President Barack Obama called for an end to the United States combat in Iraq in a live press conference from the Oval Office Tuesday, Aug. 31.

Obama’s announcement came a little over a week after the last combat troops pulled out of Iraq on Thurs., Aug. 19, according to a Washington Post article. About 50,000 non-combat brigades will remain in the country, mainly to train Iraqi soldiers. Both the U.S. and Iraqi governments have agreed these forces will close their operations and leave Iraq before Dec. 31, 2011.

“We’ve done the best job we could do,” said Brother Raymond Fitz, former University of Dayton president and professor in the political science department. “Now we have to depend on Iraq to follow through.”

See War on p. 5
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STUDENTS MAKE FACEBOOK THEIR BUSINESS

Juniors created flourishing social media company

TIFFANY BOHMAN
Staff Writer

Juniors Andy Hill and Rob Johnson are the founders of TalkToMe Media, a social media marketing firm that represents small to midsize businesses on social media sites like Facebook and Twitter.

When they moved into Garden Apartments last year, the two then-sophomores realized the increasing use of social media for promotional needs directed at college-aged consumers.

“My mom couldn’t even upload a photo,” Hill said. “From that misfortune came the idea for TalkToMe.”

With so few businesses using a social marketing strategy, Hill, an entrepreneurship and marketing major, and Johnson, a sports management major with a minor in business administration, decided to step in.

“With 96 percent of Generation Y consumers on some form of social network, why wouldn’t they have a page,” Hill said. “Especially since it’s a quicker, more efficient means of promotion.”

According to Hill, it is essential for businesses to use social networking channels to attract existing and potential consumers, and a cost-efficient, effective way is through social media. In fact, Hill and Johnson found that 78 percent of consumers trust peer recommendations, and only 14 percent accept the traditional advertising methods.

TalkToMe Media began its first campaign with a Dayton business, Key Sports. This event-coordinating organization helps local charities and businesses create 5K running events and works with UD students to establish the Frericks 5K Run.

Although each organization is different and therefore has different marketing strategies, TalkToMe Media creates, establishes and continues to manage Facebook, Twitter, Digg and Mixx pages for each company.

“We develop customized tabs to better differentiate their page from any other,” Hill said.

For Key Sports, TalkToMe focused on event coordination, allowing consumers to easily interact with the companies and enhance the availability of information to key publics.

Two fundamental qualities unique to TalkToMe Media are that the students continue to update and manage the social networks as well as increase consumer interaction.

According to Hill and Johnson, they turn a client’s networking page from an uninteresting forum to an interactive opportunity to talk to clients and gain new ones.

TalkToMe Media has provided a positive learning experience and compensation, Hill and Johnson said. It now consists of the two UD juniors and a student at Ohio State University, and they are in the process of interviewing new hires. The students continue to market themselves and are hoping to take on three additional clients within the next month. Hill and Johnson both said this company will be a large part of their post-graduation future.

“It’s one of those businesses you can do from home,” Johnson said. “Social media is continuing to grow, and if it has as much success as we see for it, we could be doing this for a long time.”

To learn more about TalkToMe Media, go to www.talktomemedia.com.
School of engineering has record enrollment

RANDI SHESHULL
Staff Writer

The school of engineering has grown exponentially in the past 10 years, reaching a record high in 2009 with 579 first-year students. The numbers for the 2010 school year have since exceeded that record, with the school currently enrolling 436 first-year students.

Recent enrollment growth is linked to students seeking service to society, job opportunities and a transformative, well-rounded education, said Tony Saliba, dean of the engineering school.

“Students are realizing that through engineering, they can serve society by solving problems,” Saliba said. “Whether it’s developing a new medicine, generating drinking water, finding new energy sources or engineer- ing new materials, it is a calling to help society.”

There is more awareness now than ever about the lack of resources on the planet and the need for these problems to be fixed immediately, according to Saliba. He said he believes that students today are realizing that it is not an option, but a responsibility, to recognize and solve global problems, if people wish to maintain their quality of life.

Another way the engineering depart- ment is flourishing is through UD’s ETHOS Engineers in Technical Humanitarian Opportunities of Service Learning program. The program incorporates leading, learning and serving by taking students outside of campus to gain real world experience. Students are trained to take their knowledge of engineering to another country and use it to solve a problem with the country’s own resources. Students travel to areas in Latin America, Africa and Asia to participate in the program, according to UD’s Center for International Programs website.

The type of education that UD offers also has played a role in the growth of the engineering program, Saliba said. According to Saliba, the school of engineering offers a transformative, well-rounded education, focusing on innovation and entrepreneurship with a unique combination of professional, liberal arts and leadership education.

“We are at the forefront of education in the country, and our flagship is the innovation center that draws on other UD schools,” Saliba said. “Innovation is the engine that will drive our economic growth, and the spirit of entrepreneurship puts students in the mindset to help them be successful.”

According to a university press re- lease, the school of engineering has vast diversity in its incoming class, with minority students making up 10 percent. Of the first-year engineering students, 20.9 percent are females versus the national percentage of 18.2. The number of black and Hispanic students in the incoming class has nearly doubled since the 2006-2007 year when only 23 of these students were enrolled in comparison to this year’s 42 students.

In addition, the civil engineering program students have a 100 percent passing rate on the Fundamentals of Engineering exam, which all engineers must take to become certified, while the national passing average is 80 percent. The UD student chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers has been ranked number one in the world, and a Chemical En- gineering Student recently won first place in the 2010 SAMPF [Society for the Advancement of Material and Pro- cesses] International Student Symposium.

But Saliba does not name off facts or monetary statistics when asked what he is most proud of regarding the engineering school.

“I am most proud that our students adopted the Marianist spirit of leader- ship and service,” he said. “They re- ally embody it and implement it. They use their technical skills to make a dif- ference in society.”

ENTREPRENEURSHIP FRATERNITY EXPANDS ACROSS COUNTRY, STAYS TRUE TO VALUES

ANNA BEYERLE
News Editor

A professional fraternity founded at UD has recently expanded to two other schools in the nation, proving that Epsilon Nu Tau holds true to the principles on which it was founded.

Epsilon Nu Tau was established in the spring of 2008 as a group for students interested in entre- preneurship-based fraternity in the U.S. at the time.

In the two years since then, the fraternity has grown to nearly 40 members, and two new chapters have been founded at Texas State University and California State Uni- versity, Fullerton.

Unlike many other professional fraternities on campus, members of ENT are not required to have a certain major to join. Although it originally started in the business school, members are studying anything from biology to engineering or political science.

“For us, entrepreneurship is a mindset, not a major, and we’re a brotherhood of like-minded individ- uals,” said Rob Starrett, CEO of the fraternity.

The fraternity has three tiers of involvement: professional, service and social, according to Ben Oren, chief financial officer of ENT. Each year, members attend the Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization Conference in Chicago, Ill., where they actively encourage other schools to start chapters. They also have host- ed many speakers from the entre- preneurial field, such as Ray Wiley, CEO of Hot Head Burritos, who will be visiting later this fall.

In addition, brothers are required to complete a certain amount of service hours, and many of these hours are completed through service proj- ects set up by the fraternity and events such as Spike for Charity and Relay for Life. The fraternity also sponsors many social events, such as trips to Dayton Dragons baseball games, golf outings and formals.

ENT is a very distinctive fraternity in its membership, accor- ding to Starrett. Many high-profile members of other organizations on campus are brothers, such as the CEO of Flyer Enterprises, and the president, vice president and chief of staff for SGA. This provides for a matchless social and professional networking opportunity for brothers, Starrett said.

“We’re a unique fraternity,” Oren said. “Partially because we just started; we’re small and still growing. Members can step in, be active and make a difference right away.”

ENT’s three main officers, the CEO, CFO and chief operating officer, are the leaders of an executive board that adds to the fraternity’s exceptionality, according to Oren. In addition to the main officers, 12 chair positions also are on the board, each of which has a sub-chair to help with the tasks. Through this structure, every member of the fraternity has a spot on the executive board and a direct hand in ENT’s success.

“Everyone has more of a first-hand, managerial role,” said Sarah Milnar- cik, COO. “[Brothers] are actually able to experience understanding how a real business works.”

E-mail epsilonnutau@gmail.com if interested in rushing or with any questions about the fraternity. Rush week begins Mon., Sept. 13.
WAR (cont. from p. 1)

The war, once known as Operation Iraqi Freedom, will now be referred to as Operation New Dawn, Obama said during Tuesday's address. According to Obama, the conclusion of the seven-year war is in America's best interest.

“It is time to turn the page,” he said in the press conference.

Over the course of those seven years, 1.5 million troops were deployed to Iraq, with many serving multiple tours, according to the Washington Post. Over the course of the U.S. occupation, there were more than 4,400 American casualties and 32,000 wounded. It is estimated that Operation Iraqi Freedom cost the U.S. $740 billion. Approximately 100,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed, according to the New York Daily News.

While the end of combat in Iraq is a milestone, the U.S. still has a huge presence in the war-torn country of Afghanistan, something that cannot be overlooked, according to Dr. Anthony Talbott, a UD professor in the political science department.

“It’s about time,” Talbott said. “But the significance of the draw down in Iraq is overshadowed by our increas-ingly dangerous and untenable position in Afghanistan.”

According to the Washington Post, Obama now plans to focus funds on continuing the war in Afghanistan, as well as improving the U.S. economy.

Following Obama’s troop surge initiative in early 2010, there are nearly 100,000 American troops occupying Afghanistan, the most since the initial invasion of the country in 2001, according to the New York Times.

Obama’s decision to end the war in Iraq is a major decision that should reflect positively on the U.S. economy, according to Fitz.

“The most important thing for college-age students in this situation is to regulate the economy so you can have a job when you graduate,” Fitz said. Most Americans of college age have little memory of a U.S. not at war with Iraq, something significant to this age group, according to Dan Hughes, a UD senior and member of Air Force ROTC.

“That will define our generation to an extent,” Hughes said. “It’s hard for us to remember a time when there wasn’t conflict.”

Hughes was expecting the possibility of deployment soon after graduation, but said it’s becoming less and less of a reality that it will happen. According to Hughes, many members of Air Force ROTC ROTC may be disappointed by this fact, hoping they could be sent to the Middle East and apply the training they learned in college.

About 6,000 Air Force jobs have recently been cut either directly or indirectly from the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom, according to Hughes. Presently, more students are entering ROTC than the Air Force has jobs for, less of a reality that it will happen. According to Hughes, many members of Air Force ROTC ROTC may be disappointed by this fact, hoping they could be sent to the Middle East and apply the training they learned in college.

About 6,000 Air Force jobs have recently been cut either directly or indirectly from the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom, according to Hughes. Presently, more students are entering ROTC than the Air Force has jobs for, posing a problem for students hoping to make a career from their training, he said.

Even though the warfare has ended, Iraq is still somewhere to watch during the next few months, Hughes said.

“While the combat has ended, this part is even more critical,” Hughes said. “This may be the make or break time for Iraq’s future success.”

Iraq was initially invaded on March 20, 2003, after the country was suspected to be in possession of weapons of mass destruction. George W. Bush called for a surge of troops in 2007, which then-Senator Obama opposed, CNN said. Though WMDs were never found in Iraq, the invasion was responsible for toppling Saddam Hussein’s authoritarian regime in the country.

“It’s well known that [Bush] and I disagreed about the war from its outset.” Obama said in the press conference.

“Yet no one could doubt President Bush’s support for our troops, or his love of country and commitment to our security.”

Several Republicans have spoken out and criticized Obama’s state-ments, saying troops would not have been able to pull out of Iraq without Bush’s troop surge, according to CBS.

“If we had done what President Obama wanted, we would have failed in Iraq,” John McCain, a Republican senator from Arizon and Obama’s 2008 presidential opponent, said on the CBS “Early Show” Wednesday, Sept. 1. He specifically criticized Obama for not giving Bush more credit in his Tuesday night press conference.

Vice President Joe Biden officially transferred power of combat opera-tions to Iraq during a formal ceremo-ny on Sept. 1, according to the New York Daily News. He confirmed that the U.S. will continue to help Iraq become stable in the upcoming year and that the new chapter in the country’s future will be a positive one.

“...I believe the darkest days are over,” Biden said.
CITY FIRES UP FOR FIRST FRIDAY
Monthly downtown block party shows off wide range of entertainment, features UD first-year student’s band

Looking for a party with free admission and diverse entertainment?
If you answered yes, then mark your calendars for tonight’s First Friday.
From 5 to 10 p.m. on the first Friday of each month, locations throughout Dayton offer a chance to experience downtown culture. Different types of artists display their talents, creating a sensory feast.

“I like to tell people that everything they see, you can only experience in Dayton,” said Kristen Wicker, special projects coordinator for the Downtown Dayton Partnership.

Tonight’s First Friday will feature over 15 businesses and locales. Along with them are what Wicker calls “roaming artists,” who will take to the streets with their instruments.

The artists will play everything from classical to jazz, but they aren’t just limited to music. Also participating in the walk will be SMAG Dance Collective and the Tap Factor.

Other exhibits include pieces from the K12 Gallery and the Dayton Visual Arts Center.

The K12 Gallery will display artwork created during its summer programs, while DVAC will showcase a mosaic created by many collaborators.

“Dayton is a real D-I-Y ['Do it yourself'] town,” Wicker said.

Also at First Friday, theater fans can experience “Frank's Life” at 8 p.m. at the Dayton Theatre Guild. The play, a black comedy, depicts Frank as the unwitting star of a soap opera.

The entertainment at First Friday even has a UD connection.

Good English, featuring UD first-year Elizabeth Rasmussen.

“I guess all I really have to say is how excited I am to have the opportunity to be amongst such talented women artists, musicians and performers,” Rasmussen said. “It’s great to see the community respecting women artists, musicians and performers in a society where so often we go unnoticed, especially in music.”

Good English will play at cspace, as part of the weekend-long Ladyfest event.

For attendees interested in history, local historians and authors Leon Bey and Curt Dalton will lead the “Ghosts, Cemeteries and Murders Walk of Downtown Dayton.” Anyone interested in walking should meet at the rear of Courthouse Square at Third and Main streets at 7 p.m.

Walks are $10 per person. Call 937-274-4749 to reserve a space.

“These walks are incredibly interesting and well done and definitely worth the $10,” Wicker said.

Wicker said she wants students not to be wary about being alone downtown.

“I’ve walked down these streets by myself every First Friday, and never once did I feel unsafe,” she said.

She also said First Friday is an experience for all ages.

“If I hear from UD seniors who’ll say, ‘Gosh, I didn’t know this was here,’” Wicker said.

Admission to First Friday is free.

For a full listing of participants, go to the Downtown Dayton Partnership website or the First Friday Facebook page.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE COLVIN

**Daniel Whitford**
Lead A&E Writer

 monthly downtown block party shows off wide range of entertainment, features UD first-year student’s band

5th st clayworx, 523 E. Fifth St.
Blind Bob's, 430 E. Fifth St.
Cannery Art and Design Center, 434 E. Third St.
Color of Energy, 16 Brown St.
cisspace, 20 N. Jefferson St.
Dayton Theatre Guild, 430 Wayne Ave.
Dayton Visual Arts Center, 118 N. Jefferson St.
Gallery 510 Fine Art, 510 N. Jefferson St.
Practice Yoga on Fifth, 504 E. Fifth St.
ReCreate, 438 E. Fourth St.
K12 Gallery for Young People, 510 E. Third St.
Practice Yoga on Fifth, 504 E. Fifth St.
Wiley's Comedy Niteclub, 101 Pine St.

**AND MANY MORE!**
FESTIVAL CELEBRATES WOMEN
GINA GERHART
Staff Writer

Along with First Friday, the third annual Ladyfest will take place downtown tonight through Saturday.

Ladyfest is an all-ages event at cispase, a volunteer-based community arts and entertainment venue, located at 20 N. Jefferson St. This three-day festival is dedicated to celebrating the art, music and voices of women.

Friday’s activities run from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturday’s activities run from 3 p.m. to 1 a.m. and Sunday’s activities run from 3 to 8 p.m. A suggested donation of $10 for admittance will be donated to local charities.

“We really wanted to showcase the talented female artists in the area because the majority of the festivals were male dominated,” said Mary Kathryn Burnside, the festival’s main coordinator.

“What we are looking for is to bring something different and cool to Dayton.”

According to the festival’s website, Ladyfest will feature bands, musical groups, performance artists, authors, and spoken word and visual artists.

The road to Friday’s Ladyfest began when a friend of Burnside’s attended the original Ladyfest in Olympia, Wash. After that, Burnside and her friend both agreed to bring something similar to Dayton.

The Dayton Ladyfest has since evolved from a simple concept to an annual event.

Burnside said she is optimistic about this year’s festival.

“Ladyfest is going to be just really laid back with all types of different people with something for everybody,” she said.

Many musical genres will be represented at Ladyfest, Burnside said.

“We have a little bit of everything music wise; hip hop, folk, punk [and] indie,” she said.

One of these bands is Cincinnati-based “hybrid folk, pop and electronic” band The Seedy Seeds.

“This will be our third year performing,” said the band’s guitarist, vocalist and accordion player, Margaret Darling. “We’ve had so much fun in the past, we couldn’t pass it up.”

Darling is a “true believer” in the festival and supports its goal of generating appreciation of the arts.

“I’m excited my band will be involved again with a festival that aims to bring attention to women artists within the greater Dayton community and that gives a platform for those artists to share and network,” Darling said.

For more information, visit the Dayton Ladyfest’s Facebook page.

AGPS & ENTERTAINMENT
Flyer News Friday, September 3, 2010

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

230 STONEMILL

House Specs: 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, laundry room, long driveway, 2 porches, Thaddeus and Clancy, Boo Kitty

Flyer News: What should we know about all of you?
Courtney Heinekamp: Five of us have lived together in some way or another since freshman year, starting in Founders 4 South. And then we lived in 225 Irving last year, and Tori came along at the last minute, and that’s how we’re here.

FN: Any house traditions?
Nicky Hanus: We’ll have breakfast together every Monday.

FN: What’s been your most memorable moment here?
Amy Hatfield: Gotta be the invasion of the unknown freshman.

TO: There was this freshman who had, like, 600 questions. And finally, she [CH] comes in the room and asks me to come out into the yard, to get away from this girl.

FN: So, who’s Boo Kitty?
[RB grabs Boo Kitty, a stuffed cat who’s seen better days]

NH: We found him at Big Lots freshman year, and he’s been through quite a lot since then.

EK: He’s good to scare freshman away with.

RB: Good way to clear out a party. [RB tries to balance Boo Kitty on a jar. He keeps falling over.]

CH: Let’s talk about his missing leg.

NH: Missing leg? Let’s talk about his tail, or his no jaw?

FN: So... that hole in the ceiling...

EK: That just came today. [Maintenance] came to carve it out.

CH: They said something was leaking.

NH: There were like four visits in one day. They just kinda left. I was sitting there, eating chips and salsa while it happened.

TO: She was watching them.

CH: “Excuse me, I think you’re doing it wrong.”

NH: I’m kinda scared though, like if the shower came through the floor.

FN: How about the polar bear poster, or the seal one?

TO: Oh. Those are Thaddeus [the polar bear] and Clancy [the seal].

FN: Which one’s Alan?

All but NH: Nicky!

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Roommates: Seniors Nicky Hanus, Amy Hatfield, Tori Oelschlager, Renee Beach, Eileen Kennedy and Courtney Heinekamp ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eileen Kennedy and Courtney Heinekamp ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eileen Kennedy and Courtney Heinekamp  ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

230 STONEMILL

FN: Any house rules?

TO: The six best friends that anyone could have... Come on, you’ve seen “The Hangover,” right?

FN: Which one’s Alan?

All but NH: Nicky!

FOR AN EXCLUSIVE VIDEO >> www.flyernews.com
RESPONSIBILITY:
END OF COMBAT CREATES TIME FOR REFLECTION

“We have met our responsibilities,” President Barack Obama said, declaring the end of combat and direct military involvement in Iraq.

These responsibilities have endured since long before UD’s undergraduates could vote. At the time of the fall of the twin towers, most of us were sitting in grade school classrooms.

Many say the war that officially ended on Tuesday, Aug. 31, was declared on a September morning almost a decade ago. The war on terror and the conflict in Iraq became a backdrop for American adolescents whose childhood innocence crashed down in the rubble of New York’s Twin Towers.

For a country that has become accustomed to an ever increasing death toll from the Middle East, this official end of military involvement raises many questions.

What does this really mean? Is this really the end?

We remember the years of bloodshed that followed a declaration of “mission accomplished” in Iraq. Obama was careful not to use those particular words or the flair of his predecessor in this regard, but he too leaves troops, approximately 50,000, in the country for peacekeeping purposes.

Though they are scheduled to leave in the following year, we are left to wonder, in our generation, what does victory really look like? Does modern warfare mean there can be no victory dancing in Times Square?

A war against a concept means the enemy can never be completely eliminated. But with the end of combat in Iraq, there is new energy and hope to channel toward issues at home and abroad.

Obama emphasized a fresh focus on the economy and job creation that will surely affect our futures. Likewise at this historic turning point seven years after the conflict began, our generation has an opportunity to reflect on how we heal and grow past a war.

Despite ever-present questions of religious and cultural misunderstanding, FN expresses hope for the future.

Judgement:
Hollywood’s inaccurate portrayals of homosexuals encourage stereotyping

Take for instance, the recently released movie “Sex and the City 2.” The film depicts the same-sex wedding of characters Stanford Blatch and Anthony Marentino.

Rather than furthering the plot of the movie, the wedding serves as a three-ring circus with such acts as a sequin-clad Liza Minnelli. It is entertainment, and at the expense of a large part of our population.

The media’s effect on us is terrifyingly underrated. We can acknowledge its presence, but it is almost impossible to gauge the extent to which it influences our perceptions.

It is because of this that inaccurate generalizations are so dangerous. It is not always easy for us to decipher the profound effect that constantly seeing these generalizations has, but by continuing to indulge in media that wrongly depicts people, we are only perpetuating the cycle.

I find it strange that movies that supposedly portray real life would write characters solely based on their sexuality.

I can’t think of a single person I know whose personality is purely based on stereotypes of his or her sexual preference.

In some cases, the characters do not have to be present to be mocked. For instance, characters in the movie “Mean Girls” make numerous gay slurs, including a homeschooled child claiming, “God created the Remington bolt-action rifle, so that man could fight the dinosaurs. And the homosexuals.” Later on a pink-polo owning high school boy is accused of being “too gay to function.” I saw “Mean Girls” in the theater. The crowd was LOZing like it was “The Hangover.”

This is not to say that every movie with gay characters exploits them. For instance, movies like “Brokeback Mountain” use gay characters to recount a rarely discussed part of American history. The sexuality of the two men was not present merely for the sake of comedic effect.

These discriminatory characterizations will probably never go away; as long as people keep laughing, they will continue to be written into films.

While I don’t expect movie audiences to boycott theaters, I think it is vital that we not allow these stereotypes to be repeated in our own lives.

There is a separation between the movies and our day to day existence, and we should take caution not to tread that fine line.

Word on the street...
What class are you most excited for this semester?

“Adaptive Physical Education…. We get to work with special needs children.”

EMILY BESANCENÉZ, JUNIOR
PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

“Accounting 305. And Management 204 because I can learn about U.S. laws.”

RAED ALHAMEDI, SENIOR
ACCOUNTING

“Human Sexuality. The topics truly interests me.”

MEG O’CONNOR, SENIOR
PUBLIC RELATIONS
Different Perspectives: 
American ideals must triumph over ignorance

To sound the adhan or to not sound the adhan?

In the Manhattan district of New York City, a construction proposal has the whole nation asking this question. More specifically, can the Islamic call to prayer ring from minarets in shouting distance from where Islamic extremists brought down towers of American life and crashed planes into the American spirit?

A seemingly clear cut issue has ignited passions on all sides of the political spectrum. The Cordoba Initiative, an organization “dedicated to improving Muslim-West relations” as per their website, recently purchased a building a few blocks from Ground Zero, the site of 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. The organization takes its name from a city in Spain that historically served as an intellectual meeting point for people of Islamic, Christian and Jewish Traditions. The idyllic image conjured by the name sadly seems a far cry from the partisan bickering that has engulfed the proposal construction.

The reasoning for the construction is solid. The justification against it rests on shakier ground. The proposed building is not simply a traditional mosque but rather an entire community center. The design calls for a 15 floor building including an auditorium, lecture hall, library and classrooms. Among the rooms for cooking classes, the gym and pool for exercise, and the nursery for childcare, there also is a Muslim prayer space. It is this area, a room for worship among other spaces for play and learning, that is serving as fodder for an incredibly outspoken opposition.

Some republican commentators decry the construction as a testament to terrorism. They obviously do not know much about monuments. The hijackers attempted to crush the American soul and wound a powerful giant of freedom. A monument to this would be shambles of a building, an economy, a spirit. Instead, the creation of a Muslim community center is a 15 story high statement that our values of freedom are stronger than ever. Yes, extremists from the Islamic faith did horrible things, but even that cannot shake our resolve that peaceful people of all traditions have the right to worship as they believe.

Sarah Palin, a darling of the radicals on the right, pundits of the left and everyone with a sense of humor in between, raised another common complaint against the proposed center. She said the construction stabs at the heart of the still “too real and too raw” pain from the terrorist attacks.

The loss of life in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks was as immeasurable as such an assault was unfathomable. The pain caused by this loss cannot be calculated and should not be trivialized. But when must the pain of the past be honored more than the facts of the future? I choose not to side with American sadness but rather to focus on our strength. No matter how intense the opposition, we always fight to let freedom ring – even from a minaret.

In the Manhattan district of New York City, a construction proposal has the whole nation asking this question. More specifically, can the Islamic call to prayer ring from minarets in shouting distance from where Islamic extremists brought down towers of American life and crashed planes into the American spirit?

A seemingly clear cut issue has ignited passions on all sides of the political spectrum. The Cordoba Initiative, an organization “dedicated to improving Muslim-West relations” as per their website, recently purchased a building a few blocks from Ground Zero, the site of 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. The organization takes its name from a city in Spain that historically served as an intellectual meeting point for people of Islamic, Christian and Jewish Traditions. The idyllic image conjured by the name sadly seems a far cry from the partisan bickering that has engulfed the proposal construction.

The reasoning for the construction is solid. The justification against it rests on shakier ground. The proposed building is not simply a traditional mosque but rather an entire community center. The design calls for a 15 floor building including an auditorium, lecture hall, library and classrooms. Among the rooms for cooking classes, the gym and pool for exercise, and the nursery for childcare, there also is a Muslim prayer space. It is this area, a room for worship among other spaces for play and learning, that is serving as fodder for an incredibly outspoken opposition.

Some republican commentators decry the construction as a testament to terrorism. They obviously do not know much about monuments. The hijackers attempted to crush the American soul and wound a powerful giant of freedom. A monument to this would be shambles of a building, an economy, a spirit. Instead, the creation of a Muslim community center is a 15 story high statement that our values of freedom are stronger than ever. Yes, extremists from the Islamic faith did horrible things, but even that cannot shake our resolve that peaceful people of all traditions have the right to worship as they believe.

Sarah Palin, a darling of the radicals on the right, pundits of the left and everyone with a sense of humor in between, raised another common complaint against the proposed center. She said the construction stabs at the heart of the still “too real and too raw” pain from the terrorist attacks.

The loss of life in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks was as immeasurable as such an assault was unfathomable. The pain caused by this loss cannot be calculated and should not be trivialized. But when must the pain of the past be honored more than the facts of the future? I choose not to side with American sadness but rather to focus on our strength. No matter how intense the opposition, we always fight to let freedom ring – even from a minaret.

By flying in, we can worship whatever higher power they believe. In my opinion, no. One of America’s founding principles is the idea that citizens of the United States can worship whatever higher power they believe in, without fear of persecution by the government or by other citizens. For this reason, it is disconcerting to see today’s politicians so strongly against the construction of the mosque. Politicians worry me when they begin to speak purely with emotion and not with any form of rationale because I wonder what would happen if politicians started discriminating against my religion. I also worry when politicians conduct themselves according to political strategy rather than standing firm behind the articles of our foundation which have worked for over 230 years. The First Amendment has not been appealed, and therefore those who chose to construct a mosque in New York City have the right to do so.

But, should a mosque be built near Ground Zero? In light of the recent controversy, I think the mosque should be placed somewhere else.

The seed has been planted in many individuals’ minds that the mosque is at Ground Zero. Some will choose to ignore the fact that the mosque is within proximity, but not physically on the hallowed grounds of the World Trade Center, leading to further controversy. I believe if the mosque is built protesters will reside outside the community center hindering the peacefulness of prayer and learning. Furthermore, there is a mosque, the Masjid Manhattan and the Assafa Islamic Center, within blocks of the current proposed mosque. I believe that people are too set in their ways to allow the mosque to be built in the proposed location near ground zero, and therefore I no longer think it wise to build there.

Next time, I’d like to see religious tolerance so that the equal men and women such as you and me, who chose to worship at a certain location, may do freely according to their constitutional rights.

OPINIONS
Flyer News - Friday, September 3, 2010

Appropriate conduct key to good leadership, credibility

Recently, the Princeton Review described UD as “academically challenging yet unpretentious,” a campus where porches symbolize “community.”

Perhaps it is because I agree with the Princeton Review’s characterization of UD and its use of the word “unpretentious” that I was surprised to read “if you want to be us” on a bed sheet hanging from SGA President Jim Saywell’s house on Evanston during New Student Orientation.

In politics there is a timeless adage that states perception is reality. It is clear that SGA has a credibility problem, not only amongst students and peers, but with faculty, staff and administrators at all levels. SGA is viewed by many (perhaps rightfully so) as a clique, an exclusive organization that is above its own rules or the rules of the university. Mr. Saywell’s sheet is a classic example of why this perception permeates. However, Mr. Saywell’s act affects more than his own credibility. His actions directly reflect SGA and in turn, every undergraduate student at UD.

Despite what you may think, SGA is not autonomous. SGA works closely with administrators to improve the quality of life for the undergraduate population. Therefore, if administrators cannot trust Mr. Saywell (or SGA) to behave appropriately and act wisely, how will they be able to trust SGA on issues of greater consequence and importance – issues like fiscal transparency (ex. SGA’s budget is almost $200,000), the renovation of Stuart Field, digital signage or increased independence for student organizations?

Therefore, I propose a challenge to students and administrators at UD – hold student leaders and student organizations accountable. Administrators, if a student organization does something different than their stated mission, call them out. Students, when your president acts inappropriately or unethically, call him out.

We, as students, cannot be trusted with more autonomy until we prove that we can hold our peers accountable. Until there is accountability from administrators and peers, we will continue to lose credibility.

And so, like the countless cars that drove by 3 Evanston during move-in, I choose not to honk but to continue driving by.

Jeff Schumacher
Sophomore
Political Science/Economics

letter to the editor

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Our Policy
Club Racquetball

ROOMMATES CREATE NEW UD SPORTS CRAZE

CHRIS MOORMAN
Chief Sports Staff Writer

Lead, follow, or get out of the way. Juniors Evan Levine and Phil Wise decided to lead.

The two roommates are the founders of the newest University of Dayton club team.

The club racquetball team is in its first full year of existence after Levine and Wise, club president and vice president, received confirmation from the office of student life on the last day of spring semester in 2010.

Levine, a communication management major, and Wise, an education major, had never been part of a club before, but were looking to doing something more meaningful.

“Last year we were just thinking about ways to get involved because we really wanted to get involved in a way that impacted the university or other students – not just joining another club,” Levine said.

The idea to start a club racquetball team was at first an inside joke. After playing a game against each other, they thought it would be funny to start their own club, according to Levine.

The pair went to Kennedy Union, and found out their joke might become the next UD sensation. After a quick survey of some friends, the duo had its answer.

“We posed the question, ‘What would you think of a possible racquetball club here on campus?’,” Wise said. “And everyone that we posed it to was like ‘Oh yeah, that’d be awesome.’”

Levine and Wise quickly filled out the paperwork for starting a club, and with a little help from the club’s faculty adviser J. Frazier Smith, Levine got the good news moments before his last final, he said.

Racquetball wasn’t something the two played competitively, or at least, at a level higher, until last year. Levine played baseball and football in high school, while Wise was a three-sport athlete playing baseball, soccer and wrestling.

Levine and Wise aren’t the best racquetball players on their own club team, but it doesn’t take a Michael Jordan, or the racquetball equivalent, Cliff Swain, to start a craze.

The club’s founders said they are surprised by how excited people are about a new club racquetball team.

“We started the club, and now everyone is joining,” Wise said.

The hardest part for this enterprising twosome isn’t playing racquetball, but all their administrative tasks. Levine and Wise still have a long list of things to do before the team can go to its first tournament at the University of Akron on Friday, Oct. 1 through Sunday, Oct. 3.

“You know, [we have to] get a van, get certified to drive the van [and] find someone who is CPR-certified to be with us at the tournament – the stuff that makes the university happy and us safe,” Levine said.

The team plans to travel to four other tournaments from Cincinnati to Davison, Mich. These tournaments are a chance to have fun playing racquetball against the 10 other teams in the Mid-East Racquetball Conference. But, the club’s founders are focused on winning no matter how little time the team has been together.

“We want to go to tournaments, and we want to win,” Levine said. “But at the same time, we’re laid back guys. We’re not going to make our team run and stuff. The only way to get better at racquetball is to keep playing racquetball.”

This kind of attitude has made club racquetball very popular in such a short amount of time. A full club racquetball team consists of 16 players split between eight males and eight females. According to Levine and Wise, they’ll have around 30 interested members when two-a-week practices start in the coming weeks.

The founders of UD’s newest club sport said they wanted their legacy to reflect on the university they love that has been so accepting of their idea.

“We want to go to tournaments wanting to win, not go there to fool around and get our butts whipped,” Levine said. “We want to make the University of Dayton known for playing racquetball.”

Volleyball

Hausfelds honored with Legacy Match

NATE WAGGENSPACK
Assistant Sports Editor

When Alter High School volleyball coach Tina Jasinsowski learned of the death of University of Dayton junior Kacie Hausfeld and her father Pat Hausfeld in April 2010, she was upset and looked for a way to help cope.

Fan-favorite Kacie was a setter on the UD volleyball team for the past three years. She helped anchor the Flyers to another Atlantic 10 Conference championship last fall with a team-leading 6.1 assists per set.

“Everybody was looking for something to do,” Jasinsowski said. “What can I do to help myself through this?”

For Jasinsowski, who coached Kacie for four years and won two state titles, it became about the fact that Tom and Kacie were positive, giving people. She decided that she wanted to be involved in something that preserved their legacy and helped people to continue remembering that positive attitude.

According to Jasinsowski, Tippecanoe High School volleyball coach Pat Carus approached her and said he wanted to be involved in a memorial event. Carus had known Tom Hausfeld for years and wanted to participate in whatever he could.

Jasinsowski said they decided to host a volleyball match in the Hausfelds’ memory. The Hausfeld Legacy Volleyball Match was held Thursday, Sept. 2, with the varsity match beginning at 6:30 p.m. Trent Arena, Kettering Fairmont High School’s gymnasium, hosted the event due to the high attendance.

Alter was scheduled to play at Tippecanoe at that time, but Carus volunteered to move the match back to Kettering so his team could be involved in the event.

“It’s a way to stay positive in the wake of something horrific,” Jasinsowski said. “It is a positive thing; I didn’t want to call it a memorial but instead legacy to remember [Kacie and Tom].”

Before the varsity match, there was a dedication, and Kacie’s Alter jersey was retired. Jasinsowski said she hoped the game would be a “positive” and “uplifting” event for all.

She also focused upon Kacie’s attitude and leadership throughout high school, not just her contributions as a player on the court.

“She made a huge mark in terms of statistics and player contributions, but also her senior year, we would not have won state without her leadership,” Jasinsowski said. “I have no doubt about that. From junior to senior year, she really gained the maturity. I really think she was the primary reason we were able to win that.”

The Hausfeld Legacy Volleyball Match is planned to become an annual event, which Jasinsowski believes will be great for Kacie and Tom’s memory and for their scholarship fund, she said.

“It will be nice if we can keep getting the people to come out and keep on giving their money to that fund,” she said. “That will keep things going well.”

T-shirts and wristbands were sold at the match with all proceeds benefitting the Kacie and Tom Hausfeld Scholarship Fund.
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FLYERS AIMING FOR PFL TITLE

The Flyer football team prepares for a run at an 11th Pioneer Football League title during a practice on Monday, Aug. 30, at Welcome Stadium. Dayton's season begins Saturday, Sept. 4, at 1 p.m. against Robert Morris at home, where the team will play four of its first five games. JARED SZCZYK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DAN VOHDEN
Assistant Sports Editor

Expectations are always high for the Flyer football team, considering its pedigree of 10 Pioneer Football League titles.

“This year proves to be no exception as the squad returns 15 starters, 18 on offense, from a team that went 9-2 and captured a share of the PFL crown last fall.”

With the season opening Saturday against Robert Morris, however, for head coach Rick Chamberlin, it’s business as usual.

“I feel this year is no different than any other year,” Chamberlin said. “Dayton has always been, and I hope continues to be, one of the favorites each year for a PFL championship. Whether we are picked first or fourth in the preseason poll, it doesn’t matter to our players because they are going to approach the season with the same intensity and attitude in both cases.”

The rest of the league has already taken note of Dayton’s potential for the upcoming season as UD received four of 10 first place votes amongst PFL coaches, making it the preseason favorite for an 11th title.

For Chamberlin, though, the focus still is on just winning games.

“Our first goal every year is to have a winning record no matter how many players we have returning,” Chamberlin said. “We have had a winning record 34 out of the last 35 seasons, and that is a tradition we want to continue here at UD. Now the second goal is to have the opportunity to be playing for a PFL championship going into the last game of the season.”

At the forefront of UD’s returning offense is last season’s PFL Offensive Player of the Year Steve Valentino. After starting 2009 as a wide receiver, Valentino moved into the quarterback position after injuries to both of UD’s other QBs forced him into it.

Starting the final 10 games, Valentino led the PFL in total offensive yards, averaging 281.6 yards per game, and rushed for over 700 total yards during the season.

Adding to the accolades, Valentino also was selected in July to the Walter Payton Award Watch List, an award given to the top offensive player in the Football Championship Subdivision conferences. It was the first time a UD player has been selected.

Other returning starters include Valentino’s co-captains Tyler Friedrich and Joe Ries, both former First-Team All-PFL performers. With the depth of this year’s team, Chamberlin expects a lot of his veterans to contribute in a big way, Chamberlin said. “All of them have been in the program a long time, and they all know what it takes to keep this program a winner. Of course we would expect players like Steve Valentino, James Verкамen, Joe Ries, Justin Watkins, Tyler Friedrich and Brandon Wingate, all of whom had great seasons last year, to continue that type of play this year.”

The season opener is scheduled to kick-off Saturday, Sept. 4, at 1 p.m. at Welcome Stadium, a game the program hopes will help jump-start another successful season of UD football. But as far as Chamberlin is concerned, what UD did last season, and all the preseason hype, becomes irrelevant.

“On paper has never won a championship,” Chamberlin said. “It is how the team performs on the field.”

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

09.04 ROBERT MORRIS 1 P.M.
09.11 Duquesne 12 P.M.
09.18 MOREHEAD STATE 1 P.M.
09.25 CENTRAL STATE 7 P.M.
10.02 VALPARAISO 1 P.M.
10.09 San Diego 5 P.M.
10.16 Butler 1 P.M.
10.23 CAMPBELL 1 P.M.
10.30 Davidson 1 P.M.
11.06 Drake 1 P.M.
11.13 Marist 12 P.M.

*HOME GAMES CAPITALIZED

UD baseball succeeding at next level

JACOB ROSEN
Sports Editor

College baseball remains months away, but in the professional world, the University of Dayton continues to impress.

Cameron Hobson and Cole Tyrell were both selected in the First-Year Player Draft in June, taking two different paths to the eventual goal of playing in the major leagues.

Hobson decided to return to school after being selected in the 37th round by the New York Yankees. The left-handed pitcher still has two more years of eligibility remaining.

Tyrell, a 42nd round pick by the San Diego Padres, signed and started playing shortly after his senior year at UD. The utility infielder is currently playing for the Eugene Emeralds of the short-season Class A Northwest League, but has struggled adjusting to professional pitching so far.

“It’s just a lot different, and it is a completely different game than the college game,” he said. “The attitude’s a lot different, the preparation’s a lot different, and the lifestyle and the travel and everything is just a lot more focused. You have to be a lot more self-reliant than you would have to be in college.”

Through 29 games played this year, Tyrell has a meager .171 batting average while appearing at four different positions in the field. The Northwest League’s season ends Monday, Sept. 6, and his biggest adjustment has been as a catcher, a position he learned to add to his value in the Padres system.

Thanks to Hobson, however, Dayton will be returning all three of its weekend starters in what could be another successful season. He admits the pressure is on but has hopes of being a future first-round draft pick.

“It’s a great program; I love the coaches, and they just want you to succeed,” Hobson said. “Obviously, they have guys that have done that, and they set the example for us. It’s just time to follow in their footsteps.”

Head coach Tony Vittorio believes the Flyers are the lone Division I program in Ohio with two players at the major league level: Oakland Athletics reliever Jerry Blevins and Washington Nationals starter Craig Stammen.

Blevins has appeared in 57 games as a reliever for the Oakland Athletics this season, and Stammen is 8-11 with a 5.08 ERA over the past two years.

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FOR THE ENTIRE STORY