More than thirteen years ago, on June 30, 1997, the first 500 copies of a book series' first entry were published. Since then, that series went on to have six sequels in just over 10 years, to be adapted for movies eight times within a decade, to launch the careers of many child actors, and to break records in terms of book sales and film grosses.


In the course of six previous films, audiences have met Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe), a young wizard whose studies at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry have prepared him for defense against the powers of the evil Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes).

Last year’s “Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince” made a record-breaking $394 million in five
HARRY POTTER
(cont. from p. 1)

days. Only “Avatar” made more money that year.
But just as important as the “Harry Potter” series’ material success is the series’ intangible strengths. For children and adults, the series provides an evolving storyline, with parallels to everyday life, creating an overall resonance.

“Fantasy teaches us lessons, and the fact that the series runs seven years is actually very resonant with the church’s teachings,” James Farrelly, director of the University of Dayton’s film studies program, said. “At age 7, we’re told to go to confession, as then we have reason. At 14, we’re teenagers. At 21, we’re adults. Along the way, there’s a loss of innocence, an encounter with the dark forces in everyday life. And these characters learn how to control these forces, often without realizing they’re heroic.”

Emily Strand, director of liturgies for UD’s campus ministry and an instructor in the religious studies department, is also the author of the article, “Where Your Treasure Is: a reflection on the release of Warner Bros.’ “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallow: Part 1,” for which she is currently seeking a publisher.

Strand said the series’ staying power comes from its emotional resonance.

“When you read these books, you feel like you’re along for the ride,” she said. “I started reading them during my first year in grad school, and I was reading them really in a childlike way. My niece, who first read the books at 8 and is now 11, told her mom, ‘OK, I’m ready to be obsessed with Harry Potter’ now. And I know she’s going to look at things differently at age 18.”

Loretta Geiger, general book supervisor for the UD Bookstore, said as of Wednesday, Nov. 17, the store is currently selling the book “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows” for 60 percent off.

“It’s been the men, the sophomores, who’ve been buying copies,” she said. “They say, ‘I’m really thrilled; I’m adding this [book] to my collection.’”

Ruth-Anne Monnier, a salesperson at the UD Bookstore, said she has read the “Potter” books multiple times.

“I’ve got a British edition of the seventh one,” she said. “It’s very fascinating to see how the phrasing and terms change. Overall, I love the good versus evil story.”

Jeff Geers, an instructor in the film studies department at UD, noted the evolution of the “Potter” films.

“The change in tones has been very clear,” he said. “They went from these early, bright films to some pretty dark stuff. They had the ‘Great’ of American film directors, Chris Columbus [who directed “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” and the “Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets”], and then this relatively dark and obscure Mexican art-house director, Alfonso Cuaron [who directed “Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban’], and still kept the audience’s support. One of the best analogies I can think of is the ‘James Bond’ series, which maintains box office support while changing its creative teams.”

For Strand, extensive comparisons between the books and films are pointless.

“J.K. Rowling said it best: ‘They – the directors – know film. I know books,’” Strand said. “In any adaptation, material gets removed. Look at ‘Pride and Prejudice.’ There was enough for an extreme, faithful NBC adaptation of the book, and I think somewhere down the line, we will have a rewriting of ‘Harry Potter.’”

Farrelly also agrees that the book, and films can coexist.

“[The books] grow stronger with re-reading,” he said. “When you go from age 9 to age 14, you know more about the evils around you, and it draws you to go back and re-read [them]. I don’t feel like the films have dominated how the characters are viewed. Sometimes, actors overstate and become the only way to look at a character, the only way to take them, but these actors understand.”

Whether watching the movies at home or in a theater, the actors’ strengths come through, Geers said.

“The best part of the experience still comes from the primary narrative,” he said. “Sure, there’s a slight loss from not attending the midnight showing, but the way technology and TVs are, it’s not too far removed.”

Monnier said she plans to see a “Thursday night/Friday morning” showing of “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallow Part 1” in theaters.

“It’s better with the theater experience,” she said. “But when you’re at home, you can do the marathon of movies.”

Geers, who said he watched the entire series on DVDs, wasn’t sure where to place “Harry Potter” in the context of fantasy writing.

“I’m always hesitant to describe J.K. Rowling as an innovator,” he said. “She’s had 50 years of prior fantasy writing to draw upon. The stories are not necessarily original, but it’d be nice if Rowling and her fans would reference this history.”

Strand defended Rowling.

“[Rowling’s] said she based the books on what was in the ‘compost heap’ of her mind,” she said. “And the books are the result of that. She’s been fed so much good stuff. The books are not too timely. They’re in the same vein of classic English literature, but contain that postmodern feeling of living in the margins, of having flawed characters as heroes and heroines.”

Monnier said she’ll be sad about the film series ending in July 2011.

“The classic story of good and evil is timeless,” she said. “It’s not focused on a period. [The books and movies] go together and hit all the key points.”

The characters in the “Harry Potter” series have continued to spark the public’s attention, well beyond the span of 13 years and 500 copies.

Fans and observers are confident that despite the film series ending, the characters, messages and story will live on.

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weather
(Source: www.noaa.gov)

In case you haven’t seen the ceiling of the Great Hall this morning, the weekend’s sunny conditions will be perfect for the Gryffindors vs. Hufflepuff Quidditch

“The books are not too timely. They’re in the same vein of classic English literature, but contain that postmodern feeling of living in the margins, of having flawed characters as heroes and heroines.”

Emily Strand,
Director of Liturgies, UD Campus Ministry

“It’s a new generation, and cell phones are all the rage. Just like cassette tapes and VCRs, all things phase out. But what’s going to come after cell phones?”

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The University of Dayton has opened a new tennis complex complete with six courts and other facilities for the men’s and women’s tennis teams as well as students, faculty and staff, marking the university’s first big project on the former NCR Corp. land.

The outdoor tennis complex, located on Caldwell Street between Main and Brown Streets, is equipped with bleachers, landscaping, bathrooms and locker rooms.

The $800,000 project was partly funded through a donor, who felt the UD community should have readily accessible tennis courts on site, according to university officials.

“For athletics and the university community, this means a lot,” said Joe Owens, associate director of athletics. “We now have a home for our tennis program and a better place to train.”

Seven years ago, the tennis courts located in Kennedy Union Field were removed to provide more green space, and the UD tennis teams had to practice off campus.

The tennis complex project had been a work in progress for the past five years, according to Owens. When the university purchased the NCR Corp. land, the space opened up as a possible location for the facility.

Chelsea Glankler, senior fine arts major and a member of the women’s tennis team, said she appreciates the new addition and change of scenery.

“The women’s tennis team has been anticipating the new courts since the beginning of my freshman year back in 2007,” Glankler said. “Now it’s my senior year, and we finally have courts. ... The old courts were more of a parks and recreation site with minimal seating, crumbling courts, no wind screens and no bathrooms.”

Members of the men’s and women’s tennis teams attended the ribbon cutting ceremony last week to launch their long-awaited new tennis space.

Students, faculty and staff can take advantage of the on-campus facility as well, although the university men’s and women’s teams will have priority over the courts, according to Owens.

In 2006, the university bought 50 acres of land from the NCR Corp., and it acquired the other 115 acres of land, on which the NCR world headquarters was located, in 2009.

Today, the university’s total campus land consists of 373 acres, according to university officials.

Future plans for the NCR land, also outlined in the campus master plan, include the Center for the Arts at Brown and Stewart Streets, which will combine the university’s visual and performing arts space together instead of in several different buildings, according to Tom Burkhardt, vice president for finance and administrative services. The university is currently raising funds for the project.

UD’s campus master plan is part of a larger effort to improve the campus setting.

To learn more about future projects, go to udcampusmasterplan.udayton.edu.

**OPERATIONS RESEARCH PROFESSOR WINS NATIONAL TEACHING AWARD**

**SARA DORN**
Staff Writer

University of Dayton professor Mike Gorman recently became the 13th recipient of a national teaching award from The Institute for Operations Research and Management Science.

INFORMS is the “largest professional society in the world for professionals in the field of operations research, management science, and business analytics,” according to its website.

Gorman, an associate professor of operations management and decision sciences at UD, was honored with the 2010 INFORMS Prize for the Teaching of Operations Research and Management Science Practice at the INFORMS national conference in Austin, Texas, on Sunday, Nov. 7.

Gorman was recognized for implementing real world business problems and solutions into his classes, which range from sophomore to master’s level.

“If we train and train, you don’t see the benefits of learning, and you don’t see how good you will be once you get out there,” Gorman said. “We owe it to our students to teach them how to play in game situations.”

INFORMS recognized the capstone course Gorman teaches to senior operations majors that requires them to participate in a consulting project in which they work with real local businesses. Since its founding in 2002, students in the class have saved companies more than $4 million, according to a university press release.

In addition to teaching, Gorman also is the deputy editor of “Interfaces,” a bimonthly journal detailing the practice of operations research and management science.

Gorman was nominated for this award by Jeff Camm, editor-in-chief of the publication and former INFORMS award winner.

“Mike is one of the up-and-coming stars in the practice of analytics,” he said. “Some professors are focused in their research on the analytical side, and he’s always focused on real world problems.”

According to Camm, Gorman’s ability to implement practical examples into the classroom gave him an edge in the INFORMS competition.

“It’s a tremendous accomplishment, and it’s putting UD’s brand in front of an enormous group of people,” said Charles Wells, UD professor and department chair of operations management and decision sciences.

Operations management is the study of helping businesses operate efficiently and cooperatively to meet customer requirements. Operations include all aspects of a business, from the facility they occupy to employee interaction.
SGA plans forum in reaction to K Street floor collapse

ANNA Beyerle
News Editor

The University of Dayton Student Government Association is further investigating the floor collapse that occurred in the early morning hours of Sunday, Nov. 7, at 223 K St.

Christine Farmer, a junior and chair of SGA’s internal affairs committee, said the committee has put together plans to hold a forum for students who are concerned about the safety of their homes after this incident. This idea was sparked after many students contacted her and other members of SGA after the floor collapse.

According to Farmer, the committee will contact members of several university administrative offices to attend the forum, which will be set up in a question and answer format and will most likely occur in January 2011. Administrators from Public Safety, Facilities Management, Student Development, Residence Life and Risk Management will be invited to attend. A non-SGA member will also be present to listen to the conversation between students and administrators so the conversation can be more efficient.

“We thought the forum would be the most effective way to communicate,” Farmer said. “We want to have everyone present at once so [students] don’t have to spend more time looking for answers.”

Farmer said she originally hoped the forum could take place before the end of the fall semester, but in order to ensure several administrators are present, the committee chose to wait until next year.

“We want [the administrators] to answer the questions in a variety of ways,” she said. “We didn’t want to forget for quality for timing.”

If the forums are successful, SGA plans to host two or three smaller forums focused on more specific issues later in the spring semester, Farmer said.

SGA has called for the university to be more transparent about housing standards in two Dayton Daily News articles published on Friday, Nov. 12, and Saturday, Nov. 13.

“We would like the administration to inform the entire student body about what new steps are being taken to ensure this does not happen again,” SGA said in a public statement. “We feel as though students have the right to know the condition of their housing in regards to the structural integrity of their residences, and believe that all students have the right to feel safe where they live at all times.”

Lindsay Fouse, a junior and SGA’s director of external affairs, said all students are welcome to contact anyone member of SGA with grievances they would like SGA and the administration to be aware of. The discussion at the December meeting with SGA’s public meetings, held at 7 p.m. on Sundays in the Kennedy Union Ballroom, to voice any concerns.

According to university officials, the floor collapsed in the university-owned house’s living room while the residents were hosting a large party, with about 250 people in the house at the time of the incident. The party guests began jumping in unison to a song, which is when the floor broke, according to Bruce Burt, executive director of UD’s Public Safety and chief of police. When Public Safety arrived after the floor collapse, most attendees had already left that house, but Burt said Public Safety was told by attendees the party was very large and the living room was as full as it could be.

According to Kristin Dormish, a senior civil engineering major and an attendant of the party, the incident occurred at about 12:30 a.m. on Nov. 7.

“The residential structure was being used for something it was not built for,” Burt said. “There was more weight [in the house] than what it was built for.”

Phil Clark, a 2010 UD graduate, lived at 223 K St. his senior year. Although he and his roommates never had any major problems with the house, they did experience small structural troubles.

“The floor was definitely not level, with a little less support in the middle of the living room ... And the fireplace was slanted a little bit,” he said. “At times, I remember certain things put on top of the fireplace would move a few centimeters or so overnight.”

According to Clark, a Flyer Pig, a popular pig bank given to all students living on-campus to donate change to book scholarships, once fell off their living room window and spilled change on the floor during the night.

Although he knew his former residence was not in perfect condition, Clark didn’t expect something like the floor collapse to occur.

“We did not think that something catastrophic like this would happen, but at the same time, we probably at most had maybe 80 to 90 people over, and most people were outside,” Clark said.

The following incidents were reported to the Department of Public Safety from Nov. 12 through Nov. 14. This log was compiled by Flyer News from actual police reports obtained from the Department of Public Safety.

**Theft**

*Nov. 12, 10:59 a.m.*

Officer Little was dispatched to the Rec Plex on a theft report. The complainant’s keys and wallet had been stolen. He stated that he had his coat pocket between 9:05 a.m. and 10:20 a.m. His coat was hanging on the coat rack near the second floor fitness room. The wallet contained between $70 to $100 in cash, Fifth Third debit and Visa cards, American Express card, Bank of America Visa card, and his Ohio license.

*Nov. 13, 10:19 p.m.*

Officers Bernhardt and Cloyd were dispatched to Kiefaber Street on a theft report. The complainant stated she was visiting friends on Kiefaber Street and placed her iPhone on the couch. Three unknown males arrived at the residence and sat down around 10:10 p.m. One of the residents asked them to leave. Officers Ware and Roberts identified three men that fit the description, but the iPhone was not found.
Student group celebrates Diwali on campus

RACHEL TOVINITTI  Staff Writer

Members of the University of Dayton’s Indian Student Association will celebrate their cultural and religious heritage at the Diya 2010 festival at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 20, in the McGinnis Center.

“Diya,” meaning “light,” is the name given to an event which corresponds with Diwali, meaning “festival of lights,” a five-day festival in Hinduism, Jainism and Sikhism that occurs between mid-October and mid-November, according to Vishwanath Pendem, UD graduate student and president of ISA.

Hindu families celebrate Diwali by eating traditional Hindu food and performing dances, according to Sharat Rompicherla, a graduate student and secretary of ISA.

“Diwali celebrates the forthcoming of Lord Rama after he had defeated the demon king Ravana,” Rompicherla said. “Earthen lamps are lit on every house front, and on this day, prayers for success and prosperity are offered to Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth.”

At UD’s Diya celebration, individual and group dances will be performed by members of ISA, and Indian cuisine will be served, Pendem said. Members of ISA will wear traditional Indian attire, according to Rompicherla.

Tickets for Diya will be available at the door for $10. UD faculty and students, as well as the general public, are welcome to attend.

ISA, which was founded 40 years ago, is recognized by UD as a non-profit student organization. The organization provides an opportunity for students to interact and honor Indian culture, and for Indian students to adjust to life at the university, according to the ISA website.

ISA also works to increase awareness of diversity on campus by hosting cultural and social events, the website said.

UD students of all ethnicities are eligible for ISA membership. The organization currently has approximately 100 members, according to Pendem.

For more information on ISA, e-mail Pendem at pendemvi@notes.udayton.edu, or go to http://campus.udayton.edu/~isa/.

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FLYER NEWS  Friday, November 19, 2010

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5 8 2

3 8 7

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TRIO TO PLAY IN MUSIC SERIES

JUSTIN GUINN
Staff Writer

The Max Brod Trio, an Eastern European chamber music ensemble, will perform at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 19, at the Dayton Art Institute’s NCR Renaissance Auditorium. The concert is part of the Vanguard Concerts series, and is one stop on the trio’s sold-out, debut tour of the United States.

“We’re really excited about being one of the stops on the Trio’s first tour of the US,” said Eric Brockman, marketing and communications manager of the DAI.

The Trio, called “incisive and new” by BBC Music Magazine, consists of violinist Petr Matejak, cellist Maximilian von Pfeil and pianist Kerstin Strassburg. Pfeil and Strassburg are from Berlin, Germany, while Matejak is from the Czech Republic.

“The members of the trio come from different artistic contexts and have distinguished international solo careers or chamber music expertise,” German World Magazine’s website said.

The Trio was named for the famous Czech writer and composer Franz Kafka, the group’s press release said. Kafka was a pioneer in intercultural communications, just as the ensemble strives to symbolize the process of unification in Europe.

According to German World, the ensemble was formed in response to a 2005 initiative by the European Union to encourage intercultural concerts.

While in Ohio, the Trio, who began its tour in Georgia on Sunday, Nov. 7, played in Cleveland and Port Clinton. The Dayton performance is one of the last on the tour, just before concluding in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

“The tour consists of three programs, featuring pieces by Beethoven, Brahms, Debussy, Haydn, Schubert and Shostakovich, as well as an all-Czech selection of Smetana, Martinu and Dvorák,” German World said.

According to the Trio’s press release, the Vanguard program will consist of Franz Schubert’s “Trio No. 1 in B-flat major,” Claude Debussy’s “Trio No. 1 in G major” and Dmitri Shostakovich’s “Trio No. 2 in E minor.”

Vanguard Concerts, according to the DAI’s website, is a non-profit organization founded in 1962 to present an annual international chamber music series at the DAI. “Vanguard Concerts brings the world’s top chamber music ensembles and soloists to The Dayton Art Institute’s NCR Renaissance Auditorium,” the DAI website said.

The Vanguard season lasts from October through May, with all concerts beginning at 8 p.m.

Season tickets for the Vanguard concerts are priced at $90 for adults and $40 for students, while tickets for individual concerts are priced at $20 for adults and $15 for students.

“This is a really great opportunity to be among the first audiences in this country to see what is an up and coming group in the chamber music world,” Brockman said. “Where else can you pay $15 to see a young, diverse ensemble playing in a really wonderful auditorium?”

TROUBLE IN TV LAND: NEGOTIATIONS FOR DAYTON UNDERWAY

SARA GREEN
Asst. A&E Editor

If negotiations between Time Warner Cable and Sinclair Broadcast Group don’t succeed, two area stations may go off the air early in 2011.

“Time Warner provides the University of Dayton and much of the Dayton area with cable. Sinclair provides Time Warner with the signal for stations such as WRTG (FOX 45) and WKEF (ABC 22). If negotiations don’t reach an agreement by Friday, Dec. 31, FOX and ABC will be blacked out for customers using Time Warner. A blackout means the station will be turned off and most likely replaced with an alternate. The normal stations would only return if and when an agreement is met,” Barry Faber, executive vice president and general counsel for Sinclair, said.

Bernard Curioso, a customer service representative for Time Warner, said negotiations occur every year, but this is the first it has been made public.

“This pretty much happens every year; it’s just that it seems like [Sinclair] decided to make it public,” he said.

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Barry Faber, executive vice president and general counsel for Sinclair, noted the difficulty of this particular negotiation.

“The distinction is just that the negotiation is going so poorly – it’s not going nearly as well as 99 percent of the negotiations go,” he said.

Along with these problems, Sinclair wants to let Time Warner customers know that if the negotiations fall through, the results could be detrimental to Sinclair’s overall revenue, which comes not only from fees to re-broadcast stations, but also from advertising.

“We truly do not believe a deal is going to get done,” Faber said.

“I’m happy to acknowledge it’s in our best interest to tell people we make money from our advertising, and advertising revenue depends on how many people watch our TV stations.”

To learn how you can give your opinion to Time Warner Cable, go to flyernews.com.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT


Ben Packer: [Dressed as “The Dude”] Well, we’ve got to keep the Salvation Army in business.

FN: Are there any activities you do as roommates?

Jason Petermann: [Dressed as a tennis player] Sunday chick flicks.


Jimmy Merlo: [Dressed as a cowboy] And then there’s the “John Pohl Sunday Challenge,” where we’ll pay him to do things.

JoP: I had to do pushups with no clothes on.

JOM: For $8.

JoP: I only took $6.

JOM: He had to name 10 different movies.

JaP: He had to successfully spell “Cheese!”

FN: What costumes?

Jim O’Malley: We pay more for rent.

JoP: Are there any advantages to living in an older house?

JaP: And Jimmy and I went to the same high school, Carmel Catholic Mundelein, and we met Ben, who’s from Philadelphia, freshman year. And that’s thanks to Peter Tobin.

Sam Cairo: [In beachwear and an afro wig] He owes us a couple meals.

JoP: After grabbing the script, we pay him to do things.

BP: No, actually Jimmy won them on eBay.

FN: What would I find in your fridge?

JOM: I only took $6.

Jom: My dad sells cheese.

JoP: Had you ever lived together before this year?

JaP: And Jimmy and I went to the same high school, St. Viator, and we all played football together, so we all competed against each other back then.

JOM: Yeah, but now we don’t compete anymore. Just wheelchair races in the yard to determine who does chores.

SC: Pohl loses a lot.

Jim He also loses fifth-grade trivia a lot. He’s our weak link at the Field-house on Tuesdays.

FN: Do your neighbors watch your wheelchair races?

JoP: Oh yeah. We actually had a mock wedding in the yard earlier.

JOM: I was “Father O’Malley.”

JIM: And a little while later, we ended up having a mock divorce.

FN: Tell us about the bull’s skull.

JaP: It was our seventh roommate, but its parents wouldn’t pay the rent.

BP: There’s a lot of wildlife around here. We have the fattest groundhog in the backyard.

FN: What is “Good Morning Lowes?”

JoP: We have a very accessible roof, so nice and early on Saturday mornings, we come up there and give a little newscast. And I think our neighbors really appreciate it.

FN: What would you call yourselves?

JoP: I had to do pushups with no clothes on.

JOM: I only took $6.

JIM: He had to successfully spell “Cheese!”

SC: What’s your basement unlocked?

JoP: I’d go with “Jimmy’s Boys,” because they’re always following me around. Or “Big Red,” because of how the house looks.

JoP: Tell us about your basement.

JOM: A friend of ours, James Hickey, spent one week down there. We gave him food, and he went to class, but he’d go to sleep down there.

JoP: It’s gross. A lot of my daires are done down there.

FN: Are there any advantages to living in a landlord house?

JOM: NO!

JoP: It’s freezing in the winter.

SC: We pay more for rent.

JIM: And the maintenance man found some sunglasses in the toilet. How they got there, we don’t know.

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JoP: I can’t believe the show is already this weekend, but at the same time, I can’t wait to finally show everyone what we have been working toward.

Each dance in the show is unique in its style, its storyline, and how they are expressed. Through the course of nine numbers, the audience is taken to the 1920s, a wedding in shambles, a bumping club, a devastated home, a deceitful relationship and an uplifting place of worship. No matter what the story may be, each dancer is dancing with his or her own story and purpose in mind and by doing so, encourage the audience members to form their own interpretations of each dance.

Star Like Me: ‘Katherine’

Despite each dancer’s individuality, personal expression and interpretation, we come together and dance as one to convey a bigger picture for the audience. My fellow dancers and I have been rehearsing since September to tell the many stories in this semester’s show. Rehearsals have been long, hard and tedious at times, but with the show quickly approaching, they are bound to pay off.

Dance Ensemble rehearsals have been different this year than in the past. We have a new director, Richard Mosley, who restructured the program to focus more on the cohesive-ness of the ensemble. As a group, we have spent more time together dancing, therefore improving our aware-ness, interactions and unity as an entire cast on stage.

With Mr. Mosley’s changes this semester, and the help of outside choreographers, rehearsals have been extremely beneficial. However, rehearsals would not have been successful without the dedication and commitment of all the dancers. I am so lucky to be a part of such a fabu-lous group. I have so many friends in this ensemble who constantly remind me of why I love to dance. They keep me laughing and keep the atmosphere fun. I couldn’t ask for better friends than the ones I dance with in Ensemble.

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ROOMMATES: Seniors John Pohl, Ben Packer, Sam Cairo (in foreground), Jim O’Malley, Jason Petermann, Jimmy Merlo. ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

House Spells: Bull’s skull hanging from roof, four bedrooms, tandem bicycle, eBay won airplane seat, “Photo Hunt” video game, unlocked basement, collection of costumes.
Oh how times have changed.
When “Harry Potter” was first published in the United States in 1998, the average price of gas was $1.15. The national political landscape was dominated by allegations of improper relations between an intern and a president. The U.S. actually had a budget surplus, and “Titanic” was one of the most popular films. Windows launched Windows 98, and Google was born. (Seems impossible to believe we’ve been enchanted by the all-powerful search engine no longer than by the boy wizard!) Europe was giving birth to now commonplace parts of life, too, and introduced the Euro as a standard currency. In this time before iPods, we rocked out with Walkmans listening to ‘N Sync: “I Want You Back,” the Backstreet Boys: “Everybody (Back-street’s Back)” and Green Day’s newly released “Good Riddance (Time of Your Life).”

By the time Harry finished at Hogwarts in 2007, most of the kids who began reading the series as children were driving themselves and remember the days when gas was $3.38 a gallon. George Bush was president, but numerous political leaders, including a senator from Chicago, had declared their candidacies. The American economic prosperity of Harry’s childhood dissipated as the American economic prosperity of Harry’s childhood dissipated as the housing bubble burst late in the year. In theaters, it was the summer of the threequel, with “Pirates of the Caribbean,” “Shrek” and “Spiderman” all releasing their third installments. Apple was at it again, this time with the brand new iPhone, and the Wii had just really become cool. “Hey There Delilah” was just beginning to be overplayed, and we couldn’t get enough of Rihanna’s umbrella – ella – ella.

But while musical trends go flat, technological advances become outdated and political scandals fade, magic is timeless. For most of us at Flyer News, Harry Potter has been a part of our lives since we began reading the stories when we were young muggles in elementary school – the same time that Harry started Hogwars. We grew up with him, finishing the last book at the same age he finished his battle for the fate of the wizarding world. We’ve gone through the majority of our lives waiting on pins and needles for the next novel or film to come out, hoping and wondering if it would live up to our expectations. And here we are, 13 years after the first book was printed, and the series is finally winding down. Less than eight months from now, we will don our wizarding robes and witch’s hats for the very last midnight showing of a “Harry Potter” movie, and then it will be over.

But it won’t really be the end. Even after the final credits roll, the story will always stick with us. J.K. Rowling penned novels that showed how to fight through adversity, stand up for the causes we believe in and advocate for those who don’t have a voice. The “Harry Potter” series is a cultural phenomenon that taught us lessons that will last throughout our lives – lessons that we at Flyer News will never forget and hope that you won’t either. This section is a glimpse into the people and pieces of the novel that resonated deeply with us.

By staying true to these lessons that Harry taught us and by keeping our hearts, our futures should be as close to anything as possible. The books are fantastic. The movies? Not so much. The “Harry Potter” movies, if they stood alone, would be pretty good. They’ve got great special effects, characters you can relate to and awesome villains (probably the best part of the movies – Voldemort, Snape and Lucius Malfoy). They would be fine if they were their own franchise. But they aren’t.

I understand that the book is ready to be let down. Well there goes that mystery. What disappointments are lined up for me this time? …If I’m not absolutely dying when Ron leaves Harry and Hermione in the forest, this movie will have failed like all the others.

NATHAN WAGGENSPACK
SLYTHERIN

The 19th of November. “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part I.” It’s got a lot of people really fired up, but not me. You know why? Because pretty much every “HP” movie has been a disappointment, and I’m betting this one will be no different.

Now don’t get me wrong, I’m a HUGE “Harry Potter” fan. I’ve read every book multiple times, stayed up until 4 and 5 in the morning trying to finish a chapter in the new book and then deciding, “Nope, can’t go on that one,” and kept right on reading. I have followed Harry, Ron and Hermione from the Mirror of Erised all the way through the seven Horcruxes as closely as anyone else. The books are fantastic. The movies? Not so much. The “Harry Potter” movies, if they stood alone, would be pretty good.

They’ve got great special effects, characters you can relate to and awesome villains (probably the best part of the movies – Voldemort, Snape and Lucius Malfoy). They would be fine if they were their own franchise. But they aren’t.

I understand that the book is always better than the movie, so I wasn’t expecting the “HP” movie series to trump J.K. Rowling’s masterpiece. Still, the movies have to be held to some sort of standard, right? Like, say, not ruining the story?

Honestly, look back at the movies. Look past how excited you were to see it, how good the spells looked and how entertained you might have been. I don’t even care that the directors, producers, whoever, changed some aspects of the story. But they did ruin some really important parts.

Think about the fourth movie: “The Goblet of Fire.” The key plot line of the story is the mystery behind ministry man Barty Crouch and his alleged Death Eater son, Barty Crouch Jr., who was sent to Azkaban by his father. In the book, you feel for Crouch Jr., and see his father as a mean bureaucrat with no soul. Then, you appreciate Rowling’s mastery when it turns out that Crouch Jr. was a Death Eater after all, one of Voldemort’s best, and he has been hatching a brilliant plan to resurrect Voldemort for an entire year underneath everyone’s nose.

In the movies, you are robbed of this beautiful bit of storytelling. The first time you see Barty Crouch Jr. in the movie, he is not a crying, scared teenager. Instead, he is an insane man. The line of the story is the mystery behind ministry man Barty Crouch and his alleged Death Eater son, Barty Crouch Jr., who was sent to Azkaban by his father. In the book, you feel for Crouch Jr., and see his father as a mean bureaucrat with no soul. Then, you appreciate Rowling’s mastery when it turns out that Crouch Jr. was a Death Eater after all, one of Voldemort’s best, and he has been hatching a brilliant plan to resurrect Voldemort for an entire year underneath everyone’s nose.

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The names Susan Bones, Hannah Abbott and Zacharias Smith may not ring a bell, and honestly, I would be surprised if they did.

As a proud reader of the “Harry Potter” series, I am one of the many fans who read for every little detail, search for plot holes and partake in lengthy analytical discussions about the series. But after seven books in a span of 10 years, I have one major qualm with the series (yes, I’m talking to you, J.K. Rowling): Hufflepuff is the most undervalued house at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Sure, Harry Potter, the title protagonist, is in Gryffindor, the house known for bravery and courage. Slytherin, on the other hand, is notorious for housing the Dark Lord himself, Lord Voldemort. And Ravenclaw, well, all the smart kids end up there (sup Cho Chang).

Then what exactly is so special about Hufflepuff? Most would say nothing at all.

Hufflepuff, on the surface, seems to be sorted by their lack of redeeming qualities in contrast to the other houses. Sure, the Sorting Hat stamped Hufflepuff with a few, vague qualities such as loyalty and fair-mindedness, but even the Sorting Hat said in regards to the Hufflepuff founder, Helga Hufflepuff, “Dear Hufflepuff, she took the rest and taught them all she knew.” In essence, the Sorting Hat is trying to convey, in more graceful terms than I will use now, that all the kids who weren’t cool enough for Gryffindor, evil enough for Slytherin or smart enough for Ravenclaw end up in Hufflepuff.

Hufflepuff is seemingly an afterthought of Rowling’s creativity. Maybe she thought four houses was a better, rounder number than three. Maybe she really liked badgers.

I, however, am here to set the record straight: Hufflepuff rules. Maybe it’s my tendency to root for the underdogs, and Hufflepuff is definitely no exception. Hufflepuff’s value dedication, patience and hard work. In Albus Dumbledore’s words, they are “fierce friends.” These qualities are nothing to sneeze at. Instead of looking at Hufflepuff as the house of the wizarding world’s rejects, look at it as the most inclusive house, the least pretentious, the least judgmental. We have seen Gryffindor and Slytherin’s centuries-long rivalry, and in my humble opinion, Ravenclaw is just a bunch of glorified nerds.

And let us not forget Hufflepuff’s 15 minutes of fame: Cedric Diggory. In a sense, Hufflepuff put R-Patz on the map pre-Twilight (whether or not you consider this a blessing or a curse). Of course, he does end up dead after the Triwizard Tournament in “Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire.” To be frank, I blame that mostly on Harry Potter’s recklessness, which is yet another shining attribute to Gryffindor.

So to all of those who may not be good enough at Quidditch, who aren’t pureblood enough for Slytherin, and perhaps didn’t score high enough on the O.W.L.s; You, my friend, are a Hufflepuff. You might be picked last (or not at all) for Quidditch, probably go dateless to the Yule Ball, and you’re definitely not the Chosen One. No worries, wear that black and yellow badger with pride.

I remember receiving “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” for Christmas when I was 8, thinking that the plot sounded weird, and putting it at the bottom of my “To Read” list. Luckily, I quickly read all the other books I’d received and found myself gobbling up “The Sorcerer’s Stone.”

“Dobby. He’s this compulsive little guy, and he just sketches out.”

JEMIMA HOMAWOO, JUNIOR
INT. STUDIES & POLITICAL SCIENCE

“Fred and George. They’re the funniest, but they also try to save the world. They bring humor to the story.”

RYAN ANDREWS, SENIOR
ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

“Barty Crouch Jr. because he’s played by my favorite actor, David Tennant, and he does that tongue thing which I love.”

KELSEY BEROYAN, FRESHMAN
UNDECIDED ENGINEERING

“Mrs. Weasley. When she said, ‘not my daughter, you bitch!’ it was awesome. And she raised Fred and George.”

EILEEN KENNEDY, SENIOR
BIOLOGY

Popularity of Potter due to exceptional characters, themes

Rowling utilizes are so life-like that it’s hard to remember that certain parts of the books are only fiction. From Ron Weasley’s jealousy of Harry’s fame to Madame Marsh’s motion sickness on the Knight Bus, each character faces normal struggles in their connections with others and handles them in realistic ways. We see Harry and Ron resort to cursing handles them in realistic ways. We see Harry and Ron resort to cursing... the list could go on. And Rowling uses all of these and more. She creates a rich world complete with traditions, government and various magical creatures, mostly springing from what many readers already know or understand. By utilizing these familiarities, Rowling is able to attract a large range of readers and maintain their undivided attention.

Rowling also adds to the realism of the books by incorporating real world issues. On the subject of house elves alone, Rowling addresses the topics of slavery and equal opportunity. Her descriptions of the Ministry of Magic are riddled with hints as to the view on corrupt bureaucracy. Lucius Malfoy’s excessive bribery, Arthur Weasley’s love of Muggles holding him back and Harry’s analysis of the Fountain of Magical Brethren. These subtle links tie the magical world more closely to our own and allow a reader’s imagination to more easily take in the intricacies of Rowling’s world.

Though the subject of magic and wizards may be unrealistic, the world that J.K. Rowling creates in Harry Potter is one close enough to ours that the audience is easily put under the spell.

Werewolf warms human hearts

If you could meet anyone from the “Harry Potter” series, who would it be? Although truly a tough question, since J.K. Rowling has created some of the most lovable characters of our generation, the answer is simple: loyal Order of the Phoenix member and the best Defense against the Dark Arts teacher ever, Remus Lupin. That’s right, if I could sit down for an hour with anyone from “HP” I’d be having a butterbeer with Lupin.

You may argue that Lupin has nothing compared to the main gang. After all, he doesn’t even appear until book No. 3, but even so, Rowling pays a great deal of attention to developing his personality, creating the most human and relatable character of the “HP” crew.

For those of you who know the books by heart and are already preparing your counterargument to the “human” issue, I got it. Remus isn’t exactly “human,” he’s a werewolf, cursed as a young boy when bitten by the most fearsome werewolf in the wizarding world. Lycanthropy becomes his tragic flaw, and in each book he struggles with containing his beastly side. He goes so far as to lock himself up in a room alone during his transformations so as not to succumb to his greatest fear — harming the ones he loves — resulting in a life of seclusion and self-inflicted pain. He overcomes his flaw in a heroic and self-sacrificing way.

When there’s no full moon, however, Lupin is warmedhearted and cares deeply for those around him. He is intelligent, generous, and proves to be a mentor to Harry and his friends. He’s a competent teacher, loyal to Dumbledore and the OOTP, and the bravest of the Gryffindors, ultimately giving his life for the cause in the Battle of Hogwarts.

The paradox of his character creates a vulnerable but strong man, with morals, plus a dark and mysterious side, which in my opinion, sounds damn sexy. I was let down by the actor chosen to portray Lupin in the movies because his character is not as strong (or attractive) as Rowling’s words make him seem.

I understand he’s supposed to be shabby and on the fringes of society, but being a werewolf has to make him at least a little rugged and strong-jawed, right? (A younger Liam Neeson, anyone?)

Looks aside, Lupin’s got it all. If I could choose an “Harry Potter” character to act in Hogmeade on a snowy night for some good conversation over a bottle of fire whisky, Remus Lupin would be my number one choice, barring it’s not a full moon or anything.
Men’s Basketball

UD PREPARES FOR REMATCH WITH OLE MISS

JACOB ROSEN
Sports Editor

After another close victory, the University of Dayton men’s basketball team faces its first road challenge of the year Saturday, Nov. 20, at 8 p.m. against the University of Mississippi.

The Flyers hold a 2-0 record after a dramatic 76-68 victory over the University of Akron on Tuesday, Nov. 16, at UD Arena. Dayton allowed 14 three-pointers in the back-and-forth contest, but then held on thanks to 23 points and 12 rebounds from senior forward Chris Wright and tight defense late in the second half.

Gregory said Wright’s speech was a huge motivator for the young Flyers, especially when presented early in the season. “He was already thinking about that, but he’s already aware that the prior meeting could be on their opponent’s mind this weekend.”

“It’s very important because Ole Miss is tough; we played them in the NIT run and bring it every time,” Wright said. “… But being in Oxford, I would have lost Terrico White to the NBA, but playing them, Andy [Kennedy] does a great job, and they have problems than any team we played in 40 minutes against the Rebels, unlike what occurred against Akron Tuesday. During that game, the Flyers witnessed a 14-point lead evaporate in the second half, before eventually needing a 20-4 run to end with a victory.”

Yet again, it was the reigning team Most Valuable Player that talked about the importance of transitioning that clutch ending into a more consistent effort against Ole Miss. “Well, Akron, they [are] going to bring it every time,” Wright said. “…” So it was a great test for us, and you know, going down to Ole Miss is going to be an even greater challenge. We need to come out and perform.”

The University of Dayton men’s basketball team huddles during the season opener against Mount St. Mary’s University on Saturday, Nov. 13, at UD Arena. The Flyers play their first road game of the year this weekend.

“Last year, obviously, Dayton presented a big problem for Ole Miss with their defense. … But being in Oxford, I would have to give Ole Miss the edge.”

-Alex Lake, basketball writer, The Daily Mississippian

SCHEDULE

Men’s Basketball
Saturday, Nov. 20 at Ole Miss 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 22 vs. Savannah State 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 24 vs. Florida A&M 7 p.m.

Women’s Basketball
Saturday, Nov. 20 vs. South Dakota 4:30 p.m. at Minn.
Subway Classic Sunday, Nov. 21 vs. Wisconsin-Milwaukee or Minnesota, TBA at Minn. Subway Classic

Volleyball
Saturday, Nov. 20 - Sunday, Nov. 21 Atlantic 10 Conference Tournament, Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio

DID YOU KNOW?

REPEAT OFFENDERS
Senior center Devin Seancy and senior forward Chris Wright have both recorded double-doubles in each of the men’s basketball team’s first two games. They each have won WHOF-FM home player of the game honors.

THE WRIGHT WAY
Senior forward Chris Wright has been named to the John R. Naismith Award Preseason Watch List. The Naismith Award is given to the nation’s best men’s basketball player each year, and 50 players are on the preseason list.

FIRST HONORS
Senior middle blocker Lindsay Fletemier was awarded A-10 Offensive Player of the Week last week. It was Fletemier’s fifth award this season, and the Flyers finished their A-10 season with a perfect 15-0 record.

GIANT JUMP
In a week where nine top 25-ranked teams lost in women’s volleyball, UD’s team avoided the upset bug and moved up four spots in the rankings to No. 13. It was the week’s largest improvement in the top 25 poll, tied with San Diego University.

FLYER FAREWELL
The women’s soccer team had its season come to an end last weekend against Ohio State. The Flyers had five seniors on the team: goalkeeper Lisa Rodgers, defender Ali Giner, midfielders Kelly Blumenschein and Janica DeWolfe, and forward Tori Oelschlager.
Football

FOOTBALL TEAM DESERVES CREDIT, MORE FAN SUPPORT

DANIEL VOHDEN
Assistant Sports Editor

With the University of Dayton football team’s latest Pioneer Football League crown, the Flyers deserve more recognition.

After knocking off Marist College to clinch yet another PFL title, the Flyers were ranked 25th in the nation in the Football Championship Subdivision Coaches’ Poll.

It’s only the third time in school history that the Flyers have been nationally ranked in football — the other two times were in 1996 and 1997.

For the majority of UD students who have no idea just how good our football team really is, here’s a little review.

Dayton football is a FCS (formerly Division I-AA) non-scholarship team that competes in the Pioneer Football League. The PFL is the only football-only, non-scholarship conference in the country.

The league was formed in 1983 with four teams and has since expanded to the current 10-team conference. The Flyers won the first-ever PFL championship in 1983 and have since won a total of 11 additional crowns, far more than any other team (Drake University is second with just four).

The latest PFL crown is UD’s second in a row and the team’s third in the last four years.

Dayton football has certainly dominated its conference, and when it comes to producing legendary coaches, look no further than Mike Kelly.

Before current head coach Rick Chamberlin took over in 2008, Kelly presided over the program for 27 years. During that time, he compiled a record of 246-51-1, good for a .819 winning percentage.

When Kelly retired, Florida State University’s Bobby Bowden and Penn State University’s Joe Paterno were the only two active coaches who had more wins at the Division I level.

Kelly is currently working in Dayton’s athletic department as a senior associate athletics director, and he also provides the radio color commentary for UD football games.

When it comes to national championships, UD has that covered, too.

After finishing 11-1 in the 2007 season, the Flyers were named NCAA FCS Mid-Major national champions.

It was Dayton’s third national championship, the first being in 1989 when UD was a Division II program. So just keeping focused in on those,” said Novacek about what’s next for the team this season.

Following the A-10 Tournament, Dayton will continue its season with a match at Ohio University on Friday, Nov. 26. The NCAA Tournament brackets will then be determined via a nationally televised selection show shortly afterward, and the Flyers are excited to see how the rest of the season shapes up.

“Yeah, it’s really special, and it’s with a really great group of girls who we have been friends with for a really long time, [making] it even better,” said Novacek about the meaningfulness of this year’s success.

Volleyball

Flyers hope to continue A-10 perfection, set high goals for future

JACOB ROSEN
Sports Editor

The nationally ranked University of Dayton volleyball team will look to stay perfect in Atlantic 10 Conference play with the A-10 Tournament at Val Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio, this weekend.

After a 15-0 record in the conference’s regular season, just the second clean slate in league history since 1998, the top-seeded Flyers (29-3) will begin play Saturday, Nov. 20, at Xavier’s Cintas Center. After that semifinal match against Duquesne University or Fordham University, UD will hope to claim a sixth conference tournament title and secure an automatic NCAA Tournament berth.

With all that in mind, Dayton knows it can’t worry too much about whom their opponents will be, and can just focus on what they can actually control.

“But the reality of the situation is that it’s not just us, and [this is] about anybody, I think you spend more time worrying about your team,” said head coach Kelly Sheffield about the team’s preparations. “So that goes to be [that] we want to be playing our best volleyball at the end of the season in the tournaments, and a great majority of the focus will be on us.

What we do well, we will try to make sure that we are crisp in that, and we will try to work on a couple other things that maybe we think we’ll see.”

"... We want to be playing our best volleyball at the end of the season in the tournaments."

Kelly Sheffield, head coach

Some of the senior leaders are buying into that concept as well, continuing to follow the adjustments and training the team has been working on all year.

“I think we just really are going to be focusing on our side of the net, and our connections, and our blocking and everything like that.,” senior middle blocker Becky Novacek said.

“Not so much on focusing on what they are going to do, but just focusing on getting better on our side.”

Already one of the hottest teams in the country, Dayton has won 19 consecutive matches dating back to a loss on Friday, Sept. 10, against current No. 9 University of Illinois. UD has lost just seven sets total during this two-month stretch, currently tied with top-ranked University of Florida for the fifth-longest winning streak in the nation.

Currently slotted as No. 13 in the most recent American Volleyball Coaches Association Coaches’ Poll, the Flyers are close to their highest ranking in school history. That record was set at No. 12 during the week of Oct. 25, 2007, but UD’s program leader is looking away from the possible streaks and honors.

“To be honest with you, I could care less about winning streaks, and I could care less about the rankings other than the fact it probably helps with recruiting a little bit,” Sheffield said. “I’ve never heard our team talk about winning streak, and I’ve never heard our players talk about rankings, and those aren’t things we can control.”

Looking past this weekend’s tournament, the Flyers are virtually guaranteed to advance to the NCAA Tournament for the seventh time in UD history, all within the past eight years. The program has advanced three separate times (’06, ’07 and ’09) to the second round, but has still yet to make a Sweet 16 appearance.

Such an accomplishment would be even more meaningful this season, as the UD Arena will be one of four regional hosts for the 2010 NCAA Tournament. This means that Sweet 16 and Elite Eight games will be played in Dayton for the first time ever, giving the Flyers an added incentive to push farther than any squad in school history.

“We obviously have extremely high goals to go as far as we can in the NCAA Tournament, farther than we have ever gone in the history of our program, so just keeping focused on those,” said Novacek about what’s next for the team this season.

The Department of Languages announces a competition for the

Robert C. Conard Scholarship for Study Abroad

• and invites applications from undergraduate students who have declared or will declare a major or minor in the Department of Languages

➢ Up to $5,000 in support for enrollment in a language-immersion, study-abroad experience at a university or other institution of higher learning in a non-English speaking country of at least one semester duration.
➢ Student must return to the U.D. campus for at least one semester of study following the study abroad experience.
➢ Applicants must have completed foreign language instruction in the target language through the 202 level or equivalent.
➢ The language of instruction at the host institution cannot be the student’s native language.
➢ Application information can be obtained in the Department of Languages office, Humanities Center, Room 352.
➢ Deadline for application: February 1, 2011.
➢ One scholarship granted each academic year.
Volleyball

FLETEMIER AMONG NATION’S BEST

Redshirt senior All-American highlighting another historic season for No. 13 Flyers

JACOB ROSEN
Sports Editor

“There’s not another player that looks like her in the country.”

Those are the positive words that University of Dayton head coach Kelly Sheffield said about 6-foot-6-inch redshirt senior middle blocker Lindsay Fletemier on the Flyers volleyball team. Fletemier is the clear leader at the net for the Flyers, who enter the Atlantic 10 Conference tournament this weekend ranked as No. 13 team in the nation.

Entering the weekend, the UD co-captain is one of only two players in the nation to rank in the top 10 in both blocks per set and hitting percentage. But incidentally, she only began to play the game during her sophomore year of high school, after a long stint at playing another sport.

“I just played basketball for a really long time, and I was really into basketball, and I just wanted something new, and I was kind of burnt out from basketball,” Fletemier said. “I went to like a random club [volleyball] tryout and after that, I really started to like it.”

Fletemier said her body type fits the game of volleyball better, and after her junior season of playing for her high school and a club team, she signed as a long-term recruiting project for the Dayton Flyers under former head coach Tim Horson.

“I mean looking back, they are probably like, she was a good asset to recruit, but at the time, I’ve watched my recruiting tape, and it’s not pretty,” Fletemier said, “I don’t even know what I was doing, but thank God Tami [Ores, former assistant coach] saw me and saw that I had potential.”

The native of Garden City, Mich., has participated on the USA A2 Team for the past two summers, traveling and competing with some of the top collegiate talent in the country. Thanks to that increased level of training and her success at UD, the reigning Co-Player of the Year in the A-10 said this is the year she has been most proud of her accomplishments.

Already honored as an American Volleyball Coaches Association honoree on the All-American teams each of the past two years, Fletemier is likely to repeat again in 2010. Her 1.52 blocks per set ranks fourth in the nation, and her hitting percentage of .418 is nearly unfathomable in the game, placing seventh in the NCAA.

While she is pleased to see how her own talents continue to develop, the success of the team has only made her more pleased with her decision to stick with volleyball.

“I mean it’s great, I feel like every week we just get better, and it’s an amazing feeling going into the tournament,” Fletemier said. “And I think that as every week goes by, we get more confident, and there are not many teams in the nation that can say that.”

Fletemier’s confidence and ability have only helped those around her. On a team with six seniors that ranks among the best in the nation in blocks and hitting percentage, the UD squad credits Fletemier for its overall success.

“It’s awesome,” said senior middle blocker Becky Novacek about being able to play with Fletemier. “I think it just helps our team to just, you know, for everyone to elevate their style of play and strive to be like in the top 10, personally, and like if we all come together. She doesn’t act any different toward us or anything, she just helps us more than anything.”

Sheffield said Fletemier is simply “dominating” right now, and her abilities both offensively and defensively make her a rare talent in the sport.

The third-year head coach said Fletemier is one of the greatest athletes in the history of the university, and that her greatest attribute is her ability to improve every single year.

“But to be able to coach athletes and coach talent is cool, but what I think every coach wants to do is to get talent that’s able to work hard and is willing to be coachable,” Sheffield said. “And those mean a lot more than the level of talent. She’s got talent — there’s no question — but what makes it really enjoyable to work with her is the fact that she’s coachable, and she wants to work hard. And that’s where the fun for the coach is.”

Fletemier and the Flyers are looking forward to the start of tournament play over the next few weeks. With UD Arena serving as one of four regional hosts of the NCAA Tournament, the goals for the team are aligning with that reality.

Fletemier will graduate next month and already plans on pursuing a professional career in volleyball. But she said there are other things that need to be accomplished first, before she can fulfill her new dream.

“That’s on the back of our binders that we take around to every trip, [and] that’s our goal: We want to play in front of our home crowd in the regional [games], and that’s something that Dayton volleyball has never done before,” Fletemier said. “I think there are so many seniors on the team, and we just want to make our mark. We made our mark with the 15-0 [conference regular season record], and we want to keep pushing the envelope farther than it’s been pushed before.”

Women’s Basketball

Dayton coping with early losses, looking for tournament success

BRENDA HADER
Chief Sports Staff Writer

After a record-setting double overtime loss in the season opener to Penn State University, the University of Dayton women’s basketball team fell on the road to Michigan State University on Monday, Nov. 15.

Dayton defeated Michigan State at UD Arena to begin last season, so the nationally ranked Spartans had revenge on their minds. After UD trailed throughout in this game, it was clear the Flyers (0-2) have a lot of work to do before leaving town for the Minnesota Subway Classic this weekend.

Head coach Jim Jabir said he was upset with the game’s outcome.

“I’m disappointed in how we played; I’m very disappointed in our leadership, disappointed in our execution on defense, on offense and our toughness,” he said. “I just think we didn’t play very well and didn’t execute very well. We have to find an identity and a toughness that we don’t have right now.”

Michigan State senior forward Kalisha Keane, a member of the Preseason All-Big Ten Conference team, led the game with 23 points. She was 5-for-5 at shooting three pointers, while her team finished with nine threes in total.

Dayton was led by redshirt sophomore forward Brittany Wilson who scored 16 points in her first career start, and junior forward Justine Raterman who scored 13. The Flyers were within two points of Michigan State at halftime, but were unable to sustain that effort for the entire 40 minutes.

“I think we just haven’t been able to put a complete game together,” senior guard Kristin Daugherty said. “The first game our offense was great, and our defense was bad, and this game I thought our defense was a lot better; but we just had way too many turnovers on offense. We just need to put it all together.”

The Flyers forced 22 turnovers to create ample offensive opportunities, but still managed to commit 21 of their own. Shooting just 33.1 percent from three point range also hurt UD, especially with the Spartans shooting efficiently from the field.

The season is young, however, and there is still plenty of time for UD to improve, after its heavy competition in the first two games.

“It doesn’t get any easier, and I think what we learned in the last two games was a lot about ourselves,” Jabir said. “We need to get better defensively and our execution on both sides of the ball. We’re lacking very much in a lot of these areas right now.”

Dayton hopes to turn it around with more consistent performances in this weekend’s Minnesota Subway Classic at the University of Minnesota. UD will play the University of South Dakota Saturday, Nov. 20, before playing either the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee or Minnesota Sunday, Nov. 21.

“These next two games are really, really important for us,” Daugherty said. “With our preconference schedule, these are teams that are good, but they’re very beatable. We just need to come out and get tough and focus, and pull out two wins at this tournament, and I think that will really help us go a long way.”