Students to raise money for Zambia, awareness for AIDS

ERIN GAHIMER
Staff Writer

The University of Dayton student organization FaceAIDS and the UD Zambia immersion group are coming together to raise awareness about AIDS and to raise money for a village in Zambia, Africa.

The students will host a joint fundraising event on Friday, Oct. 29, at 5 p.m. at the Faith, Vocation and Leadership house, located at 421 College Park. For $5, students can purchase a full meal consisting of a hamburger and hotdog, a side, and a drink. Donations also will be accepted.

The money raised at the event will be used to put a tin roof on the village school where the UD group worked in Africa, as well to buy a car for the village's local medicine-administering organization.

All UD students are invited to come learn more about AIDS at the event, as well as to see pictures and videos from UD’s summer 2010 Zambia trip participants. The group also will display fabrics and paintings from Zambia, play Zambian music and serve a local dish, nshima, a bread-like staple of the Zambian diet.

Junior Jessie Hanley, one of eight UD students who took part in the Zambia immersion trip last summer, said she decided to play a large role in initiating this event because of the positive experience she had.

“For me, I always knew about Africa as a third world country, but this trip gave me a personal connection and reason to work that much harder to help my friends in Zambia,” Hanley said.

Throughout its time in Zambia this past summer, the group spent three weeks in the capital city of Lusaka and another three weeks in the village of Lubwe. The students toured Lusaka and stayed with Marist brothers. In Lubwe, they taught computer and science classes to students at a local school and played with the village children daily. Hanley and her peers brought 11 laptops, two printers and various supplies to donate to the school.

Hanley hopes that other students will be inspired to get involved in her group’s cause.

“We hope the event with FaceAIDS will encourage other people to have an experience like we did and grow in the global community,” she said. FaceAIDS and the UD Zambia immersion students decided to collaborate for the cause because of their joint missions and concerns for Africa and AIDS in its countries. Currently, the UD FaceAIDS chapter, which is part of a national organization which includes more than 200 collegiate chapters around the nation, is led by junior co-presidents Suzi Campanella and Michelle Perito. The UD chapter has about 15 members and meets twice a month.

“This is a perfect opportunity for us to get our name out and collaborate with another cause-based group on campus,” said Campanella, co-president of FaceAIDS. “We both have goals about promoting Africa and awareness, so we might as well do it together.”

FaceAIDS’ mission is to raise awareness
See Zambia on p. 3

Carly damages increase on campus, prompt Public Safety patrolling changes

CARLY GOEBEL
Staff Writer

Since the beginning of the 2010-2011 academic year, the University of Dayton Public Safety has reported 13 cases of motor vehicle damages, a higher number than in recent years, prompting changes in security measures.

These automobile incidents generally occur on Friday and Saturday nights, as well as early on Sunday mornings.

Nearly two-thirds of the damages are occurring in the South Student Neighborhood, according to Joseph Cairo, the UD Department of Public Safety’s patrol lieutenant.

“It only takes a second for someone to kick the mirror off your car, which is what most of the damage is,” he said. “We have had a couple of spray paintings of cars. We have a few cars with windows broken. It can happen in the neighborhood, in the parking lots; it doesn’t seem to matter where the car is parked.”

Cairo and other Public Safety officers have found that typically, UD students are the ones damaging fellow students’ cars. “It is so difficult to prevent,” he said. “It appears that there is very little fear of being apprehended.”

Although it has been difficult to stop these incidents from occurring, Public Safety has begun to track the incidents and analyze when and where these damages are taking place.

“We have done what is called ‘crime mapping’ to try to determine if there are patterns or trends,” Cairo said.

In addition, Public Safety also is patrolling parking lots more, according to Cairo. Officers are on foot and bicycle to keep watch for any incidents.

In addition, drivers working for Mom’s Limos, the university’s student escort services, have been instructed to report any incidents they witness. This is intended to give Public Safety an “extra pair of eyes,” Cairo said. When they are not driving students, the drivers are expected to patrol the parking lots.

“What we are hoping for is that students make a conscious decision about their actions and the impact they have on others,” he said.

Cairo said if anyone sees any type of damage like this occurring, call Public Safety immediately at 937-229-2121.

“As a student, you don’t have an obligation to the person victimizing your fellow students,” he said. “You have an obligation to the community to let us (Public Safety) know that this is the person that is causing harm.”
Hanley has worked to raise funds to help a Zambian village. Jessie Hanley plays with two children during her summer immersion trip in Zambia. Since returning to UD, Awareness Week on campus, and FaceAIDS also sponsors AIDS throughout the year.

The group raises its money through selling AIDS pins for $5. A group of faculty theologians from the religious studies department will participate in this conversation along with Corvino.

“Catholic campuses are often labeled as anti-gay because of many misconceptions about the true Catholic teaching on homosexuality,” Ruiz said.

According to Catholic teaching and the Maristan Tradition, “We all must accept and respect the dignity of every person as a creation of God,” he said.

Jana Bennett, a religious studies professor at UD, said the ongoing discussion in the news about the recent suicides of young men bullied for their sexuality makes it clear that as a culture, we need to have better conversations about sexuality and homophobia.

“My hope is that Dr. John Corvino’s talk allows us as a Catholic university community to begin just this kind of conversation,” she said.

After Corvino’s speech Tuesday, a panel will speak briefly to offer some insight about both sexuality and homophobia in light of Catholic teaching.

Dr. Kelly Johnson, an associate professor of religious studies at UD, plans to discuss how Catholic teaching may challenge our ideas about romantic love. She said she hopes that Corvino’s talk will foster an educated, serious conversation within the UD community about homosexuality.

“That’s what Catholic universities are: places where we can think about things that matter, so that we can grow in wisdom together,” Johnson said.

In addition to Johnson’s talk, Bennett will discuss the concept of natural law in Catholic teaching. Natural law is important, according to Bennett, because it informs both Catholic teaching against homophobic crimes and homophobia, as well as Catholic understandings of sexuality, marriage and friendship.

“I think this talk and panel presentation will provide a chance to have a fruitful, meaningful conversation about both GBLT issues and Catholic teaching,” she said.

Dr. Dennis Doyle, a religious studies professor at UD, also plans to talk about how to approach homosexuality, given the Catholic historical tradition.

“I intend to talk about how the distinction between orientation and activity, while it may still be in need of yet further development, has helped Catholics to emphasize that all human beings are made in the image and likeness of God and how all are worthy of respect and love,” Doyle said.

No matter what students’ religious or political views are, Johnson hopes they will find Corvino’s discussion and the following panel to be thought provoking and challenging.

“Dr. Corvino’s talk creates an opportunity for us to consider carefully how we will think about sexual morality and homophobia,” Johnson said.

“It’s important for all of us, gay and straight, and I think students will find his style engaging, frank and constructive.”

Corvino’s lecture will be free and open to the public. Contact Ruiz for questions at ishrui11@gmail.com.
University MBA program recognized for new concentration, high rankings

JEN CHENEY
Assistant News Editor

The University of Dayton’s highly ranked Master of Business Administration program now offers a degree focused on preparing students for the growing field of protecting information with a new concentration in cybersecurity management. The MBA program is believed to be the only one in the United States that provides this concentration, according to a university press release.

The degree also is the only university-based cybersecurity program that guides qualified graduates through the U.S. government’s security clearance process that can result in a certificate of qualification, the press release said.

The university has joined with the Advanced Technical Intelligence Center for Human Capital Development to offer this program.

The sophistication of the facility and the data gives students a decided edge, according to Hugh Bolton, president and chief executive officer of ATIC.

“We use real data in the classroom, and some of it can even be live intelligence data,” Bolton said in the press release. “The program is very project-oriented and team-oriented in a very real-world way.”

The first class of the training series is open to students without security classifications. The second and third courses, however, contain classified content, and only students with government and security clearances will have access to them.

While the certification to be earned focuses primarily on U.S. government requirements and practices, it also may help students obtain rapidly growing private sector jobs.

Given recent growing cyberthreats, jobs protecting information technology data, systems and networks are expected to continue to be in high demand through 2014, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

In addition to this new degree, the School of Business Administration recently has been named an outstanding business school, according to The Princeton Review, which listed it in the 2011 edition of “The Best 300 Business Schools,” published by Random House and The Princeton Review. UD’s MBA program is included for the fifth consecutive time in The Princeton Review’s listing of the best business schools, according to a UD press release discussing the best business schools of 2011.

This list is based on student surveys in which respondents are asked to evaluate the learning curriculum of the business school. The Princeton Review’s 89-question survey asked UD students about themselves and their career plans, as well as their school’s academics, student body and campus life. Students said they valued the smart classrooms, cutting-edge classes, integrated curriculum and emphasis on teamwork.

Matthew Shank, dean of the School of Business Administration, said the rankings highlight student satisfaction with the MBA program’s emphasis on practical experience, learning opportunities outside the classroom and a friendly, collegial atmosphere.

“We are pleased that students appreciate the open, welcoming environment we foster and the value it adds to their educational experience,” Shank said in the press release. “This is especially important to the growing number of international students who are interested in our MBA program.”

Many international students especially believe this program deserves the well-earned reputation since the faculty and staff are especially accessible and helpful and will take the time to help individuals learn and grow, according to the press release.

Sophomore takes innovative yo-yo to national conference

LAUREN CHURCH
Staff Writer

Charlie Weikert, a University of Dayton sophomore and yo-yo inventor, has been invited to speak at Project Lead the Way’s first annual National Innovation Summit in Washington, D.C. from Wednesday, Oct. 20, through Friday, Oct. 22.

Project Lead the Way partners with middle schools and high schools across the nation to provide rigorous science, technology, engineering and mathematics education that helps students become both innovative and productive in their fields of study.

Weikert, a mechanical engineering major and business minor, will speak about the merits of engineering in the entrepreneurial world. He took a Project Lead the Way class his senior year of high school in Columbus, Ind., and was assigned to invent a new product, which is when his yo-yo got its start. Weikert’s invention focuses on increasing spin time for yo-yos.

“Longer spin time allows you to entertain better and do better tricks,” Weikert said. “To increase spin time, I used friction stickers that retract into the yo-yo and rubber circles on the inside of the yo-yo, which then retract the stickers away in order to avoid too much friction.”

By the end of Weikert’s senior year, the class assignment had caught the attention of a major toy company.

“For my year long senior project, I decided to take my yo-yo invention for Project Lead the Way class a step further by creating a business proposal and sending it out to three different toy companies,” Weikert said. “One of the companies showed interest, and I met with them.”

Weikert said he believes it is important for engineers to be both inventors and entrepreneurs. He said the combination allows engineers to approach engineering problems with better marketing solutions. It also is beneficial for engineers to understand how a product will be marketed when designing it.

“If engineers understand the demographics of a market, they will be able to create products better designed for those markets,” Weikert said.

When Weikert considered different colleges to further his passion for engineering, he said he found that UD offered a great opportunity for the collaboration of engineering and marketing.

“I chose UD because it has such a good engineering and business program,” Weikert said.

According to Weikert, the university has been nothing but encouraging of his work on the yo-yo and preparing for this week’s summit in Washington, D.C.

“UD gave me access to computer programs to work on the yo-yo,” Weikert said. “Dr. Hallinan (dean of mechanical engineering) has also been extremely helpful in aiding me and supporting my trip to Washington, D.C.”

Hallinan said Weikert’s innovative ideas are “remarkable.”

“Charlie is a model of the type of engineer we’d like to always develop — one who can create new technologies and services,” Hallinan said.

Weikert’s invitation to D.C. came about two weeks ago when he received an e-mail from Project Lead the Way. After his initial interviews, Weikert was asked to attend the summit.

Weikert will be one of nearly a thousand people attending the summit, which is designed as a collaborative forum for the most imaginative and innovative minds to meet and discuss different topics. Attendees will be a part of five different panels discussing the latest in science, technology, engineering and math education.

To learn more about Project Lead the Way and the Innovation Summit, go to www.pltw.org/innovationsummit.

Charlie Weikert shows off his yo-yo skills. Weikert is presenting at a national conference this week about the values of engineering and business. MIKE MALLOY/ASST. PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Twilight retreats offer time for reflection

RACHEL TOVINNITI  
Staff Writer

Undergraduates living on campus have the opportunity to participate in Twilight retreats, which give students a chance to be part of a retreat experience without sacrificing an entire weekend. Twilight retreats are held every Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in houses in the student neighborhood. The evenings revolve around discussions about faith and life questions over a dinner.

Juniors, seniors and fifth-year students who are living in the student neighborhoods are welcomed to attend. Students can offer to host a retreat at their houses, and up to 12 students can participate in each event.

According to Sister Linda Lee Jackson, the faith development coordinator for UD Campus Ministry and a facilitator for the program, many students are busy with their classes, jobs, clubs and service projects, and rarely have the time to participate in weekend retreats.

Students can take two hours out of their busy schedules to have conversations and discussions about important topics with their peers during Twilight retreats, Jackson said.

“It encourages faith sharing and helps build deeper relationships among students building UD’s community,” senior Michelle Gehret, one of the leaders of the program, said.

Twilight retreats are opportunities for students to think about big questions in their lives and to get the support of peers, Jackson said.

Some topics that are covered in the discussions include exploring one’s identity, future and relationships with others.

“This program truly helps build community at UD, forms stronger relationships and gets people to have real conversations,” Gehret said. “After one of the retreats, two of the senior students said they stayed up talking all night and learned things about each other they had never known before even though they had roomed together since freshman year.”

Jackson was the main advocate for beginning Twilight retreats in 2007.

There are no known suspects.

Criminal Damaging  
Sept. 27, 1:53 a.m.  
Officer Little was dispatched to a UD-owned residence on a theft report. The complainant stated that sometime between 6 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 27, and 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 28, someone had taken her silver Pacific mountain bike from the bike rack at Campus South apartments. The steel chain lock was taken as well.
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!

A student receives a massage at the Wellness Fair in the RecPlex on Wednesday, Oct. 20. MIKE MALLOY/ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

A student receives a massage at the Wellness Fair in the RecPlex on Wednesday, Oct. 20. MIKE MALLOY/ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY JON COLBERT

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Star Like Me: ‘Buddy Layman’

This is it. We are mere days from opening night, and tensions are high. Actors run through their lines offstage, techies crawl around the theater adjusting light fixtures, costumes take last-minute measurements. Smack in the center of it all sits the director, orchestrating the chaos that is production week.

It was once said that theater works by instinct, and there is no such thing as a calculated artistic decision. Though this may be true, it takes a great deal of preparation and organization to get to the point where such artistic decisions are possible. It isn’t just a question of the actors memorizing their lines and blocking. Without the light crew, the audience wouldn’t be able to see the actors. Without the costumes, the audience wouldn’t be able to suspend their disbelief enough to lose themselves in the performance. Without the set designers and crew, the audience would be deprived of a certain level of artistic entertainment. And without the director, the audience would have no show to attend. Each person has a specific job, a necessary role to play, and each person must prepare for this role and practice with dedication and concentration.

For months, now, we’ve been rehearsing scenes over and over, until they feel as natural as everyday life. Since we started rehearsing, I’ve tried to understand just who Buddy Layman — the character I play — is. According to the script, he is a 14-year-old mentally challenged boy, with an intense fear of water. To effectively portray any role requires a deeper, more instinctual level of understanding. In my attempt to truly understand Buddy, I drew inspiration from my little brother. Though not mentally challenged, he has a lot in common with Buddy. I have always had a very close relationship with my brother, and I have watched him grow from a helpless newborn to a curious, playful child. One of the most useful things that I learned from him about children is how their attention shifts. Children are fascinated by the most insignificant details, but their focus can change completely at the drop of a hat. Young children also hold an exquisitely simple view of the world. If some explanation or line of reasoning seems to make sense, they accept it without extensive examination, consideration or contemplation. This tends to give children a kind of certainty, a confidence about things. While adults stand around trying to determine the truth of a situation, children accept truth unquestioningly. I feel as though, as I come to know Buddy intimately, I am in fact coming to know myself. And through Buddy’s interactions with the other characters, I am coming to know my fellow cast members on a deeper level. Theater is among the most expressive forms of art that I know. Though the actors wear the masks of their characters, and the audience sits apart from the stage, there is a certain connection between the people behind the mask, and the people sitting out in the audience. There is a rare emotional intensity in the theater, a genuine human passion, that is not only invigorating to watch, but also enrapting to perform. I know of no place so utterly thrilling for everyone involved, than the theater.

‘The 39 Steps’ promises evening of pure entertainment

If a laugh-filled night at the theater is what you’re asking for, the Human Race Theatre Company’s production of “The 39 Steps,” is just what you need.

Performances will take place from Friday, Oct. 22, through Sunday, Nov. 7, at the Loft Theatre, located at 126 N. Main St. Leigh Allan, the Human Race’s marketing director, called the play a “loving takedof” of Alfred Hitchcock’s 1935 thriller.

“The original was typical Hitchcock … a hero who is accidentally caught up in a web of intrigue, pursued by both the law [and] the bad guys as he tries to figure out what’s going on,” Allan said. “In this version, four actors portray about 150 characters, and in the process perform about every famous scene from a Hitchcock film.”

The Human Race hopes “The 39 Steps” audience enjoys a night of happiness and light-hearted fun, Allan said. She said the audience is essential to the show’s cast.

“Performers always feed off audience reaction, so how the audience responds will be integral to how the show flows,” she said.

The four actors – Richard Marlatt, Allison Moody, Bruce Cromer and Jake Lockwood – will make countless wardrobe and personality changes during each performance.

“It’s incredibly funny,” Allan said. “It’s very well written and [is] a very creative way to transform movie scenes to [the] stage.”

Previous productions of “The 39 Steps” have been performed in larger theaters. The Loft, according to Allan, brought in Adam Koch, a 2003 Oakwood High School graduate from New York, to rework the show for the Loft. One of Koch’s credits is working on the Chicago production of the Tony Award winning musical, “Million Dollar Quartet.”

Show times for “The 39 Steps” are 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays and 7 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 24, and Tuesday, Oct. 26. Tickets cost $15.50 to $19.50 for students and $30 to $39 for non-students.

Tickets are available at www.humanracetheatre.org or by calling Ticket Center Stage at (937) 228-3630.

YOUTH-CENTERED PIZZA PLACE SETS EYES ON UD

Tossing it around: Scott Iversen, marketing director for Toppers Pizza, prepares a pizza.

Toppers Pizza has big plans for Dayton.

The “more fun pizza company,” which markets itself to 18 to 34 year olds and is open until 3:45 a.m. most nights, has 26 Midwestern franchisees. Their newest location is a store at 345 Calhoun St., Cincinnati, located less than an hour from the University of Dayton. According to Toppers, the same franchisers are looking to Dayton for their next move.

“Other pizza chains are mundane, tired and boring,” said Brett Larabee, Toppers’ director of franchise development.

Toppers employees said their company wants to focus on fun.

“Ordering pizza ought to be a fun experience,” said Scott Iversen, Toppers’ marketing director. “Young people like to have fun, and we’re aimed at young people, so we try to create a fun environment.”

The restaurant’s menu, available online at toppers.com, features new kinds of pizzas, including “Potato Topper” and “Mac ’N Cheese,” as well as buffalo and boneless wings, grinders, and quesadillas.

“The college crowd pleaser, the ‘Hangover Helper,’ features Canadian bacon, onions, green peppers, potatoes and bacon bits topped with cheddar and mozzarella cheese,” Iversen said. “But the main draw is the ‘Topperstix,’ which are the ultimate in breadsticks, topped with cheese and your choice of taco meat, pepperoni or bacon. Also, all Toppers’ products are made from scratch with dough made fresh every day.”

Although its prices are affected by the ingredients — $13.99 for a 12-inch specialty pizza, according to the online menu — Toppers runs dozens of different deals at all times to ease the cost on economically-challenged college students, Larabee said.

The plans for a Dayton Toppers Pizza store are still in the works. Toppers is still waiting on the right location but hopes to open — within the next six months,” Larabee said.

Hillery Cadigan, Toppers’ franchise media consultant, said opening a Dayton store will be easy.

“Each [of our] locations averages $1 million yearly,” she said. “This is about 40 percent higher than [our] competition, and, with only 26 total stores, Toppers has already managed to shut down more than 10 Papa John’s, Pizza Huts and Dominos, by opening in their markets.”

The 39 Steps promises evening of pure entertainment

ASHLEY PANTONA PRICE
Staff Writer

If a laugh-filled night at the theater is what you’re asking for, the Human Race Theatre Company’s production of “The 39 Steps,” is just what you need.

... AND DORM DAYS, OUR WEB EXCLUSIVE TOUR OF UNDERCLASSMEN HOMES

JUSTIN GUINN
Staff Writer

Tossing it around: Scott Iversen, marketing director for Toppers Pizza, prepares a pizza. The chain hopes to open in Dayton in 2011. Photo contributed by Hilary Cadigan

>> www.flyernews.com
SATURDAY BATTLE KICKS OFF CHARITY COMMITTEE SEASON

The Charity Concert Committee, sponsors of last spring’s Ben Folds concert, will host its first ever fall edition of Battle of the Bands in Humanities Plaza on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

A combination of student bands and solo artists will perform Saturday. Lauren Porter, Bridget Egan, Mark Gillion, OneSecond, Tyrannosaurus Bear and Kelly Fine are on the program.

Fine, winner of last spring’s Battle of the Bands, will give a special performance to close Saturday’s events.

“Each of these bands are very different,” she said. “It’s going to be a really chill atmosphere with really good entertainment.”

Whether Porter wins or loses, she said Saturday’s Battle of the Bands is important to him.

“This is the first performance that my band will do together, and this is the kickstart for us, and I’m so excited for that,” she said.

SARA DORN
Staff Writer

The Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra will play at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 24, at Kettering Fairmont High School, 3301 Shroyer Road. Under the conduction of Dr. Kenneth Kohlenberg, the orchestra will celebrate American composers William Schuman and Samuel Barber. Music performed will include Schuman’s “New England Triptych” and Barber’s “Essay for Orchestra,” among others. Tickets are $5 to $10. To find out more about the performance, call (937) 602-4950.

SARA DORN
Staff Writer

ARE YOU AFRAID OF THE DARK? Join the Dayton, Ohio, Ghost-hunters Society from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23, at the Kettering-Moraine branch of the Dayton Metro Library, located at 3406 Far Hills Ave., as its members talk about investigating the paranormal through-out the Dayton area. The society will also show how to conduct a paranormal investigation, including the equipment used. For information, call (937) 496-8938.
REAL CAUSES REQUIRE MORE THAN MERE COMPUTER CLICK

October is a month with a cause, and Facebook and Twitter users have taken notice.

“Today is National Coming Out Day,” many FB statuses said on Monday, Oct. 11. “I’m coming out for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality because it’s 2010 and only five states plus DC recognize that love, not gender, is what matters in a marriage. Donate your status and join me by clicking here…”

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is one of many recent trending topics, too. Twitter users are encouraging their followers to “think pink” and support breast cancer victims and their families.

The FB question “What’s on your mind?” and Twitter’s challenge to tell the starting point. It should be a platform to educate individuals and inspire users a sense of activism. They have convictions, and now, there is an easy and quick way for the rest of the world to know about them.

While social media is raising awareness of social issues worldwide, it is just the starting point. It should be a platform to educate individuals and inspire them to change the world — but it is just the first step. Individuals need to leave their keyboards behind and go out into the world.

Don’t just “support” a cause with the click of your mouse. Write letters to editors of your local newspapers, informing your peers about what is important to you. Senior Kevin Lolli did that this week — in an effort to tell the University of Dayton community to cast its vote for Ted Strickland.

The front page story is yet another testimony to this. The student organization FaceAids and students who took part in an immersion trip to Zambia this summer are teaming up to make a difference, holding a fundraiser to teach students who took part in an immersion trip to Zambia this summer are teaming up to make a difference, holding a fundraiser to teach

As the election draws near, we hear often about the importance and virtues of democracy. But a recent campus lecture prompts me to wonder — when did we decide democracy was the best system in the world?

Monday, visiting Moroccan professor Dr. Med Bouzidi intelligently presented on the possibility of democracy in the Middle East. His knowledge on the subject was formidable, but my mind was caught up in the unstated question:

When we structure academic dialogue this way, it sometimes presupposes that democratic transitions are the ideal course of action. We praise our American system, and when did we decide it was the ideal and/or only option?

The ideals of democracy seem old to us. It was in the late 1600s when John Locke was writing about natural rights and contract theory. But many of the aspects we hold as hallmarks of the system are relatively new concepts. This election cycle, we’re hearing about the role of religion in government as candidates like Christine O’Donnell question if the notion of separation of church and state is constitutional.

For the record, the Constitution does not use that phrase but actually says in the First Amendment that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof…”

But for all the American excitement about keeping our churches and governments separate, we forget that the Western tradition of democracy has almost always been linked with religion. It was as recent as 1929 that Italy reached an agreement with the Pope that his power would be restricted to Vatican City. Some Western European democracies such as Germany don’t even attempt to keep religion completely separate with parties like the Christian democrats among the most powerful.

Religious figures also have had important insight about political systems. Thomas Aquinas was not a fan of democracy. To him, monarchy was the ideal structure because it created unity that could be channeled for peace. We are taught democracy is strong because of separation of powers, but Aquinas called it weak for that very reason. The leadership will never be united and thus will never be able to make substantial important change. Our current system could be used to support this; many important issues, such as health care or energy policy, seem destined to remain unresolved due to disagreement. Perhaps Aquinas was right that deciding on a democratic government is settling for a model that can never achieve greatness.

This is not meant to be a history lesson, but rather an example of the constant evolution of government. Four hundred years ago, the modern practice of democracy was unthinkable. In America, it’s been less than 100 years since women gained the right to vote. Imagine what changes our system will see by 2100. Successful civilizations have existed without the structure we champion. The future will bring new ways of government that have yet to be conceived.

To assume democracy is the ultimate or best political system is both arrogant and naïve. The fact that other places in the world think differently than us isn’t necessarily something to be examined with the lens of “how do we correct this?”

Rather, at a time of year when we celebrate our country’s process, we should celebrate the various systems around the world that demonstrate humanity’s constant intellectual evolution. Welcoming other ideas is, after all, the democratic thing to do.
Comparing past relationships not unfair, important for determining happiness

Romantic relationships are a tricky thing. Sometimes the more involved we become, the more we tend to think back on previous relationships to compare them to the current one. Many people would argue against doing this, but if you ask me, it’s perfectly acceptable. Relationships are more than just a “Facebook official” status, at least if they are serious ones. They demand a certain level of involvement and commitment to another person. That’s why many people would say it isn’t right to compare any two relationships.

They involved two different people who were potentially very different from one another. They probably took place at different times in our lives. The contexts were different too; we had different levels of relationship experience for each and different levels of acquaintance with each particular person with whom we became involved.

So then, we should never compare any two romantic relationships, right? Well, originally I could see somewhat of a problem with doing so. But after talking to a good friend a few weeks ago, I realized that there is no reason why we shouldn’t.

We were talking about a girl who he had dated last year — let’s call her Susie. He had been in the same long-term and long-distance relationship with Susie for a matter of years, and he really cared about her. But eventually, he realized that he had been happier with the girl he had dated before Susie, and he didn’t think it was worth it to keep this current relationship going.

But when he explained this to her, she got angry at him. After hearing his story, I initially sided with Susie, thinking that he was being unfair. But then he explained it to me.

Sure, each person who we choose to get involved with is a totally different human being. I understand that, and I think we should definitely be able to recognize that. Maybe you don’t believe in “that perfect person” who is out there waiting for you.

And believe me, I’m not trying to convince you of the existence of such a person. I also am not suggesting that you go out and dump all the “Susies” in your life if they fall short of being the perfect partner. But think about it: Many of us have found people in the past who made us happy and who had qualities that we desired in a romantic partner. But in the end, those relationships didn’t work. So shouldn’t our current relationships be at least as happy as our previous ones?

If you find yourself comparing in this way, don’t feel bad about it; because it’s not as unfair as you might think.

Letters to the editor

The race for governor has never brought out voters in droves as do presidential elections, but the race in Ohio should capture the attention of University of Dayton students. Due to the importance of this race, I urge you to examine its implications and support Governor Ted Strickland for re-election.

The struggling economy has created challenges for the entire nation, and Ohio has not been exempt. Governor Strickland has met these challenges with action that both sides of the political spectrum can support. As state governments struggle with financial setbacks, Strickland has overseen the balancing of two budgets, including a 17 percent tax cut which has been identified as the largest in modern Ohio history. This tax cut also includes a $1.6 billion reduction in the corporate tax to help bolster Ohio job growth.

University of Dayton students should be aware of Governor Strickland’s dedication to education and how he has made it a priority of his administration. With the cost of admissions rising nationally and a struggling economy that places further importance on a strong education system, Strickland enacted a two-year state college tuition freeze to help those attending college and those looking to return to school to better their standing in the job market.

Although this may not be seen as directly affecting private education institutions, in order to stay competitive, private institutions such as the University of Dayton were required to reevaluate their own tuition increases. Such actions followed the state led to the addition of 60,000 students in Ohio after the elimination of the nine percent annual tuition increase.

Challenger John Kasich, on the other hand, consistently voted against the grants and federal programs that would both spur the growth of education and not allow for the continuation of tuition increases. His proposal to cut the income tax in the state of Ohio, a measure that accounts for over 40 percent of Ohio’s budget, would cause Ohio education to become even more reliant on an increase in property taxes, allowing for the discrepancies that currently exist between schools to widen.

The remainder of Kasich’s plan relies upon cutting the education budget while encouraging professors at institutions of higher learning to teach more classes.

Although Mr. Kasich proposes such limitations and cutbacks in higher education, he managed to accept a position at the Ohio State University for $50,000 a year for minimal monthly visits that allowed Kasich “to define the job” according to the Dayton Daily News. While Mr. Kasich proposes that we cut education funding while increasing the work load of full time faculty, he has taken actions like those he looks to limit. Mr. Kasich has demonstrated these contradictory views before, and they should concern every Ohio citizen, most importantly those of us currently in school, or looking to continue our education.

One of the most notable criticisms of Mr. Kasich, and one that needs a more thorough review, is his involvement with Lehman Brothers. Much of the criticism of Kasich has been based on the reports of him receiving a $400,000 bonus during 2008 while Lehman Brothers was going bankrupt and retirement funds were disappearing. Although it is a valid point to understand that not everyone can be considered at fault at the company, his actions still should be concerning. Alarming is the fact that, if elected, the man that’s setting Ohio economic policy will enter office with a large sum of Wall Street money in his back pocket.

This coupled with the fact that Mr. Kasich refuses to release his tax returns should concern those who remember all too well the damage that unregulated business can have on the average citizen.

The loss of jobs in Ohio is not unique to our state, and it is important that we choose someone who can prevent further slippage into this economic instability. I urge you to stand with your fellow students and support Governor Ted Strickland for re-election in order to promote the stabilization of our state.

The rapper T.I. and the 1996 Olympic Gold Medal Winning Women’s Gymnastics team are the only redeeming things to come out of Atlanta since the film premiere of “Gone with the Wind.”

In Atlanta, T.I. is God. Sadly, T.I. was sentenced Friday, Oct. 15 to 11 months in jail for drug possession. Now, don’t get me wrong, I love me the justice system and have always ways thought it to be the most mis-understood of our beloved three branches. But, when T.I. is written about in history books, he should be remembered for more than his multiple convictions.

Let me paint you a picture. T.I. is driving along in what can only be presumed to be a black Escalade with tinted windows, listening to the radio and minding his own business. By chance, he hears a radio broadcast about a man, standing on top of a building, threatening to commit suicide.

So, T.I. drives up to the building where the jumper is and asks the police if he can do anything to help. Say what you want about T.I. and his extracurricular weapons and drug habits, but T-Pain would have just kept driving.

As previously mentioned, T.I. is God, so the jumper agrees to come down off the top of the building in exchange for some “face time” with T.I. The man was saved.

Imagine how many more world crises ... could have been solved if T.I. had not been sentenced to 11 months in prison.”

LIZ MARSH, SENIOR

CNN, “This is something I couldn’t have planned.” But even if it was all an elaborate hoax, as T.I. would say, “Everybody know it ain’t trickin’ if ya got it.” And I for one believe T.I. has “got it.”

So does T.I.’s new status as an American hero, crisis negotiator, and good Samaritan mean he shouldn’t have to spend the next 11 months in jail? Honestly, I don’t know. But, what I do know is how awesome it would be if instead of using violent forces to combat terrorists, we simply gave them a little face time with whatever rapper happens to be the most famous available at the moment.

Who better to convince terrorists not to hate America than a man who describes himself as being “Allergic to the counterfeit, [and] impartial to the politics.”

LIZ MARSH SENIOR ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE
HOCKEY DESERVES YOUR ATTENTION
Staff writer petitions UD students to watch sport, attend Flyer club games

When you think of the major team sports in this country, which ones come to mind? Football, Check. Basketball, Check. Hockey? You know. The sport played on ice. There is a red line, two blue lines and goals on each end of the rink. Ring a bell? If not, you’re probably not alone.

Why isn’t hockey a major sport anymore? Two reasons: The first is spelled E-S-P-N. And the second is because a bunch of millionaires couldn’t agree on how to split a billion dollars.

Believe it or not, hockey used to be on the four-letter (ESPN) network, and it used to be a big deal. From being on the four-letter (ESPN) network, to how many games are shown on ESPN or a similar network with the quality of the sport, has been greatly reduced.

You are missing watching great athletes perform at a high level. Hockey requires all-out effort when players are on the ice. They have to skate backwards and forwards, and change directions almost immediately; they must have hand-eye coordination to keep the puck at the end of their stick at a moment’s notice; and, they have charging opponents who are allowed to hit them.

It’s hard to appreciate all this on television, unless you’ve seen the game in person. There is a speed and grace to hockey that doesn’t translate on television. From a fitness standpoint, hockey players are built like football players, train like sprinters, need to have the touch of golfers and the toughness of boxers, must understand some fairly complex rules like soccer, and play on a sheet of ice just slightly bigger than a basketball court.

And you know what else? It’s a full contact sport. As the famous sports journalist Steve Rushin said, “By the age of 18, the average American has witnessed 200,000 acts of violence on television, most of them occurring during Game 1 of the NHL playoff series.”

Seeing a really good basketball player on a breakaway is very exciting because you know he’s going to dunk it. Imagine that same basketball player having to dunk over someone whose full time job it is to stop him, and then you sense the excitement when a hockey player has a breakaway, and he has to beat a goalie to bring the house down.

So, why isn’t hockey more popular across this country? First, I think to really like a game, you have to be able to play it at some level. And to play hockey requires ice. So that means you have to live in a cold weather climate or have access to an indoor rink. Second, many of the best players play in cities such as Vancouver, Calgary, and San Jose. Third, you can’t watch it on regular cable TV.

Fortunately, if you are interested in learning more about the game and understanding how it’s played, the University of Dayton has a club team playing now. While it is highly unlikely the players you see play will someday hoist the Stanley Cup – the oldest trophy in North American professional sports history given to the NHL champions every year – you are likely to come away with an appreciation for the game I love.

And yes, they play in the NHL. Usually one of the team’s big guys picks a fight with one of your team’s big guys, and it’s over almost before it starts. But even after these “acts of violence,” the National Hockey League has a great tradition. After each playoff-off series, both teams go to the center of the ice and they shake hands, no matter what. It’s such a cool tradition, it is hard to describe. Do you see this in the NBA? No.

So give hockey a chance. Go to a game or two and watch the Flyers, or watch a game on HD, and your life will forever be changed. See you at the rink.
The University of Dayton’s men’s and women’s golf teams hosted the annual Dayton Flyer Invitational earlier this week at NCR Country Club.

Competition took place on Monday, Oct. 18 and Tuesday, Oct. 19, at the country club about six miles away from campus in Kettering, Ohio.

The women’s team starred overall, finishing third out of 19 participating teams and were led by one of the tournament’s top performers. On the flip side, the young men’s team placed 10th out of 13 schools.

The UD women tallied a score of 309 after the first day, and finished with a 315 in the second round of play. Head coach Sally Kosters said she was extremely proud of the efforts of her team amidst the strong competition.

“The competition was very, very still,” Kosters said. “After day one, there were five or six teams in the hunt for first place. It was an exciting second day, and Butler turned in a very strong performance with a 286 on day two. We did a good job; we played well.”

Senior Julie Pouliquen was the star for UD, finishing in third place individually. She posted a career-best 70 in the first round before following up with an 80 on Tuesday.

The men’s team didn’t fare as well, but concluded its fall season with some positives to look for into the future. Sophomores Matt Buse and John Muir tied for 39th place overall in the individual competition for the Flyers.

“We’ll, obviously, the end of the fall season wasn’t our best showing,” said Gip Hoagland, men’s golf head coach. “Obviously, whenever you host a tournament, you want to play a little better, but we struggled a little bit.”

Some other individual highlights of the tournament from the women’s side were junior Heather Jorgensen’s career-best 75 in the second round of play. Jorgensen finished in a tie for 48th place individually with teammate senior Megan Keating, who posted an 82 in round two.

Meanwhile, the men’s team didn’t fare as well, but concluded its fall season with some positives to look for into the future. Sophomores Matt Buse and John Muir tied for 42nd place overall in the individual competition for the Flyers.

“A pair of experienced captains also posted low scores for the team, as seniors Jeff Hodapp and Chris Woeste were two of the top three performers for UD,” Hoagland said the team will be enjoying the upcoming time off from the sport to re-focus on academics, and then start preparing for the spring season closer to winter break.

The men’s team will have an exhibition tournament during spring break before officially beginning with the Butler Spring Invitational on Monday, March 28, and Tuesday, March 29.

The women’s squad will continue its fall season with the Richmond Spider Invitational in Richmond, Va., on Monday, Nov. 1, and Tuesday, Nov. 2.

**THE BOOTs: FN SPORTS EDITOR TAKES ON TOUGH SPORTS TOPICS**

**BOOT UP:** BCS controversy under way – For nearly a decade, it has become commonplace for everyone to love to hate on the Bowl Championship Series in college football. Just admit it, you love using the BCS as a scapegoat for your team’s seasons whether they end good or bad. For the most recent example, look at Ohio State, a team that complained about potential low placement in the computerized ranking just days before a harsh 31-18 loss at Wisconsin last week.

Yes, we all know the BCS is imperfect. But, the computers were right about Ohio State before that game, and they could be right again later this season about another team. Complaining about the system is just as much a pastime during the fall as watching college football, so maybe try to appreciate the season more before speaking up so critically.

**BOOT DOWN:** Start of NBA season – Raise your hand if you are excited about the upcoming NBA season. Keep your hand raised now if you enjoy the reality of seeing Miami Heat’s new “Big Three.” Or if you are pumped for another playoff schedule filled with the usual Boston-Los Angeles themes. Face it Commissioner David Stern, the NBA now has a shattered fan base across the country.

Listen here, I enjoy watching basketball. It’s one of my absolute favorite sports to watch. Unfortunately, being a resident of Northeast Ohio has turned me away from the NBA, at least for the time being. It’s disgusting how the mega teams are building up across the league, with no immediate hope for nearby teams like Cleveland, Indiana, Detroit, Philadelphia, etc. It’s an unfair system, and recently it has become more entertainment than sport.

**BOOT UP:** College basketball soon – With my pessimism about the NBA, that leaves me leaning toward college basketball for my fix of the sport in the coming months. While the Dayton Flyers are on the verge of beginning yet another dramatic season soon, it’s just the overall competition in the country that gets me excited for 2010-2011.

Ohio State should be good again, and Michigan State and Duke are expected to be near the top, but at least the competitive balance in the game remains. Unlike the NBA, there are new faces at new places across the country, and any year means that there could be yet another Cinderella team like Davidson or Butler. Who knows, maybe this could even be a surprising year for the Flyers to pull off such an NCAA Tournament run. Either way, count me in as pumped for the start of this season later this month.

**BOOT DOWN:** Hard tackles in football – And finally, I’m all for competitiveness and letting players play their various sports. But rules exist to protect those same players, especially in the physical environment on the football field. Just in games this past Sunday, wide receivers DeSean Jackson and Josh Cribbs, among many others, left because of concussions from hard helmet-to-helmet hits on the gridiron.

It is about time the NFL did something to actually prevent these from happening. A $50,000 fine here or there will not deter a professional athlete, especially defenders who are essentially making their living from tackling people and inflicting pain. Suspensions should certainly enter the conversation now as the NFL announced earlier this week, but repeat offenders deserve even stricter punishments. Start the education process now in terms of setting the example for future generations, and don’t let stupid injuries ruin the sport for anyone.

To submit ideas for future editions of The Boots or any other Flyer News sports article, e-mail Sports Editor Jacob Rosen at sports@flyernews.com.
INTRAMURAL SOCCER CHAMPIONS CROWNED AGAIN
Uber N00b Pwnage cruises to muddy victory at Stuart Field Monday, clinches second straight title

"It’s not worth winning if you can’t win big.”

That quote describes the scene at Stuart Field during the intramural co-ed recreation soccer championship on Monday, Oct. 18. Facing harsh conditions with nearly freezing rain and a muddy terrain, an experienced team claimed victory for a second straight year.

Uber N00b Pwnage, a team captained by fifth-year senior Jeff Giese, cruised to a 5-2 victory over the Fuzzy Bunnies team in the championship match that night. The finale followed back-to-back second round and quarterfinal matches Sunday, Oct. 17, and the semifinals that began at 10:15 p.m. Monday.

But the late timing and the second doubleheader in as many nights weren’t the worst challenges for some of the players. It was the unexpected weather amidst an always unpleasant playing field.

“Ah God, it was really cold but it’s not the worst conditions we’ve played in,” said Matt Giese, junior Uber N00b team member and brother of captain Jeff Giese, about the rough conditions.

“The field [has] always been more muddy than this, so I’m used to worse conditions.”

In the action on the pitch, Uber N00b advanced easily to the semifinal round, trouncing a pair of opponents in the second round and quarterfinal matches the day before. The team then claimed a 5-2 victory in the semifinal match over the UD DPT team to start the night.

The pink-shirted Bunnies cruised through Sunday’s games as well, and then advanced to the final with a 1-0 defensive struggle victory over the Friday Natty Lights.

Cody Kahan, goalkeeper for the Bunnies team, said it was as much a contest against the opposing team as it was against the elements. He said he struggled to even keep his gloves on for most of that first game.

“Well, it’s down pouring out,” Kahan said. “It’s wet and cold, and I’ve got to do a lot of homework after this, but you know, why not? I’d rather play intramural soccer for the night.”

From the get-go of the championship match, Uber N00b controlled the tempo and toyed with the Bunnies in their half of the pitch. The slippery mud at Stuart Field did not allow for much agility, but the more experienced N00b controlled the possession.

The team earned a 2-0 halftime advantage before adding on another goal shortly after the break. The Bunnies retaliated with a penalty shot conversion and another quick rally to cut the deficit back to only 3-2, but that would be as far as the comeback proceeded.

Giese, yearning to sub back into the game after the second Bunnies’ goal, made sure his N00b team did not relinquish the lead. He took a short midfield pass from senior Claire Wiegard and blasted it into the net for the deciding moment of the night.

His team added one more goal in the final three minutes of the match to claim a third consecutive fall soccer title. Following the victory, Pat Hanlon, fifth-year senior Uber N00b goalkeeper, said the feeling was “bittersweet.”

It was the fifth year of existence for the team, created by Jeff Giese, Hanlon and others in 2006. Jeff Giese said Uber N00b Pwnage has yet to lose a regular season intramural game in its existence, and only failed to win a championship the first three years due to forfeits.

Originally named Shake and Bake, Jeff Giese said the team switched to the current title the following season. He said it was the funniest and quickest name he could think of, and all the team members embraced their identity at their championship moment.

“We came out here five years ago to p’own noobs, and we proved that we did it the last two years,” Jeff Giese said. “I’m ecstatic, two years in a row; words can’t describe the feelings for being the co-ed rec champions.”

In summarizing their feelings about the victory, the Giese brothers fought about the original creator of the infamous quote, “It’s not worth winning if you can’t win big.”

Matt won out in the end, and attempted to take credit for the entire season of success.

“I’ve always had the reigns; I’ve just always wanted him to think that he had the reigns,” Matt Giese said about his brother.

Eventually, Jeff passed the torch to his brother in his send-off speeches, proclaiming him as the new captain for next year. But, of course, Jeff had to have one final word as his intramural soccer career came to a victorious end.

“Maybe we should have been competitive,” he said proudly.

www.flyernews.com • Check out a web exclusive video from the intramural soccer semifinals and championships Monday at Stuart Field, and read the flyer focus blog on cross country champ Chris Lemon.