ROCKIN’ THE CAMPUS

Increased participation, personal touch lead Saywell, Nestor to SGA victory

JEN CHENEY
Assistant News Editor

Student Government Association spring 2010 elections have concluded with a total turnout of 2,793 voters, the second-highest recorded on campus in the past eight years.

John Jewell, the 2009-2010 SGA president, attributed this to a more competitive election season. With three amendments and three different presidential candidates on the ticket, students had more incentive to vote.

Those running for elected positions also took an active role in improving election results in their favor.

To reach this second highest recorded voting rate, Jim Saywell and Kelly Nestor said they ran a successful campaign by talking to individual students on campus.

“Our campaign was based more on reaching people on a personal level,” said Saywell, newly elected SGA president. “For every person we met, we would explain our ideas for student government next year.”

Since the main tenets of the Saywell/Nestor platform have much to do with the student organizations on campus, a big strategy was to speak directly to them. Saywell said that this personal approach was one of the most effective tenets of the campaign.

To get the message out to as many students as possible, Saywell/Nestor dorm, Darkside and Ghetto stormed.

“Walking around door-to-door or house-to-house was incredible because we were able to explain [to everyone] what we’re all about,” Saywell said.

According to Saywell, SGA will have a completely different look next year.

See Election results p. 2

weather
(Source: www.nws.noaa.gov)

Good luck getting your study on as the Ghetto is filled with sunshine and fun during the end of the school year.

TODAY
65/45
Sunny.

WEDNESDAY
68/46
Mostly sunny.

THURSDAY
69/49
Partly sunny.

CLOSING TIME?
Fate of KU Pub nights to be decided this summer PAGE 3
ELECTION RESULTS  
(cont. from p. 1)

“Rather than having SGA doing things that not many students get involved in, SGA will give most of its money to other student groups on campus,” he said.

Student organizations will be much better off next year now that Saywell and Nestor have been elected, he said.

“Next year will be a year when people begin to get passionate about student government,” Saywell said of the frustration he feels because no one knows what SGA does.

That will change, too, he said. Saywell said groups will be much more connected to student government next year. Student government will in turn be more connected with the students, he said.

“We are excited to see SGA actually make a real impact on students’ lives because it is the student’s money that SGA currently wastes,” he said.

Saywell and Nestor gained 64.5 percent of the study body vote, winning against Christine Farmer and Ismael Ruiz.

“I am heartbroken that I cannot serve, and I hope that the result of the election is in the best interest of the students and the university,” Farmer said. “I made no promises throughout my campaign, but I make this promise: My passion will not ever fade, and I will still work and be there for each and everyone of you.”

Jewell hopes that Saywell and Nestor will continue to challenge themselves and SGA next year, making sure to always stand strong in their decisions.

“Think for yourselves; you have many people to point at you to do different things, but it has to be yours,” Jewell said. “It’s important they realize their titles do not guarantee anyone will listen to them. They need to first build trust and respect before others will truly believe or want to hear what they have to say.”

New broadband network could bring faster connections, jobs to Dayton

ERIN GAHIMER  
Staff Writer

This spring, the city of Dayton officially declared itself a candidate for the new Google Fiber, an ultra-high-speed broadband network.

This competition is being held throughout the U.S. among 600 communities, all of which are vying for the opportunity to be a trial market for Google’s newest technological innovation. With Google Fiber, area Internet users will be able to receive online connections up to 100 times faster than most Americans experience today.

Dayton’s Matt McNamara, a Web developer at UD, said he is excited about the city’s prospects and what the network could bring to the community. If Dayton is chosen, it would mean a radical change for the city, he said.

McNamara said he believes the change would be comparable to going from the old ways of dial-up to current video streaming.

“With the Fiber network, a whole new world of possibilities would be opened up for UD and the city of Dayton,” he said.

According to McNamara, the Fiber connect establishment would have a multitude of positive effects on the city. Not only would the fast Internet be valuable because of its incredible speed, but the economic benefits of the network would also be incredible, he said.

McNamara said he believes that the installation and upkeep on the system would create new employment opportunities and encourage job seekers to move to the Dayton area.

The Fiber network concept is the result of cutting-edge technology that utilizes fiber optics technology to shoot light through plastic cables, in contrast to the traditional utilization of cell towers, phone lines or copper wire. These cables are installed underground and run straight to one’s house, school, hospital or small business. Google would add additional cables to underground wiring already in place, as well as act as the hosting provider of the network.

Because of the area’s demographic composition, Dayton is an ideal testing ground for companies doing market research. The income, age, education levels and occupation demographics of Dayton residents are strikingly similar to those of the broader U.S. population. In the past 10 years, high-powered companies like McDonalds have done extensive trial testing in the Dayton area.

In reaction to the Google Fiber competition, Dayton community leaders have called on local residents and organizations to help them tell Google that Dayton should be the top choice.

A website titled “Dayton: Average + Awesome” was created to showcase Dayton’s unique features, as well as how the area would be a perfect place to test out the Fiber network. Many other companies and members of Dayton have responded to this call through the creation of videos.

As a part of this effort, UD has made its own video showing how such a network would enhance the university’s academic and research efforts.

The video was put together by the UD Media Productions Group, and UD students were invited to play a role in it. The video can be found at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipax1RwyA Ws.

All Dayton residents and UD faculty, staff and students are encouraged to visit the “Dayton: Average + Awesome” website at http://www.averageandawesome.com to pledge support for Dayton’s bid, as well as to learn more about why Dayton is an ideal candidate city.

Notification of the winning cities is set for later this year. If chosen, network construction is set to begin in the first quarter of 2011.

Senior Tyler Logan, the UD Media Productions Group’s production assistant, said he enjoyed playing a part in the Google Fiber promotional video and being involved in the efforts to convince Google to come to Dayton.

“I think it would be great if Google chooses Dayton as a community to test its new Fiber network,” Logan said. “For a city that has experienced as much hardship as Dayton, the new Google Fiber project would be a great boost.”
Despite a major increase in sales and attendance, the future of Friday Pub nights is still up in the air.

The Pub successfully reopened this semester after a “Save the UD Pub” campaign on Facebook.

The group consisted of a large number of alumni who voiced their concern over the loss of a UD tradition.

The administration agreed to bring back the Pub nights but with the understanding that this semester was a test run.

Throughout the semester, Friday Pub nights saw a huge increase in attendance from the fall semester, but the numbers varied greatly from week to week.

The opening weeks brought in well over 200 customers each Friday, but one night drew only 18.

The ultimate fate of the KU Pub is now up to a newly-formed committee called the Council on Student Issues.

Over the summer, the committee members plan to look into how other schools that have bars on campus operate.

“We’re trying to identify the issues related to the Pub,” said Paula Smith, director of Dining Services. “We were going to research and try to determine how many schools have bars on campus, what are their hours, what are their policies and get some idea from that data and compare it to the environment here at UD.”

Although Dining Services plays a large role in the Pub, the outcome will depend largely on the decisions of the committee and members of the administration, Smith said.

A final decision is not expected until late in the summer.

“It’s not about a profitability point of view; it really isn’t,” Smith said. “Does it make sense to continue or not? And [we will be] looking at it from a lot of point of views, not just my point of view.”

Fifth Third Bank congratulates the following University of Dayton students on their acceptance to the Leadership Programs of 2010!

Corey Lamm
Audit Leadership Program Intern

Dan Bellinski
Information Technology Leadership Program

Dion Roberts
Financial Leadership Program

George Jernigan
Financial Leadership Program

Jacob Weber
Information Technology Leadership Program

Jenna Inkrott
Audit Leadership Program Intern

Jenny Mann
Operations Leadership Program

Matthew Purpus
Information Technology Leadership Program

Michael Vonderhaar
Audit Leadership Program

Sarah Vidmar
Audit Leadership Program

Wesley Hartig
Commercial Associate Leadership Program
TOMS founder offers messages of sustainability, encouragement

ANNA BEYERLE
News Editor

Blake Mycoskie's story has a powerful message. The 600,000 pairs of shoes his company has given to impoverished children around the world is proof of that.

Mycoskie, the founder and chief shoe giver of TOMS Shoes, addressed over 1,000 UD students and community members as the keynote speaker for the 22nd annual Stander Symposium last Tuesday, April 13.

TOMS is a for-profit company that manufactures casual cloth shoes modeled after Argentinean Bootwear. Its business model is One for One. For each pair of shoes purchased, a pair is given to a child who cannot afford to buy their own.

According to Dr. Kathleen Watters, the co-chair of Stander Symposium, Mycoskie was chosen as the keynote speaker because of his successful business model and unique perspective.

“He is a different speaker than what we have had in the past, but we were so excited,” Watters said. “He really resonated with students in a positive way.”

Mycoskie started TOMS, short for “Shoes for Tomorrow,” in 2006 while visiting Argentina and discovering that children living just an hour away from Buenos Aires were not allowed to attend school because they could not pay for the proper footwear. He helped collect used shoes for a shoe drive, which were then given to kids living near the city.

“These kids were so excited, you would have thought it was Christmas,” he said in his address. “[They] were treating these shoes as the greatest treasure in the world.”

Blake Mycoskie, TOMS Shoes

By the summer of 2006, Mycoskie’s company had sold 10,000 pairs of shoes, and he made the decision to go back to Argentina on TOMS’ first shoe drive.

“People asked me if my life changed when I first had the idea for TOMS,” he said. “The truth is no. When I had the idea, my life didn’t change – it was just an idea. But it changed radically when I went on that first shoe drive. It changed me to the core. I knew my life would never be the same.”

DAYTON TO DAYTONA COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON SAFETY

MEGAN HARRELL
Local News Writer

It is almost that time of the year again to pack up your swimsuits, sunglasses and flip flops and head to Daytona Beach. But this year some changes will be made regarding the safety of students.

After hearing about recent events reported during spring break in Daytona Beach, the Dayton to Daytona safety committee decided to make the trip safer by working with Daytona Beach officials, hotel management and cab companies.

At the mandatory information sessions today and Wednesday, April 21 for those attending the annual trip, the committee will discuss with students the importance of their safety and how they hope they can maintain it.

“Most of what we will be doing deals with word of mouth and talking to students about how to watch out for themselves and for their friends while down in Dayton Beach,” said Maggie Schnering, Dayton to Daytona trip coordinator.

In addition to encouraging students to look out for each other, the committee plans to provide safer transportation options. The committee has a contract with All Florida Cab to make sure students get from place to place safely. A magnet will be on the side of each cab with the Dayton to Daytona logo so students know which cabs to take.

There will also be five safety stations at each pool deck, which will have water, sunscreen and Breakaway Tours’ staff members to answer any questions.

Another change is an increase in staff members in the hotels each night to provide assistance and to encourage the buddy system.

“We are not making any drastic changes to the trip itself but rather making things more visibly noticeable, such as safety tip posters on every hotel, signage on the cabs and other small changes,” Schnering said.

Junior Kaitlyn Zimmerer said she thinks the changes being made to the Dayton to Daytona trip are necessary.

“It will increase safety in Daytona and allow for students to have fun but be safe at the same time,” Zimmerer said.

The safety of students attending the Daytona trip is the number one priority for the committee, and members hope the trip will be safer than previous years.

“It’s our hope that the information sessions will be the first step in having students meet us halfway to ensure their safety in Daytona Beach,” Schnering said.

The informational safety sessions will be held in KU’s Boll Theatre today and Wednesday at 8 p.m. It is mandatory that at least one member from each room attend.

For more information, e-mail the committee at dayton2daytona@gmail.com or visit http://daytona.udayton.edu.
Think you’ve got an eye for photography? Here’s your chance to get it published. Just send your ‘CLICK’ picture to editor@flyernews.com along with your first and last name and a brief description. Click away!

For Flyer News seniors, it’s been quite a year. We’ve covered SGA and reviewed cheap beer. We predicted AP style, to the copyeditor’s exasperation. All under the guidance of our great editor-in-chief, Nate. Our staff photo was sketchy. Jack’s budgets were storms. Maggie got death threats. Leslie propelled Akron to slip and slide, Laura took pictures while we stayed inside. Claire went to New York and lingered longer than the rest, despite all of this, our year was the best. Through 94 issues, closer we have grown, back in September, who would have known? And as our seniors move on to much bigger things, we hope they don’t forget what it’s like to be a student.

To Keisey Cano, Ryan Kozelka, Alexis Buhelos, Meghann Heft, Lindsey DiTirro and Laura Mack — You’ll always have a spot on our couch.

Asst. Advertising Manager Needed
Contact Lauren Lecklider
lecklile@notes.udayton.edu

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House Specs: 4 bedrooms, 2 living rooms, 1 bathroom, 1 kitchen, 1 back room, 1 locked basement, 1 inflatable pool, 1 table with many glass bottles

Flyer News: I noticed you have an inflatable pool on the porch.
Lauren Grote: It’s the coolest pool in the world.
Marin Hoag: It’s got cup holders, very comfortable seats [and] a inflatable pool on the porch.

We love vodka.

BG: Well, when we first moved in, there was this guy from across the street who’d take pictures of the license plates of cars parked on Irving, and then they’d usually end up with tickets.
LG: He was kind of a creeper.
MH: And then there’s “Honk For Gramma.”
KC: This other guy put up a sign, “Honk For Gramma’s 60th Birthday,” at like six in the morning, and we kept hearing the honks all day.
MH: It was very hard to sleep.
BG: I was in the back room, and I could hear it.
KC: And then the sign was still up the next day, and I wanted to say, “Gramma’s birthday is over.”

FN: What’s the first thing people think of when they think of your house?
MH: We’re close to the bars, so they usually stop by on their way there.
Beth Geiger: No, they come to see us. Duh!

FN: Have you had any issues with the neighbors, being on the edge of campus?
BG: Well, when we first moved in, we noticed you have an inflatable pool on the edge of us. Duh!

Kelsey Cano: Backrest.

Very comfortable seats [and] inflatable pool on the porch.

FN: What would people find if they looked in your fridge?
MH: Well, our freezer is hard to see into because my uncle’s always sending us food from Omaha Steaks ... He doesn’t work there. He just sends us food.
KC: We’re always having steak dinners. Like on Valentine’s Day.
MH: You can’t close our freezer.

It needs to be duct-taped.

FN: So tell us about those stairs.
BG: The first weekend we moved in, my mom said, “OK, watch out for those stairs, ’cause someone’s gonna get hurt.” And what does [Cano] do, but fall down.
KC: I couldn’t sit down for a week, had to roll myself out of chairs.

MH: It’s well after Christmas, and we’ve already lost a lot of ornaments.
LG: I come down the stairs, and the tree’s right next to the fan, and I trip, taking them both down.

MH: She was on the ground for five minutes.
LG: I’m trying to get myself untangled. Meanwhile, they’re all laughing at me and taking pictures.

FN: You said your basement is locked.
BG: Yes, but we got to go down there once. We were all blow drying our hair, and we blew a fuse, so they had to call some repairmen over.

KC: They let us go down, and it was disgusting.
LG: There were plants growing there.
MH: Not the good kind. They found a Crown Royal cap and gave it to us. Said we were all princesses.

FN: So, how many booze bottles do you have on that table by the wall?
KC: Too many to count.
LG: We like vodka.
KC: We love vodka.
MH: Anyone who knows us knows that.
BG: The only beer in this house is skunked beer that we give to volunteers who have or may have post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD. You may be eligible if you are experiencing symptoms such as:

• Flashbacks
• Bad dreams; not able to sleep
• Not able to concentrate or do things you used to enjoy
• Feeling hopeless, angry, sad, fearful, guilty, or ashamed

Please visit www.COPEstudy.com or call 1-866-289-1611 for more information.

The UD Opera Workshop will perform a free concert at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 21 in Sears Recital Hall.

All 10 of the Workshop’s members will perform. Each member will appear in two to three scenes in addition to the whole ensemble’s performances.

One of these members is senior Maura Hanlon, who is in her first semester with the Workshop.

The performance will appeal to members of the UD community because it is unique and humorous, according to Hanlon. Most of the scenes are from American musicals or operas, so audience members should easily relate to the material, she said.

“It’s not a confusing foreign opera that you need translations for,” Hanlon said. “We pick music that is accessible and understandable to the audience.”

Audience members will see Hanlon performing Maria from “The Sound of Music” as part of a quartet and Master of the House from “Les Misérables” as part of a duet.

This will be the first performance from the Opera Workshop that does not have a centralized theme.

The concert will include scenes from a variety of operas and musicals including Leonard Bernstein’s “On the Town” and “Trouble in Tahiti.” Other scenes will be based off such works as “The Magic Flute,” “The Sound of Music” and “Fiddler on the Roof.”

Dr. Minnita Daniel-Cox, co-director of the performance along with Dr. Linda Snyder, is in her first semester with the Opera Workshop.

Daniel-Cox said she has incorporated more contemporary material, mostly from American theater, during her time with the Workshop.

Daniel-Cox said she is frustrated that opera has been given a stigma of being stuffy and only for the upper class in America. She said opera is an art form that touches on everyday human emotions.

“There’s this idea that music on the stage is not us; it’s not what we’re about, but it’s absolutely just a reflection of what’s going on in our everyday lives and the things we feel,” she said.

According to Daniel-Cox, lyrical theater and opera provides the same form of entertainment that people seek today, like TV or the Internet. It is just from a different medium.

“There is nothing new under the sun,” she said. “You look at music videos today, and they’re not so different from what was thrilling and exciting on the stage 200 or 300 years ago.”

Daniel-Cox said she strongly encourages the UD community to come to the performance Wednesday and support the Workshop’s hard work.

“The kids work hard; it’s a good show,” she said. “I think it’s something the community will enjoy, and we had a great time putting it together.”
Annual Woodstock block party brings live music, food, activities to Darkside

SARA GREEN
Assistant A&E Editor

When someone asks students living in the north student neighborhood, also known as the Darkside, if they are going to Woodstock, they are not talking about the 1969 outdoor concert.

Darkside students are well aware they are inquiring about the block party held on Woodland Avenue.

Woodstock, held on Saturday, April 17, started three years ago and has since grown, attracting more people and providing more food and entertainment. Originally planned for the Darkside, it is a University of Dayton sanctioned party that is sponsored by the Student Government Association and Residence Life.

Though advertised only to the Darkside, all students were welcome to join the festivities. “We don’t go out of our way to advertise it, but we don’t turn anyone down,” said senior Eric Misch, Darkside fellow. The atmosphere was laid back; students played cornhole in the blocked off street, ate hamburgers and hot dogs, played with footballs and listened to live bands. Residents hung tie-dye flags from their porches to celebrate the day.

Bruce Helton, a student from Indiana University – Purdue University Fort Wayne, attended Woodstock while visiting his fiancée, UD junior Sara McManus. Helton said he enjoyed his afternoon at Woodstock and noted the difference between the community at UD and other colleges.

“They have housing [at IPFW] but not like it is here,” he said.

Senior Adam Scheidler, Darkside senator, said that while the university sponsored Woodstock, a committee of students, along with Darkside fellows and senators, took a significant amount of time to plan the event.

“The committee members had our first conversation before Christmas break, but the months after are when we did a lot of the work,” he said.

Along with planning for entertainment and food, the Woodstock committee also remained in contact with public safety, administration and city police. Scheidler said that in order to block off the street, they had to get a street permit; however, before doing that, they were required to get a certain amount of signatures from the residents.

“Scheidler was a big help in doing this and getting the street permit,” Misch said.

Misch and Scheidler said they were satisfied that the event was a success, even though it was close to final exams.

“Obviously we’re not going to get everyone to come out, but it’s a solid crowd so far,” Misch said.

Scheidler said he is looking forward to the possibilities of future Woodstock events.

“We are happy it came together, and people are enjoying themselves, and hope that it continues beyond our years,” he said.

Frankly

Corrections

In the Tuesday, April 13 issue of Flyer News, the photo on page six was of the “Reflections on Paper” celebration, not of the Horvath Student Juried Exhibition. Flyer News sincerely apologizes for the error.
Changing 

GROWTH OF STUDENT INTERACTION GIVES HOPE FOR NEXT YEAR

Over the past year, the Flyer News staff had the immense privilege of interacting with the student body, possibly more than any other organization or group on the University of Dayton campus.

Through porch profile interviews, word on the street questions, dialogue with athletes, artists and student leaders, comments on the live NIT blog and more, we have seen the UD student community grow into a group of individuals who exhibit passion and concern.

During the first semester, editors would painstakingly work to find words to fill the two opinions pages. Today, we have so many letters to the editor submissions that we can’t even print them all. If that is not a testimony to the growth of involvement we have with the students, we don’t know what is.

We’ve seen this enthusiasm outside of our pages, too. SGA participation was the second highest seen in recent years with almost half of the student population voting. We looked forward to covering an election that we knew would make a difference.

In spring 2008, only 1,972 of the undergraduates voted. Last year, the participation was outstanding, but the organization is pushing forward with a new goal of 50 percent voter turnout next year.

As an SGA representative told us in a follow-up interview, participation was the second highest seen in recent years with almost half of the campus because I didn’t want to do it all again to go back home. However, this time, I can’t help but notice a few differences in myself from the person I was in late August.

I remember that when my parents dropped me off and my mom shed a tear or two, I rolled my eyes and thought to myself, “Mom mom, I’m your fourth kid going to college, and you’re still doing this?”

I was a little bit terrified to be living on my own for the first time in my life. I even remember taking a map of the campus because I didn’t want to get lost going from my dorm to a place called “Jesse Phillips Humanities Center,” whatever that was. What I didn’t know was how easy it was going to be to adapt to this place.

I mean, sure, you could say that of any freshman going to a new college. But UD is more than just another college; it’s a “community.” Yes, I know that word gets thrown around enough to drive a person to insanity. It’s true that not many universities have such a high percentage of students living on campus. Yes, the size is considered by many of us to be perfect, and the fact that everything is centrally located inspires “community.”

But it’s the little things that define that whole “community” theme and make it so easy to be here. The friends I’ve made here are truly wonderful people. Again, you could say that about a lot of places, but I think that UD’s size allows you to make more friends that are close and ones you will keep for life — friends that will join you to dress in crazy clothing, blast Basshunter and run to every floor in Meyer screaming “RAVE!” just because someone was dumb enough to come up with the idea.

That’s why I’m not surprised when my friends here have my back 99 percent of the time and are willing to go the extra mile to help me finish the same assignment that they’ve already finished, or get up early to eat breakfast with my family when they visit.

In finals week this winter, I was in full procrastination mode, and I spent most of my time watching “How I Met Your Mother” episodes online while my smarter friends buckled down to study. When I finally did get my act together to start studying, even though they had done their work and were taking a break, they waited for me to finish so I could watch the episodes with them. The people here are more than just fellow students; they are family.

The dining experience makes it for me, too. The workers in the cafeteria that always smile and pay me a compliment or wish me a good day make it feel like more than a school cafeteria. The massive lights on Stuart Field look so cool at night that I could sit up on the hill for hours watching games and avoiding homework.

Even just watching everyone on my floor come together with so much spirit for our basketball teams made them more like brothers than other students on campus. It all comes together to make students fit in and feel connected, and that’s a truly good thing.

I think back to before when I was looking at the UD brochures. All the students pictured had huge smiles on their faces and looked like they were right where they needed to be. And I thought that it was just because we advertise really well and have some really funny photographers. But now I know why; they’re smiling because they’re at home, and they’re happy.

Word on the street... 

What is your favorite part of finals week?

“I love that the campus is wide awake 24/7.”

MATT HUFFMAN, SOPHOMORE ACCOUNTING/FINANCE

“I like the free food and coffee.”

PAIGE BASINGER, SOPHOMORE PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

“I just want to earn a 4.0 GPA.”

FEMI OGBEULE, JUNIOR MUSICAL PERFORMANCE
No place for alcohol at charity event

“Don’t you know anyone with cancer?” I shouted.

The words stumbled out of my mouth — I was angry and hurt and sad and disappointed all at once. I didn’t wait for his reply; I only leaned forward to dust off the sign: “Because the Relay For Life means a lot to a lot of different people.”

Perhaps I posed an unfair question.

“Oh no,” he pleaded, shedding some of his drunkenness. “My mom has breast cancer.”

Perhaps I’d posed an unfair question.

I continued uneasily, like he’d been a film review for a hardcore adult film, we both agreed that this shouldn’t have been included. But, this wasn’t the case.

The other two main points of the article are about the eco-sex article that appeared in the last issue.

I will agree, there may have been a few words that could have been swapped out or more eloquently written, but the overall article was done in a respectful manner. Had this been a film review for a hardcore adult film, we both agreed that it should have been included. But, this wasn’t the case.

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Eco-sex letter respectful, not just for Catholics

I’d like to take a few lines to respond to Sammy Kieszkowski’s response about the eco-sex article that appeared in the last issue.

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MEYER FLYING AROUND THE DIAMOND
Senior shatters several Dayton career records

NATE WAGGENSPACK
Assistant Sports Editor

On and off the field, Molly Meyer has meant the world to the softball team and her teammates.

The senior, in her final month on the Flyer softball team, continues to bring a lot to the table as she closes out her career at the University of Dayton.

On the field, Meyer contributes in a big way where she is third on the team in hitting with a .278 batting average. She has been a unique contributor to the team with her speed as well and broke the Dayton career-record for stolen bases earlier this season. On defense, Meyer has been flawless, starting all 41 games this year, yet not committing a single error.

Her talent level in the game comes from a long playing career, but Meyer credits a couple people in her softball life with getting her to the level she is at now.

“Of all the sports I played, in softball I probably had the most influential coaching,” Meyer said. “My travel coach, he just taught me a lot about the game. I learned everything I needed to know at an early age. My high school coach was very influential as well.”

As a child, Meyer played all kinds of sports, but said she had the best mentorship in softball, along with help from her father.

“He was the coach when I was younger growing up, playing park ball,” Meyer said. “Not so much with the mentality, but I think he gave me the athlete mentality.”

Meyer stuck with softball and turned out to be quite good. When it became time to choose a place to go to school, Meyer came to Dayton for many of the same reasons so many students do.

“I visited here and loved the campus, loved the size of the school and loved the size of the classes,” she said. “Everything kind of came together: the community, the athletics and the academics.”

When she came to UD, however, teammate Megan Lee said she was not quite the same excitable person as is seen now. In fact, Meyer was not that happy for a while. That did not last long, though.

“Molly, when she got here, wasn’t excited about just being here,” Lee said. “She really wasn’t happy toward the beginning. Once the season started, she really re-fell in love with UD, and I think her teammates and her love the game.”

The rest is history for Meyer, whose career has flourished at UD, where her speed has always been a contributing factor on offense and defense.

“She can cover a lot of ground in the outfield, and she can be aggressive on the bases, which puts us in a position to score,” head coach Cara Clark-LaPlaca said.

As she has grown at UD, Meyer’s role has changed as well. Now a senior, she works on taking more of a leadership role for the younger players.

“There are a lot of young people on our team, and they just need someone to look up to or a role model on the field,” Meyer said.

Meyer carries her responsibilities to set the example off the softball diamond as well. Meyer, like other athletes at UD, takes care of her student responsibilities and makes sure to help her younger teammates with classes.

“(I help younger teammates) off the field with classes, with what classes to take,” she said. “That’s where I changed goals from just being a leader on the field to being a leader in general for the younger people on our team.”

Now in the home stretch of her last hurrah with Dayton softball, Meyer is not taking anything for granted. She plans on finishing the season strong, no matter what.

“I want to have fun, but I also want to win,” Meyer said. “Even if the season doesn’t go as planned, my mindset is kind of just to enjoy the people I’m with now. This is my last chance to play softball with a bunch of people I love.”

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Year-in-Review
Senior recaps year in UD sports
Championships, record-breaking seasons abound in ’09-’10

JOHN BEDELL  STAFF WRITER

I couldn’t find a better way to end my collegiate sports writing career than by reflecting on one of the most exhilarating stretches of my life as a sports fan. The following, boys and girls, is the year that was in Dayton Flyers athletics from the eyes of John Bedell.

I’ll be the first to admit that when I arrived on campus in August to begin my senior year, I already had the men’s basketball team on my mind. I couldn’t wait for it to start.

That said, I also spent the majority of my summer anxiously awaiting the fall varsity season at UD as well. I wish I had a dollar for every time I talked up both soccer teams together. People how “loaded” both squads were and that both teams would have “special” seasons. Even though I expected that, it didn’t lessen the impact that their sensational seasons had on me. I did the public address announcing for both teams, and even though my job required me to be at Baujan Field on Friday nights and Sunday afternoons — I was hooked.

I couldn’t wait for game days.

The men’s team players, fresh off an Atlantic-10 Tournament title and an NCAA Tournament berth in 2008, perhaps had more expectations on their shoulders than were talked about as the 2009 season kicked off. But they kept their noses to the grindstone and focused on the task at hand, winning a regular season A-10 title outright and falling just short of a second straight NCAA bid, losing in the conference title game to SLU.

The women’s soccer team had perhaps one of the most incredible seasons I’ve ever seen a part of. Coach Mike Tucker and company broke so many records and piled up so many accolades this past season that it is not even funny.

First, the Flyers notched the only undefeated regular season in school history going 14-0-5. They finished the year 17-1-5 with their only loss coming from Virginia Tech in the NCAA Tournament. Dayton also concluded the regular season as one of only two undefeated teams in all of Division I women’s soccer. The other team? Stanford — who, oh by the way, was the number one team in the country for most of the season and the eventual national runner-up.

The Flyers also broke the school record with 14 shutouts. With the 14th, they broke not only the program’s first A-10 regular season title since 2004. They then won the A-10 Tournament title a week later and earned an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Dayton later received word from the NCAA that they were hosting first and second round games at Baujan Field. The Flyers beat Marquette in the first round before losing to Virginia Tech two days later, ending their dream season, fittingly, at the friendly confines of Baujan Field.

And if all of that was not enough, the Flyers racked up 15 awards in the A-10’s annual regular season conference awards.

The football team, under head coach Rick Chamberlin, lived up to its team motto in 2009 to “carry the torch.” The team members chose the motto to inspire each other to carry on the winning tradition of Dayton Flyers football.

Chamberlin and company faced some adversity early in the season with injuries to their first three quarterbacks. But senior wide receiver and athlete extraordinare Steve Valentino stepped up and led the Flyers to a 9-2 record overall. 7-1 in Pioneer Football League play and the program’s 10th PFL title.

The volleyball team also had a season for the ages in sweeping the A-10 regular season and tournament titles over rival St. Louis. Kelly Shefliff then led his team to the NCAA Tournament for the third time in as many years. The Flyers notched a first round win in the NCAA Tournament over Wisconsin-Milwaukee before losing a hard-fought road match to Big Ten powerhouse Illinois.

Even the cross-country teams got in on the action this year. The women’s team won the program’s first ever conference championship and had junior Maureen Bulgrin place third overall at the conference championship meet.

The men also had a record-breaking season in notching the program’s highest finish at the conference championships with a third place result. Junior Chris Lemon won the individual title at the meet to become the program’s first ever conference champion.

Moving on to the winter sports, it seemed uncanny that this success could continue — but it did. The men’s basketball team has been well documented throughout the year, so I’ll describe its season in a nutshell: The season began with pie-in-the-sky expectations. The Flyers were up, then down, then up down, then up again and down again. But when March rolled around, they finally put things together and ended their season on an epic high. The Flyers beat teams from the Big East, Big Ten, SEC and ACC on their way to winning the NIT Championship.

The women’s basketball team started its season with a bang with a win over a top-10 ranked Michigan State. It finished its season 23-6 overall and earned the program’s first ever NCAA Tournament bid and subsequently the program’s first ever NCAA Tournament win over TCU in thrilling come-from-behind fashion.

The Flyers then ran into Pat Summit’s Tennessee buzz saw in the second round of the big dance, but that loss couldn’t take away the flyers dream season.

The Dayton Flyers have seen so much success in 2009-10 that all you can really think to say when you reflect on it is, “Are you kidding me!!”

It’s one of those school years that will go down in Dayton Flyers lore, and we got to be a part of it.”

John Bedell, Flyer News Sports Staff Writer
Flyers conclude spring, set for hyped season

JACOB ROSEN
Sports Editor

The University of Dayton volleyball team returned to the Frericks Center on Saturday, April 17 for its annual spring tournament. UD hosted an alumni team, Ohio University and the University of Cincinnati for the entire day event. The series of games were the first played at the recently renovated Frericks court since the end of the regular season in late November.

The spring tournament was just the start of a year of high hopes for the volleyball team coming off its Atlantic-10 championship. They also advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the third time in as many years, falling in the second round to Illinois.

"Obviously we are trying to get some hype going," head coach Kelly Sheffield said. "I enjoy being around this group; they work hard, and they want to do the right things on the court."

The team went 2-1 in the four-team tournament, losing its early morning match against Cincinnati before prevailing in its final two matches. The most entertaining of them all was its final three-set match against the alumni team.

The current Dayton squad won the first set 25-24 before tripping up in the second by the count of 20-25. The alumni then recorded the first four points in the tiebreaker, but the Flyers of 2010 were too much as they roared back for the 15-13 victory.

That victory was just the start of what will be a long next four months for the Dayton volleyball team. Junior Lindsay Fletemier and sophomore Anna Eytchison go up for a tip at the net against the University of Cincinnati in the opening game of the spring tournament on Saturday, April 17 at the Frericks Center. Dayton finished 2-1 on the day against UC, Ohio and an alumni team as the team concluded its spring schedule for the year.

Track and field meets mark at All-Ohio Championship

BRENDAN HADER
Chief Sports Writer

With less than two weeks before the Atlantic-10 Championship, the women’s track and field team tuned up this weekend at the All-Ohio Championship at Ohio University.

The Flyers continued producing positive results during their outdoor campaign after tying for first place with Charlotte at the A-10 Indoor Championship, their first-ever conference win in indoor. For the indoor season, junior Mallory Barnes, a thrower, became the first-ever All-American in Dayton program history.

In UD women’s track and field history, no one has ever won an All-Ohio Individual Championship. Doing well at the tournament was important, but the bigger picture lies ahead at the University of Massachusetts, site of the A-10 Championship.

“We finished sixth last year in the All-Ohio tournament, so realistically we are shooting for at least the top five,” head coach Adam Steinwachs said. “Overall, we see it as more of a preparatory meet for the A-10 Championship. It’s a team score meet, so it will serve as a good gauge as to where we are at this point.”

That prediction was right on the money for Steinwachs and UD, as the team finished fifth at the tournament. Barnes barely held on to win the long-distance throw at the competition, while Maureen Bulgrin won the 5,000-meter race as well.

Based on how the spring has gone, the Flyers are prone to make noise in Massachusetts. They placed first out of 17 schools a month ago in the Early Bird Relays and have posted several other successful finishes. Much of this success can be contributed to being a true team. “Every year we have a select few people who step up,” senior jumper Andrea Funk said. “But this year we’ve had everyone, including underclassmen, step up, especially toward the end of the season. It’s been a tremendous group effort.”

These championships are coming at a difficult time. This is generally the busiest time of the school year with teachers cramming in tests, papers and projects with exams next week. The team has a big workload to handle between academics and preparing for the A-10 Championship.

All athletes have to balance their sports with their work in class, but this time of the semester makes it even more difficult. The team has done a tremendous job of working hard in and out of the classroom, Steinwachs said.

“The girls do a great job of getting things done,” Steinwachs said. “They are phenomenal students who can regulate themselves. You can see the stress levels rise, but they’ve done a good job managing it.”

Steinwachs trusts his team to get its work done, but he expects the focus to be on practice when the time comes. The players have responded well and have noticed the coaches’ recognition of their busy schedule.

“We’ve had really good practice at doing this during the end of the season, but it doesn’t get any easier,” Funk said. “We’re doing a good job of staying focused, and the coach does a good job relieving the stress. Practice takes the stress off a little bit, but the coaches pull back the reins slightly to help us out.”