The road to success is anything but easy, involving twists, turns and many barriers. For 2008 UD graduate, Vera Crowl, that road was blocked for 30 years.

For 30 years, Vera Crowl struggled with drug abuse and alcoholism. In 2008, she graduated and is currently working on her master’s degree in community counseling, which she plans to receive in 2011.

But no matter how great her triumph over addiction feels, Crowl will never forget those traumatic years in her life where her thoughts focused on surviving one more day, not graduating college. What started out as any college student’s definition of “simple fun” turned into anything but.

“I started drugs in the ’70s when it was the hippy era and everyone did it,” she said. “Sure, it’s fun. It was fun when I started, but it will get you. Everyone thinks, ‘No I’m better than that,’ but no we’re not. It’s Satan in a bottle, Satan in a spoon or Satan in a capsule.”

After her addiction developed in 1970, success to Crowl meant finding her next fix, scavenging for food and watching silhouettes to keep safe because where she spent her days, it was dark all the time. She was homeless and alone.

“There’s so little scarier than homelessness. I’ve had to fight, I’ve had a gun in every orifice of my body,” she said. “I remember the first time I ate out of a trash can distinctly. I knew it would make me sick, but I was so hungry I had to in order to survive.”

During much of those 30 years, Crowl didn’t realize she wasn’t alone. While there may have been no visible presence, the sheer fact that she had already survived 25 years living in the streets made her realize Jesus was watching her. Knowing He was there made her pathway to recovery a bit more clear.

“I realized I knew who was taking care of me and I constantly cried, because I didn’t deserve it,” she said. “I was by myself except for Him.”

See Blessed, p. 3

Students have an opportunity to see if they have what it takes to be the next UD tradition and mascot, Rudy Flyer.

The role of Rudy is open to any college student’s definition of “simple fun” turned into anything but.

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See Blessed, p. 3
Fraternity spreads love in song

University of Dayton’s Phi Mu Alpha sinfonia delivered singing valentines to about 20 students on Sunday.

The musical fraternity’s choir sold the valentines for $5. Students were able to order the gift for their special someone and the Phi Mu Alpha sinfonia brothers surprised the recipient on Valentine’s Day by singing one of five songs: “Serenade to a Girl,” an original Phi Mu Alpha sinfonia composition; “My Girl” by the Temptations; “The Longest Time” by Billy Joel; “For All My Life I Can’t See Me Lovin’ Nobody but You” by The Bee Gees; “Happy Together” by The Turtles.

The men were dressed in suits and delivered the song, as well as a rose to the receivers unexpectedly at their home.

“I was slightly embarrassed,” graduate student Colleen O’Grady said. “It’s the second year my friend Trisha’s done this for me, and I was surprised.”

Some of the brothers surprised their own girlfriends with a serenade.

Some male students were delivered a valentine by the brothers as a joke.

“Well, they sang it in tune,” junior Anthony DeGregorio said about his valentine that was a gift from one of his male friends.

The men sung DeGregorio “Serenade to a Girl.”

The fraternity raised $100 and the brothers found it to be a great success.

“It was a success both in terms of fundraising and in terms of making people happy on Valentine’s Day,” said junior Josh Cain, who delivered a song to his girlfriend. “We put a lot of extra effort into it this year and I think it paid off.”

The Phi Mu Alpha sinfonia musical fraternity delivered singing valentines to students all over campus this Sunday to celebrate the holiday.

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...and make a fool out of myself with the satisfaction of knowing that my identity is a mystery."

Those interested should bring proof of enrollment at UD (current class list or letter of acceptance for incoming freshmen), student ID, insurance information and comfortable clothes. Candidates will be moving around and physically acting out the character of Rudy.

For more information contact Andrew Gerbetz at agerbetz@gmail.com.

**BLESSED**

(cont. from p. 1)

In 2001, five years after her revelation, she overcame her addictions. This year she will not only be one year from completing her masters, but on Feb. 25, 2010, Vera Crowl will be nine years sober.

Although her journey was tough, and the fight to stay substance free was painful, today Crowl's life motto is "I'm blessed all day, every day, no matter what and nothing else matters."

With everything she's been through, Crowl has no regrets for her past, because it brought her to this current, blessed stage in life. "What does get to her is imagination," she said. "I want everyone to see the good that can come. I don't want anybody to go through what I did. I would rather take your pain than have you go through it, because I know I can do it, but you may not be able to. You might die. I want all of you to stay strong and be what they were put here to be."

To get help with any substance abuse problems, contact UD's ADAPT organization which helps students by providing information and help on reducing usage and overcoming the barriers of addiction. Counseling services are also offered in Gosiger Hall.
Opera star brings 50 years of experience to campus

George Shirley played the part of Gabriele Adorno in “Simon Boccanegra” at the Metropolitan Opera in 1964. The opera singer will share his experiences with UD this week. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY GEORGE SHIRLEY

FRANK STANKO
Staff Writer

The University of Dayton will host two master classes taught by renowned tenor opera singer George Shirley at 8 p.m. Wednesday in Sears Recital Hall. Both classes, part of the Master Teacher Series in Voice, are free and open to the public.

Shirley, a professor at the University of Michigan, will bring the experience of nearly 50 years as a performer to UD.

In that time, he has performed at several opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, where he sang for 11 years. Shirley also became the first African-American to teach high school music in Detroit.

“This was a time when music education in Detroit was second to none in the country,” Shirley said. “I just came along at a time when old barriers were slowly beginning to be pulled down.”

Shirley began teaching at Miller High School in Detroit while still studying at Wayne State University. After graduation, he continued teaching at Miller until he was drafted.

The experience led Shirley to become the first African-American to join the United States Army Choir.

Dr. Linda Snyder, a UD music professor who invited Shirley to come to campus, said he has much to offer students.

“Mr. Shirley is an eloquent and inspiring speaker, especially about being a musician and a minority, about teaching and mentoring and about striving to make our best contribution to this life and this world,” Snyder said.

Shirley said he hopes “to express ideas … in a manner that may hopefully be stimulating and supportive of what UD faculty have already conveyed to their students and to hopefully articulate a new concept or two that may prove of value in the pursuit of technical and artistic growth.”

In his career, Shirley has sung in numerous operas and has had a few close encounters with legends.

“I was placed in the cast of [Giuseppe] Verdi’s ‘Simon Boccanegra’ in the last few days before the opening due to the cancellation of the tenor originally scheduled to perform the role,” he said. “The Met had to cobble together a costume for me.”

He said he met Italian opera singer Renata Tebaldi during his experience.

“As I wobbled my way toward center stage where sat the great Renata Tebaldi, I opened my mouth and sprayed her with a considerable mist of saliva,” he said. “I thought, ‘I’ve just spit all over Renata Tebaldi.’ She was so sweet; she just smiled and didn’t even wipe her face.”

Shirley will bring all of his experiences with him to UD.

He said he hopes to reinforce basic ideas students have learned before as well as offer fresh insights.

“I would wish for each individual to leave the stage excited about their potential and more determined than ever to perfect their artistry and respect the demands that musical performance entails.”

Go to http://leesahaapapuro.com/blog/ to see what times Haapapuro will be in Studio D to assist participants.

Written instructions will also be posted so those who arrive while Haapapuro is absent can still create worry dolls.

Byrnes said she is excited for students and others to attend this art installation.

“They will get rid of all their worries, at least for a little while, by making something that will contribute to a giant work of art,” she said. “Also, you don’t have to have a lot of technical expertise to get involved.”

Haapapuro believes that it will be important for students to attend this workshop and become something larger than themselves while taking a break from the stresses of their days.

“It could be cool to follow the well known ‘Lion King’ saying, ‘hakuna matata,’ and just relax for a while,” she said.

SARA GREEN
Chief A&E Writer

As midterms approach, many students start spending more time studying and less time relaxing.

Artist Leesa Haapapuro, along with ArtStreet, presents “Muñecas Quitapenas,” an open studio where participants can create worry dolls to relieve them of their anxieties.

This workshop will be open now through Feb. 26 in ArtStreet Studio D. A closing ceremony and reception will be held 1 to 4 p.m. Feb. 25 in Studio D.

A worry doll is a piece of artwork made out of pieces of paper, scraps of cloth, colored string, ribbons and wire.

Students can write an anxiety they want to can be the artist.”

Junior mechanical engineering major Beth Schmackers said she has not had many opportunities to participate in the visual arts and is interested in this workshop.

“It’s neat that you can be part of the exhibit and help create it,” she said.

Supplies to make the dolls will be available in Studio D. During the hours posted, Haapapuro will instruct participants and help them with their creations.

Leesa Haapapuro, a sculptor and instructor in Dayton, explores an artist’s place in the world and the boundaries of form through her various projects. Haapapuro is hosting an open workshop now through Feb. 26 in ArtStreet Studio D. At the workshop titled “Muñecas Quitapenas,” which means “No Worries,” participants can create worry dolls to relieve their stress and anxiety. PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY LEESA HAAPAPURO

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Local artists collaborate, present diverse exhibition

EMILY WOLFGANG
Staff Writer

The Victoria Theatre Association collaborated with local artist William “Bing” Davis of EbonNia Gallery for the sixth annual exhibit, Visual Voices.

According to victoriatheatre.com, Visual Voices is “a visual arts tribute which identifies, celebrates and preserves the legacy of the many African-Americans who have made, or are making, significant contributions to the Miami Valley community.”

The exhibit features a variety of pieces from oil paintings to black and white photography on canvas to three dimensional sculptures.

“Visual Voices represents 21 of Dayton’s most gifted African-American artists and is itself a legacy of the rich African-American history that resonates throughout this city,” said David Brush, education and outreach manager of the Victoria Theatre.

“This year’s collection represents the largest collection of individual artists in the history of the exhibit.”

Davis contributed “Vitalah: After the Laughter,” a 30 by 30 inch collage, to the exhibit. The abstract piece is visually dynamic with bright yellow, purple, blue and red, as well as two black hands that are held open in the center. Davis’ work, which includes a variety of media from acrylic and oil pastels to clay and mixed-media, is featured in collections across America, as well as France, England, Japan, South America and Africa.

Artist Curtis Barnes, Sr. contributed “Obama,” a large oil painting. The piece is a large, colorful abstract of President Barack Obama’s last name written repeatedly. Barnes is an artist, scholar and community activist who first taught in the Dayton public school system, and later as an art professor at Sinclair Community College.

Davis and Barnes’ works are just two of the many pieces that make up the exhibit.

“Visual Voices is now in its sixth year here at the Schuster Center, and what continues to be striking about it is the variety,” Brush said. “There are representatives of nearly every major medium and every style of contemporary and classic art.”

Visual Voices is on display 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. now through Feb. 28 at the Schuster Center. Admission is free.

“The great thing about Visual Voices is the artwork you’re seeing was created not by artists throughout the country but by your neighbors and friends and community members,” Brush said. “This greatly helps to foster the arts in Dayton. College students can experience a great deal of this history through this powerful exhibit.”
“The underlying tone, however, is the spirit of UD that every alumnus can relate to, and every future student will identify with. UD people define UD life from the top of Stuart Hall to the depths of the Ghetto. Long live UD and enduring change.”

—Daytonian 1981

**Timeless Traditions**

It began when Fr. Leo Meyer bought 125 acres for $12,000 in 1849. It held through the Great Depression, expanded when women were admitted and improved when segregation took a back seat to equal education. It remained through the ‘60s riots and the ‘80s perms, the ‘90s couch burnings and the 2009 Pub closing.

We’ve all sensed it and experienced it—the feeling of camaraderie and togetherness. It’s not easy to translate into words, but we all know it’s there. It’s there because we made the same choice in college education. It’s there because we can all relate on some level. It’s there because we’ve had countless shared experiences, yet enough different ones that we can still learn something new from one another.

It’s that feeling that’s been around for decades and has flowed through thousands of students. It’s amazing to have that same feeling described in 100-year-old Daytonian yearbooks and seen in 100-year-old photos. So much has changed, but it’s funny how that feeling has stayed so much the same.

**UD’s Beginnings**

Fr. William Joseph Chaminade decided it was time to bring his Society of Mary to the United States. Fr. Leo Meyer volunteered to be the first Marist priest to work in the U.S. when a cholera outbreak in 1849 took the lives of priests at St. Xavier College in Cincinnati.

While in Cincinnati, Meyer learned about some land for sale in Dayton and pursued purchasing it. Dewberry Farm, 125 acres with barns, storage, a vineyard house and a mansion, was for sale by John Stuart for $12,000. Meyer offered the selling price and Stuart accepted, but there was one problem: Meyer didn’t have $12,000.

He told Stuart that he would pay in $1000 installments for 12 years, which Stuart agreed to. In return, Stuart was given a medal of St. Joseph for good faith.

Meyer decided to name the land Nazareth. Bro. Maximin Zehler and two other priests joined him in opening the first American Marist school on Nazareth, soon to be named St. Mary’s School for Boys. Fourteen students continued Stuart’s good faith by enrolling at the priests’ new school.

The moment that land was purchased and a school was established,

**The Early Years**

Although the 1860s brought national economic struggle, the new school found itself with heightened enrollment—from 60 to 147 students in three years—and fiscal stability.

The family of students grew stronger through the destruction of their mansion by a December 1855 fire, according to the “History of UD.”

Shortly after, Bro. Zehler raised funds to build St. Mary and St. Joseph Halls and other buildings for his students so they could become an even tighter family in an expanding school.

In 1878, St. Mary’s School for Boys became a growing St. Mary’s College. Degrees, class level designations and educational departments were created, respectively, over the next 25 years.

The family came together in 1913 to “open doors, pantries and hearts to the victims of the worst natural disaster to strike Dayton,” the Great Dayton Flood, according to the “History of UD.”

Since St. Mary’s had “its own spring water, infirmary, electric light and heating plant, and laundry,” they knew they could help those less fortunate. Eight hundred Dayton residents and refugees at the Miami Valley Hospital went under the care of the students and faculty. According to the “History of UD,” “While the accounts of the service rendered during Dayton’s time of greatest need provide a glimpse at the early history of the university, they give us a more important look at the level of service expected of those who became members of the University of Dayton ‘Family.’”

**A Time of Progression and Complication**

In 1899, the school officially became known as the University of Dayton and offered only college-level courses. Unfortunately, the Great Depression forced hundreds of students to leave the university, putting enrollment at pre-World War I levels.

Students were no longer the age of children, but weren’t yet adults, and the post-Depression era made this difficult for them.

They wanted to be heard, which never happened before, so students started newspapers, WVUD radio station and other organizations. Some formed the Student Activities Committee “to regulate social programs of the year for the students,” according to the “History of UD.”

The university’s populace expanded in 1935 when UD President Tredtin introduced the concept of coeducation in Catholic schools, explained the “History of UD.”

Women were first segregated into the College for Women, but that closed in 1937 when all courses became open to both genders.

The feeling of UD during the time of World War II reflected that of the U.S.—scared and in need of preparation. Students wanted to live the full college life, but they knew that they were going to be involved in the war. The attack on Pearl Harbor changed UD life. A large amount of students were sent to war and an Army Specialized Training Program brought unfamiliar students to campus.

UD president Elbert told alumni “that the spirit of UD was still alive, despite the decidedly military flavor of the activities on the campus,” according to the “History of UD.”

Racial issues on education surfaced nationally, but UD was known for its lack of segregation with the enrollment of black students in the later 1930s and early 1940s. With a new variety of students—women, soldiers and blacks—UD incorporated a new meaning for family.

The UD spirit of new acceptance and collective sadness while awaiting the return of fighting men ended. Enrollment swelled, but war veterans were troubled by their confined dorm life.

UD, like the U.S., was relatively calm throughout the 1950s. The Spirit Committee was created for campus enthusiasm. First-year students were welcomed with handbooks about dorm life and interesting Dayton locations, as opposed to hazing before the war. Academics and religion were in the forefront for student life and the feeling around the university was quiet, content and comfortable.

Then came the ‘60s.
The 1960s

**UD enrollment reached an unprecedented high of 6,800 students in the decade’s first year. In 1961, a new dormitory, named Marycrest for the location’s altitude, started developing. Three years later when Stuart Hall was built, the campus spirit had transformed.**

Students wanted autonomy at UD. They wanted to be in control of their own lives and didn’t want to continue following authority figures like they had in the decade before.

Their takeover began in the residence halls when two students became head residents in Founders, leading to near anarchy. Women housed in Marycrest asked to have more say in their living situations. When two students housed in Marycrest asked to have more say in their living situations, the administration deemed ROTC voluntary.

**Skirmishes with non-student neighbors escalated and military/anti-military tempers among students flared. President Roesch advised UD’s faculty “that the viewpoints of the students must be heard. [But] they have no right to trample on the rights of others or defy civil laws and needed guidance. The faculty tried to stay out of the internal struggles of the student body, and the administration tried to listen to the students and oversee their actions.**

However, as seen with Keefe, the spirit of the campus in the 1960s was conflicted. Students wanted complete freedom compared to the previous decade. But with the Vietnam War looming over them, they didn’t know what to expect and needed guidance. The faculty tried to stay out of the internal struggles of the student body, and the administration tried to listen to the students and oversee their actions.

**In the 1960s, football games brought hundreds of students and fans together. In a time near the Great Depression, the Commerce Club was a way for students to gather and learn about the outside world. Social life also consisted of monthly events including dances, student plays and the Band Club concerts.**

A large piece of creating that UD-loving feeling came with the 1964 origination of the Order of Moot. The Order opened its doors to alumni and friends of the university dedicated to UD. Past students from across the country joined the Order of Moot to share in its secret meetings and activities. They discussed all things UD and communicated their interconnections through shared UD love.

The 1960s brought partying and mayhem. Homecoming weekend was called the Sixty-Hour Party and played as an excuse for plummeting grades and throwing parties.

**The Senior Comment from the 1974 Daytonian shares the great memories students had from “block parties with bonfires, rallies, concerts, the NCAA and streaking.”**

The 1988 Daytonian discusses experience. Students had to balance work and play, academic and social. The Pub was a student hot spot, with 8 p.m. starting a completely new part of the day. “This is no Brown Street bar; there are no sticky floors, huge beer-spilling crowds, fights, or hill rats without pants . . . The Pub is the best place to socialize on campus.”

Over the past 160 years, not too much has changed. Students have made men’s basketball their number one sport instead of football. Dorm living may consume fewer years, but the same idea continues in student neighborhood housing. Phonographs have changed to iPods, typewriters to laptops, and just living among one another for the full four years created a tight bond among students.

**The Spirit Committee energized UD events. They held journeys to Cleveland and Athens, Ohio, on the “Dayton Flyer Special” train for football games and continued the traditions of UD years prior.**

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GRATITUDE:

EDUCATION MAY SEEM LIKE NO BIG DEAL, BUT IN REALITY IS PRIVILEGE

Skipping class to start partying earlier, squeaking by with minimal effort for a passing class grade, Facebooking the full hour and 15 minutes of class. Oh the college life, right?

Unfortunately for many college students, not just at UD, but nationwide, that is true. With social life being such a priority, the true value and worth of education gets left in the dust. While being with friends is a necessity, having the opportunity to receive an education is a blessing that shouldn’t be wasted.

For Vera Crowl, education was the one thing that took her out of a life of alcohol and drug abuse and gave her something to live for other than her next fix. Education means something different to everyone, but regardless of the meaning, it is a gift to be able to work toward future success to achieve your goals.

In the U.S., there are many who are not fortunate enough to graduate high school. For some it is the lack of financial means, for others it is a lack of parental support. Either way, those who can’t graduate are much less likely to find a job and means to survive in the future. Studying at UD is a blessing.

When looking at third world countries around the world, skipping a class for the pleasure of sleeping in or going to the mall is unheard of. Yes, students may skip class, but for them it’s more often than not because the student or family member is sick with disease. And that skipped class would almost never be a college course. In third world countries, making it to an education level of high school would require money, which is hard to come by for many.

While those who never make it to elementary school, high school or college may be less educated than those of us fortunate to study at UD, they have most of us beat in one aspect. Just like Vera Crowl found every day in school a blessing, those not fortunate enough to attend school would never let a hard test or a 20-page paper keep them from valuing the blessing of education.

Inspiration:

Fallen Olympian serves to motivate athletes, reminder to work toward accomplishing goals

It was tragic in every sense of the word.

On Friday, Feb. 12, 2010, Olympic luger Nodar Kumaritashvili was killed after crashing during a training run. It was only hours before the start of the opening ceremonies of the Olympic Games.

Kumaritashvili, who was supposed to compete this past Saturday, was only 21.

The situation is cruelly ironic; imagine working your whole life for something only to miss it by such a short window.

I have been a runner for 10 years and while I am admittedly not in contention for the Olympics anytime soon, I have worked my way through countless goals.

Recently, I completed my first marathon, something that taught me a whole lot about achievement and perseverance.

That, however, pales in comparison to the hard work and dedication of Olympians.

I can’t imagine losing all of that in one moment.

As an athlete, I seek inspiration and motivation from whatever sources possible. You can’t achieve these goals with pure athletic abilities alone.

Kumaritashvili’s story is tragic, but that doesn’t mean he should be forgotten. Use him as inspiration to push yourself, to not let age or any other limitation stop you from getting what you want.

I was told that I couldn’t complete a marathon or else I’d risk never running again. I did attempt the marathon and, thankfully, I successfully finished it, but I know I couldn’t have done it without having the influence of other athletes upon which to reflect.

Now as I start to train for marathon number two, I look upon people like Kumaritashvili to remind me to keep going.

To be perfectly honest, I had never heard of Nodar Kumaritashvili before Friday night; I never heard of Nodar Kumaritashvili before Friday night; I never heard of Nodar Kumaritashvili before Friday night; I never heard of Nodar Kumaritashvili before Friday night; I never heard of Nodar Kumaritashvili before Friday night; I never heard of Nodar Kumaritashvili before Friday night.

To be perfectly honest, I had never heard of Nodar Kumaritashvili before Friday night.

I think that most of the world knew him. That does not, however, make his story any less influential.

I try to see the glass half full and while I am in no way trying to claim that Kumaritashvili’s death was fortunate, I believe that it shouldn’t be in vain.

I look at Kumaritashvili as someone who is my age, yet who accomplished so much. If he can do that, what is stopping me from beating my previous marathon time, or even challenging myself to do more?

Kumaritashvili’s untimely death is just another reminder that life is short. Don’t wait to try to achieve life goals. While most students on campus celebrate their 21st birthdays with parties, I woke up at 3 a.m. to run a marathon.

Do I regret missing my inaugural weekend at the bars? Not one bit.

If anything, I can’t wait to do it again. One thing all athletes share is the desire to physically test the limits. Kumaritashvili did this or else he never would have made it to the Olympic Games.

While London 2012 is not written in the stars for me, I do have aspirations to become a stronger runner.

And people like Kumaritashvili? Thanks for helping me along the way.
Cheers to Pub reopening, changes needed to make it last

It’s a wonderful thing that KU Pub has reopened. That it did is a testament to how UD students can pull together and make their voices heard when faced with issues they truly care about; according to a recent Flyer News article, over 4,500 students and alumni joined a Facebook group called “Save the KU Pub.” And everyone I’ve talked to said that when it reopened, the place was packed. I feel really good about that.

But I’d feel a lot better if I knew the Pub was going to stay open. Unfortunately, I’m afraid that unless we make some changes, in three months we’ll end up in the same place we did three weeks ago.

The reason I’m afraid of this is that I don’t think the mass movement to get the Pub reopened has in any way changed the conditions which caused it to close in the first place: low patronage and high maintenance costs which made continuing to operate untenable from a business standpoint. And, despite the initial interest, I’m not sure that has really changed.

Sure, the place was full on the first weekend. But what about the second weekend, and then the weekend after that? After the initial surge through the reopened doors, can student interest in the Pub be sustained?

It’s often said that we don’t know how much we value something until it’s gone. What that also says, though, is that we failed to fully appreciate what we had before we lost it.

And when one really thinks about it, the problem of the Pub’s empty seats boils down to the fact that it doesn’t really offer anything other local bars like Miano’s, Tim’s or the Fieldhouse don’t already have: karaoke, trivia, dancing and wider selections of draft beer.

Moreover, vast quantities of cheap (free) beer are available at student houses on any given weekend. The Ghetto is, more or less, a giant all-you-can-drink special with no cover charge. And what bar in the world can compete with that by selling booze alone?

Conducting business as usual at the Pub will eventually put us in the exact same position as before. In order for the Pub to work, its management is going to have to get creative and change the business model to provide unique amenities which no other establishment can.

I will admit to an ulterior motive because I play guitar in a rock band on campus, and I think it would be incredibly cool if UD student bands, comedians and other artists got a chance to play there regularly. We have a wealth of talented student performers: the musicians who play at Thursday Night Live, a first-class improv comedy group in On The Fly, a number of rock bands playing both covers and original music.

Indeed, the times when I’ve seen the Pub the most crowded have been when a band or other performance has drawn people there. We have the makings of a great bar with all the trimmings, right in the middle of campus. The Pub might even be the most under utilized space at UD, given the potential it has that isn’t used.

For the Pub to work, it can’t just be another watering hole – it must be our watering hole. If we continue to operate it as we usually do, then we will only see it closed down again. But if we creatively rework it into a place where students can share their best art and music and experiences with each other, then we can turn something good into something great.

DREW MORRISON
SENIOR
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Opinion columns prove that students need to stop complaining and start doing

I really appreciate the Flyer News. Think about it, a student run newspaper to fill us in on what is happening on campus, current student concerns; it allows to voice our opinion, it keeps us up with our way?

For all of you who do actually reach out to those around you, who see someone crying and give them a hug, who ask how people are doing, who check on people, who do things without being told, I applaud all of you! You deserve credit for all that you do.

There are more complaint articles than ones that praise. I think putting more positive articles about the good things could benefit the whole community. We should not have to wait for a complaint article about community to start acting like one. So if you have a complaint, start acting, lend someone a hand, go to a random event and learn about the people there, become better-rounded by being open to new things and new people, look around and smile.

We have many diverse people that make one community. We Are.

HEIDI HECKEL
SOPHOMORE
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

ALUMNUS REPORTS POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM HAITI

Things are continuing to progress here in Haiti. When we first arrived, we were extremely busy pushing out medical teams and as much food and water as we could. We arrived before our trucks did, so we had to rent two pick-up trucks. We made runs back and forth to the airfield to pick up as much humanitarian aid as we could, and then we would bring it back here and distribute it to the people.

We also had Navy helicopters working with us providing as much as they could load up and deliver to us. I am residing at the golf course here in Haiti right now. (If you hear anything in the news about a golf course, that is where I am because this is the only golf course in Haiti.)

We were fortunate to be able to have the assistance of several state’s DMAT (Disaster Medical Assistance Teams). They lived with us for the first two weeks and just left yesterday. They were able to provide medical capabilities on a higher level than we could to the people.

At one point we had one of the largest amount of displaced people located around the golf course, with an estimated 30,000 people. We treated and provided aid to this camp, as well as displaced persons around the area.

A good trend that we are noticing is that it seems a vast majority of the injuries from the earthquake have been treated, and we are now working on follow-up care and general medicine needs. So there is definitely progress in that area.

In addition, non-governmental organizations, such as the Catholic Relief Services are doing an amazing job providing more and more aid to the people. We have been working with a man named Donal (nick-named Don). He is an Irish guy from Dublin) with CRS that has a tireless amount of energy.

The big push for the last several days and the next two weeks is to push food out to distribution points around the city. We are getting away from the one-day rations that we first put out when we got here and have moved to providing enough food for individual families that they can eat for two weeks on the one pickup.

Progress is being made, but much more is needed. The Haitian people are strong and they will get through this. I am proud to be here.

JESSE D. BOWMAN
CLASS OF 2006
CP1, FA
FIRE SUPPORT OFFICER
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Softball looking to hit it big

Softball team hopes to improve on close misses from past years

MARISSA MALSON
Staff Writer

The Flyer softball team has one thing on its mind — getting to the Atlantic 10 Tournament.

The past two seasons the Flyers have fallen just shy of making the top six to advance to the postseason. “Our goal is to qualify for the conference tournament and in order to do that, we have to be in the top six in the conference,” Head Coach Cara Clark-LaPlaca said. “We have a great shot and that is our sole focus in our conference season.”

In the last six games of the 2009 season the Flyers went 4-2 and outscored their opponents 43-37. They hope to build upon this success to start off the new season.

“One of the things we want to do this season is take the success we had at the end of last season and use it to continue what we are going to start this season,” senior outfiellder Molly Meyer said. “We want to build off of what we did last season, [off of] what we accomplished at the end of April and May, and use it to jump start this season.”

Clark-LaPlaca anticipates particular success from the Flyer offense.

“We do a lot of fundamental work, and we focus on what our players’ strengths are,” she said. “[We are a] very balanced team. Our offense has the potential to be one of the most dominate in the conference. We have tremendous power, really good speed and overall balance up and down our lineup. Offensively we should see a lot of good things.”

Additionally, the team is not focusing on any one opponent, but rather looking at the season as a whole.

“We really try to play the game and not one particular opponent,” Clark-LaPlaca said. “We talk a lot about playing within the game and not really worrying about the other dugout. We just want to maximize our ability to focus on our game and let things happen the way they do.”

Senior pitcher Eva Rappe agreed.

“We are really trying to play one pitch at a time, one inning at a time, in order to accomplish that goal in the end [of going to the tournament],” she said.

The Flyer seniors are poised to help the team achieve that goal.

“We have tremendous leadership from our senior class,” Clark-LaPlaca said. “We have four seniors that provide a great amount of guidance and leadership for our underclassmen. They’ve been starters for four years and that’s kind of going to be the key. I think their leadership and their performance [will be important].”

Clark-LaPlaca has given the seniors the tools they need to be effective leaders.

“Coach Clark has done a lot for us, like in captains training,” Rappe said. “We’ve gone over a leadership manual, and I think we’ve learned a lot as a group, and hopefully that has been able to help us set an example and get people to want to follow and get underclassmen prepared to lead in future years.”

One thing the team will always try to keep in mind is to draw off the things they do best.

“We have to stick to our strengths,” Meyer said. “We’ve got a lot of talent on this team and diverse abilities and for us to be successful and to continue on the note we ended on last year [we need] to keep building on what our players do well and mix that together and put our whole game together.”

Finally, they need to love what they are doing.

“I think one of the most important things for us to do is to have fun,” Rappe said. “I think we play a lot better when we have fun, and we’re just playing because we love the game.”

The Flyers are ready to begin and show the A-10 what they can do.

“We are really excited for it,” Meyer said. “We’re ready and we’re going to do some great things.”

SPORTS
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Inside the NUMBERS

18
Junior Kristin Daugherty became the 18th Dayton women’s basketball player to score 1000 points in her career on a putback against Massachusetts. Daugherty is also just the seventh junior to accomplish this feat.

5-13
The Dayton men’s basketball team’s shooting numbers from the free throw line in the second half against St. Louis. Dayton shot just 50 percent from the line for the game.

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The men’s basketball team’s hopes for an NCAA Tournament berth in 2010 took a huge hit this weekend in St. Louis. The Flyers let a crucial win (and subsequent positioning within the conference standings) get away from them with a gut wrenching 68-65 double overtime loss to the St. Louis Billikens.

And while fans can let a loss like this get them down for days, Brian Gregory, his coaching staff and players don’t have the luxury of dwelling on the loss. For Dayton, it’s on to the next game on the schedule — Thursday night when the LaSalle Explorers come to UD Arena for a 7 p.m. tipoff.

LaSalle comes into Thursday night’s contest with a mediocre 11-12 record overall and a conference record of 3-7, which is good for 10th place in the A-10.

LaSalle was picked to finish fourth in the conference in the preseason A-10 poll, but has struggled this season with a tough non-conference schedule (losses to South Carolina, Villanova, Kansas, Oklahoma State and Cornell) and a few key injuries.

The two primary injuries to the Explorers have come in recent weeks. The team announced Feb. 9 that senior guard Ruben Guillandeaux will miss the remainder of the season with a stress fracture in his right foot. Guillandeaux has only played in four games this season, but Head Coach Dr. John Giannini was hoping he could make a return to the active roster.

Then just yesterday the team announced that senior Yves Meekong will miss as much as a month after fracturing the pinky finger on his left hand during a practice. He had surgery this past Friday to repair the fracture. This is yet another big loss for the Explorers as they enter their game with the Flyers this week. Meekong is third on the team in scoring (11.4 ppg) and rebounding (5.5 rpg). He also recently scored his 1,000th career point.

Even with all the injuries the Explorers have sustained, the Flyers will certainly have their hands full Thursday night. LaSalle still has three healthy players that can really score the basketball.

First is Rodney Green, one of the best talents in the conference. He leads LaSalle in scoring, averaging 18.1 ppg and averages just over four steals and five boards a game as well. He is the Explorers’ Chris Wright. Next are Kimmani Barrett and Aaric Murray. They average 13.3 and 12.4 points per game, respectively.

So the Flyers will have plenty to deal with in what might seem like a cakewalk to the average fan. However, this should be a game that the Explorer’s manage to keep close for the first 15 minutes or so until the Flyers eventually wear them down with their depth and balanced attack. No reason for Dayton not to win this game.

My pick? Dayton wins another laugher at home and lets off some steam from that terrible St. Louis loss in the process.
LADIES KEEP CHUGGING ALONG

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM NOW 20-5; NCAA TOURNAMENT A STRONG POSSIBILITY

CHRIS MOORMAN
Staff Writer

If there was ever a time for a team to start playing its best basketball of the season, it would be now.

The UD women’s basketball team has been doing just that with four straight wins, scoring more than 70 points in each of those wins. All of this success comes with four games left before the Atlantic 10 Tournament and right before Dayton’s rematch with rival Xavier on Wednesday, Feb. 17. Head Coach Jim Jabir likes the momentum UD has gained since their blowout loss to Xavier.

“I think the momentum thing can be overstated sometimes, but obviously we have to be playing well and confidently and that’s what I think we’re doing right now,” said Jabir. “We’re really becoming more confident in what we do and I’ve been trying to tell the girls we really want to get better every day and every day you want to play a little better and keep improving.”

The Flyers played two games in three days last week playing Fordham on Thursday, Feb. 11, and then UMass Saturday, Feb. 13.

UD took care of Fordham with a 30 point victory over the Rams, 72-42. The Flyers were led by a Daugherty, but this time it was freshman Kari Daugherty. She led the Flyers in scoring with 16 points, going 4 for 5 from behind the three-point line and 5 for 7 from the field. Daugherty also grabbed four rebounds and had two assists in 16 minutes of playing time.

“They left her [Kari Daugherty] open and she was really good at taking advantage of what they gave her,” Jabir said. “I mean they left her open so often on the break and she was just really confident in shooting the ball, which is great.”

Junior Aundrea Lindsey was another key part in the victory over Fordham with seven points and a career high six assists.

The Flyers then continued on their road trip, traveling to Amherst to face the Minutewomen of UMass. Day-

ton beat the Minutewomen, 74-60, in a game that was closer than the final score indicates.

The Flyers were involved in a tight-

ly contested first half. UMass closed the first half on an 11-1 run in the final 2:30, shrinking Dayton’s lead from 30-18 to 31-27 at halftime.

“If we got to see the Lady Flyers playing in the Big Dance. I think if we continue to main-

tain, if we can win a majority of our remaining games, I think we have an excellent chance,” said Jabir. “Like I said, though, there’s a lot of good teams out there, and I think you’re never really sure what’s going to make the difference, but we’ve done every-

thing that I think we need to do, and we have to continue to improve ev-

eryday and get better and that’s what we’re doing right now.”

Although the A-10 title may be an uphill battle, the Flyers’ dreams of be-

ing in the NCAA Tournament appear to soon be a reality. As of Saturday morning before Dayton’s win against UMass, the Lady Flyers were ranked 32 in RPI, with a SOS (Strength of Schedule) in the Top 100, and wins over Georgetown (RPI 11) and Michi-

gan State (RPI 20). Jabir thinks it’s very likely that the Flyer faithful will get to see the Lady Flyers playing in the Big Dance.