bottomed girls at the birthday party had an intelligent thing to say; unless, of course, you count how to format a Myspace page.

Who knows, maybe her world will turn upside down when she hits puberty—I know mine did, and if you ask my friends they’ll probably tell you with a goofy grin that I hit puberty last year. Take it or leave it, there’s a lesson to be learned from a 13-year-old who has it more together than I do most days.

I’m just not through with being a kid. And it breaks my heart to

“Not one of those Ed Hardy-bottomed girls at the birthday party had an intelligent thing to say; unless, of course, you count how to format a Myspace page.”

SEETHA SANKARANARAYAN,
SOPHOMORE

less about how to maneuver a training bra for optimal cleavage. No, her energy was in how hard she would run at practice next week or how well she hoped to do on an upcoming test. She was happy, carefree and comfortable in her own skin. How many people our age can say it and really look like they mean it?

see teens desperately trying to break out of the playground and into the club. I don’t know what it will take for kids to slow down: fewer steroids in the food or less MTV.

I can only hope my potential kids aren’t in stilettos before me.

NEXT QUESTION ONLINE POLL

What are you doing this year for Christmas on Campus?

www.flyernews.com

ourpolicy

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Men's Basketball

Lowery hands out his tickets

Senior guard has been giving back to UD community since injury of February 2009

NATE WAGGENSPACK
Sports Editor

Any student at the University of Dayton knows that going to a basketball game at UD Arena is a unique experience that everyone should have.

That is why what Rob Lowery has done for the past 10 months is so special.

Since injuring his patellar tendon at UD Arena against Xavier, UD's senior guard has been giving people the opportunity to see the Flyers play at home.

Each member of the team is given a few tickets in a 100 level section that they may give to whoever they choose. Generally the player's give their tickets to parents, other family or friends.

For the first 25 games of UD's 2008-09 season, Lowery did just the same. He gave the tickets to his parents, and they came to the

"He drove eight hours and eight hours back," Lowery said. "He was doing 16 hours in a day."

His parents came and watched

has chosen to give back to the UD community and let students use his tickets to enjoy a Dayton game from a new perspective.

The Flyers guard has developed friendly relationships with some people he has shared class with the past two semesters and has offered them his tickets for the home games. For Lowery, it has been as simple as striking up a conversation in class.

"It's just certain guys I've become cool with in class," he said. "We might discuss a few games or a few situations that might happen. My family, they haven't really been coming to the games cause I haven't been playing, so I might as well give to one of my classmates."

The senior Flyer has been giving back to the community of students that supported him for so long last season. Now, as Lowery completes his recovery and prepares to get back into the games (he had his first full practice with the team last Monday), his parents will begin coming back. However, Lowery still might have a ticket or two available from time to time.

"My dad will make every trip, but my mom, she will make some of them," he said.

After handling what he calls the toughest thing he has ever had to deal with in his injury, Lowery is prepared to step back onto Blackburn Court and never look back.

"It's just certain guys I've become cool with in class ... I might as well give to one of my classmates."

Rob Lowery
Senior Guard

games. His dad showed incredible dedication and came to every game, all the way from Lowery's hometown, Washington, D.C.

their son and the Flyers flourish. Lowery was averaging 7.5 points per game and had helped lead Dayton to a 22-3 record at the time.

After Lowery's injury however, everything changed. His parents' commitment to coming understandably waned and they stopped coming to the games. They decided that an eight hour drive was not quite worth it if they would not get to see their son play. That left Lowery with some extra tickets to all the games.

For some games, other members of the team would ask Lowery for his tickets so they could bring more of their loved ones to watch a game. In the Flyers' recent game against Towson, Lowery did just that.

"Last week I gave my tickets to Mickey [Perry] and Marcus [Johnson] cause I wasn't using them," he said.

Sometimes, however, Lowery

SCHEDULE

Men's Basketball

Saturday, Dec. 5 vs. Lehigh
2 p.m. UD Arena
Tuesday, Dec. 8 at George Mason 7 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Friday, Dec. 4 vs. UW-Milwaukee 7 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 6 vs. Wright State 2 p.m.

inside the NUMBERS

2

The women's basketball team has knocked off two nationally ranked programs so far this season. Dayton beat then No. 10 Michigan State in the team's season opener and the then No. 23 Purdue Boilermakers on Nov. 21.

25/24

The women's basketball team added two firsts to the program's history this week. The Flyers are ranked nationally this week for the first time ever. Dayton was ranked No. 25 in the AP Poll Monday. The Flyers were also ranked No. 24 in Tuesday's ESPN/USA Today Poll.

1,000

Marcus Johnson scored 4 points in Dayton's game Wednesday against the Miami RedHawks to give him exactly 1,000 points for his career. He is the 41st Flyer to break through the 1,000-point barrier.

18

The men's basketball team overcame an 18 point deficit with just over nine minutes to play to beat the Towson Tigers this past weekend 74-69 at UD Arena.



Senior Rob Lowery kept things positive and stayed close with his teammates during the 10 months he has been injured. The 6'3" guard has also given back to the supportive community of UD students by offering some of his classmates the tickets he is given for each game. Lowery's knee is just about back to 100 percent, and he figures to give the Flyers a big boost at the point guard position when he returns. RYAN KOZELKA/MANAGING EDITOR

OMG I JST
8 JJ'S N
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Women's Basketball / Volleyball

DIGGING DEEP FOR NCAAS

JACOB ROSEN
Chief Sports Writer

December is one of the most festive times of the year and that rings true for the UD volleyball team, which is now playing in the NCAA Tournament.

The Flyers, fresh off a 29-3 regular season, are playing in Champaign, Ill. in the first and second round matches hosted by 5 seed Illinois.

Dayton clinched a spot in the tournament a week and a half ago with its thrilling 3-2 victory over archrival Saint Louis in the A-10 Championship. The team then won their final regular season game over Thanksgiving break against Ohio University in another contest that went to a fifth set.

A key aspect that sets the No. 23 Flyers apart from the pack is their versatility on offense. Junior setter Kacie Hausfeld splits duties with freshman Hannah Clancy in orchestrating the Dayton offensive attack and knows all the different playmakers on the team.

A six-pack of Flyers receives the most playing time alongside the two setters on offense. That list includes juniors Lindsay Fletemier, Amanda Cowdrey, Becky Novacek and Tiffany Gaerke along with sophomore Anna Eytchison and redshirt freshman Rachel Krabacher.

When asked what makes this team different, coach Kelly Sheffield said, "The number one thing is that our size is very impressive. We have six different offensive weapons and we are not afraid to use them. We have an elite player in All-American Lindsay

Fletemier at the net, but we are not just dependent upon her."

Thursday night's game matched UD against the Horizon League champions from Milwaukee. At just 16-14, the Panthers entered the NCAA Tournament with one of the worst records of the 64 teams vying for the national championship, but won their final 11 regular season contests.

Despite not having much time to prepare for the Panthers, coach Sheffield gave them all the praise for their impressive turnaround and conference championship.

"They are on a heck of a roll, have a lot of good volleyball players on their team, are resilient and competitive and they will definitely fight," he said.

The winner of the contest will then take on the victor between No. 8 Illinois and IPFW Friday night at 8 p.m. for a berth in the Sweet 16. UD has never advanced to the Sweet 16 in school history, but marked that as one of the key goals for this season.

"Towards the end of the season, we were just focusing on small goals at a time," Hausfeld said. "Now for us, we are focusing on just this weekend first. We are very prepared and we have shown a lot of intensity and enthusiasm."

One key to watch for the team will be the availability of redshirt freshman Rachel Krabacher, who totaled 16 kills and 16 digs in the championship victory over Saint Louis. She did not play against Ohio last week due to an ankle injury and already missed 16 matches earlier this season.

Whether she plays or not, the team remains confident about



The Dayton women's volleyball team celebrates after winning a point earlier this season. The team has had plenty to celebrate recently, taking home the Atlantic 10 Tournament Championship and securing a berth in the NCAA Tournament. RYAN KOZELKA/MANAGING EDITOR

their chances for advancing well into the tournament.

"It is hard to play against a team like us because there is no glaring weakness and it is very hard to defend us against the net," junior outside hitter Amanda Cowdrey said.

The madness of December is

in the air just like in March for the men's basketball tournament. With 64 teams playing in a span of four weeks, anything is possible and any team could become Cinderella practically overnight. For the Dayton volleyball team, that conquest begins this weekend as they look to make history.

"This is a resilient group, they just don't give up and they have a tremendous amount of fight in them," Sheffield said while also referencing their recent close victories. "They continue to communicate and listen to each other when their backs are against the wall."

Season of firsts continues for women's basketball team

JOHN BEDELL
Assistant Sports Editor

In the world of sports, things tend to happen quickly. The Dayton women's basketball team is experiencing that firsthand.

The Flyers have had a season for the ages so far, and they are only in their third week. The team has beaten national powers No. 10 Michigan State, No. 23 Purdue, Georgetown and was a last second three pointer away from beating the No. 19 Louisville Cardinals. The loss to the Cardinals is the team's only loss this season as the Flyers are now 6-1 heading into their game against UW-Milwaukee Friday night at UD Arena.

It's been a start that Head Coach Jim Jabir couldn't have scripted any better—almost.

"I guess I'm getting greedy but I wish we could have the Louisville game back," Jabir said. "But I guess I couldn't be happier. When we made this year's schedule, we said, 'Hey we got some great players coming back, let's try to do something.' We gambled in playing this schedule to start the season but it's paid off in big ways and our kids have showed what they're capable of."

The start has also earned the program its first ever appearance in the national rankings. Monday the Flyers were voted No. 25 in the AP Top 25 Poll and were voted No. 24 in Tuesday's ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll.

"It kind of [feels] a little numb," Jabir said of the ranking. "It's something that you work really hard for and we've spent

seven years trying to do this. We have a goal board in the locker room and I put that up there when I first got here. One of the goals was to be ranked in the Top 25 and it's really gratifying. I'm happy for the university—they've put a lot of support into us. And I'm happy for the players and coaches because they've worked so hard."

Jabir is not satisfied with simply being ranked this week.

"It's something that I hope we can continue to improve upon," he said. "I hope we can stay up there for a little while."

Redshirt freshman forward Brittany Wilson shares some of the same sentiments as her coach.

"I'm not going to say that I'm more motivated now that we're ranked," Wilson said. "It's just that I have to play even harder

now to be more successful."

This is a Flyers team that is extremely young with nearly half the roster filled with sophomores. However, this is a team that has played beyond its years and the youth is something the team doesn't think about.

"One thing coach Jabir always mentions is that he doesn't care what grade you're in," Wilson said. "We all came here to play Division I basketball so we all have to play as D I basketball players whether you're a freshman or a senior."

Guard/forward Kendal Ross, the team's lone senior, says she doesn't think of the team in terms of class standing.

"A lot of people bring [the youth of this team] up," Ross said. "But to be honest, it's not like

we're separated by our year in school on this team. I just feel like we're all one big team; it's just that we're not the same age."

Ross and her teammates look to continue the success they've had this season into Friday night against the Panthers of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She said the game plan to beat the Panthers is simple.

"Going into every game, we know that if we want to win, we have to execute our game plan," Ross said. "We also have to play our principles on defense. We feel like we're a team that works hard and we pride ourselves on that and we win games because of that. If we do those things Friday like we have all season, we'll be fine."

Men's Basketball

Returning to familiar territory

Back from tough trip to Puerto Rico, team set to finish out non-conference schedule strong

BRENDAN HADER

Staff Writer

The University of Dayton Flyers men's basketball team is looking to get on a roll with five of their next six games being played at UD Arena.

After its win against Towson last Saturday over Thanksgiving break, UD improved its record to 3-2. Beating Towson proved to be no easy task, however. Down by 18 points with less than 10 minutes to play, the Flyers were forced to mount a furious comeback to win 74-69.

"Basically the comeback showed what we have inside us, just tremendous heart and tremendous effort," junior forward Chris Wright said. "That's the kind of game we've got to play for 40 minutes, not just for nine or 10 minutes at the end of the game. We're going to see on film a lot of things we can get better at to keep us from being in that situation because against some teams you can't just turn it off and on like that."

After playing at Miami (OH) Wednesday, Dayton hosts Lehigh on Saturday. The Mountain Hawks of the Patriot League are 3-3 heading into their game at Columbia on Thursday before arriving in Dayton to take on the Flyers.

Following Saturday's Mountain Hawks matchup, Dayton will travel to Virginia to take on the George Mason Patriots of the Colonial Athletic Association. They were in the Puerto Rico Tip-Off tournament and would have played UD, but lost by one point to No. 6 Villanova after leading nearly the entire game. George Mason has reached the NCAA Tournament two out of the last four years, including the memorable Final Four run as an 11 seed in 2006. They played the Flyers at UD Arena last year, a game Dayton won 66-62.

UD will continue to run much of its offense through Wright, who is averaging just over 16 points and nearly eight rebounds per game. He poured in 20 points and nine rebounds to help the Flyers come back over Towson last week. Flyer fans should be encouraged to know he was 10 for 11 from the free throw line (the team shot almost 73 percent), an area which Dayton has struggled with in recent years.

"I've still got to work on other parts of my game, not just my shooting," Wright said. "I'm just trying to get my teammates involved and trying to rebound well and spread the floor because that's what I do well. But I am feeling more and more comfortable [at the line]. The more you get up to the line during

the game, the more comfortable you get."

Wright has had plenty of help this year. Sophomore Chris Johnson has emerged as a threat at all spots on the court and has been an aggressive rebounder. He is averaging over 15 points and seven rebounds per game. Fellow sophomore Luke Fabrizio is third on the team in scoring, averaging 10 points per game and shooting nearly 50 percent from three point range.

Students should have an easier time getting to the arena Saturday night now that the Stuart Street bridge has opened. The days of detours and back roads are over, and even the players are excited about it.

"The bridge being done is huge," Wright said. "Now you don't have to drive down the back path where sometimes, especially at night, you can't see what's going on back there. I'm glad it's back."

12/5

2 p.m.

know the foe

VS. LEHIGH MOUNTAIN HAWKS

2009 Record: 3-3

Conference: Patriot League

Key Player: C.J. McCollum 6'3" freshman guard | 14.3 ppg

Mockable feature: Junior center David Safstrom stands an intimidating 7'1" but only managed to grab three rebounds last season.

"UD wins, but by less than they should. London Warren scores in double figures"

—Nate Waggenpack



Sophomore guard Paul Williams drives to the basket past a Towson defender during the Flyers' game over Thanksgiving break. Dayton was able to come back from 18 points down to beat the Tigers in dramatic fashion. Williams hit one of several key 3-pointers late in the game and has been a major contributor for Dayton. KELSEY CANO/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF