FLYERS CIRCLE THE GLOBE

KAYLEIGH FLADUNG
Staff Writer

With the deadline for summer study abroad applications quickly approaching, many students are preparing for the chance of a lifetime: traveling to countries around the world to enrich their college experience.

This semester has seen the highest number of students studying abroad in recent years, according to Tricia Barger, associate director of the Center of International Programs.

Students have the opportunity to participate in a number of UD programs this summer that focus on specific majors or interests. The deadline for summer abroad applications is Friday, Feb. 11. One program will take communication students to Shanghai, China, while psychology students will jet off to Paris, France. Other programs will take place in Italy, Argentina and Germany.

A new program, “The Global City: Social Work, Anthropology, and Human Rights,” will focus on social work in Calcutta and Bangalore, India.

“I think eventually you will see an even greater increase in students participating in semesters abroad rather than summers,” Barger said. “A lot of students just want to experience a study abroad for a longer period of time.”

Kiki Wilson, a junior international studies major, spent a summer and semester studying abroad for a total of seven months overseas. Wilson spent three months in Alexandria, Egypt, and the last four months in Cairo, Egypt.

“Egyptian Arabic is the most widely understood dialect, and I wanted to get a feel for that,” Wilson said. “I took Arabic classes during the summer and actually spent the semester doing volunteer work and teaching English classes.”

Wilson spent her semester living in Cairo rather than on a campus and said she found the experience to be extremely rewarding.

“One of the best parts was just getting to understand the ways that people think,” Wilson said. “You can’t go into it making comparisons. You need to just take it for what it is, not the context you already know. I loved that I saw beyond the tourist sites.”

Wilson received a scholarship to help fund her stay in Cairo. Many scholarships are available to students who are interested in studying abroad, Barger said. According to the Center for International Programs’ website, the cost of summer study abroad programs are factored by the tuition costs of each credit hour taken, plus living expenses at the study abroad site. Students participating in summer programs usually receive six credit hours. For students participating in a semester program, the amount of credits earned depends on the individual student and school he or she attends.

Joe Capka, a junior finance, economics and Spanish major, also took advantage of UD’s study abroad program and spent a semester in Madrid, Spain, studying at La Universidad Potifícia Comillas.

“I was able to immerse myself in another culture and language,” Capka said.

Capka said being put in a situation where he couldn’t use English was a good learning opportunity. Overall, he said his semester abroad was incredibly beneficial to his college experience.

The first step for students interested in a summer or semester abroad is to attend an information meeting that takes place every Monday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall, Room 16. This session provides information on the different options available to students. The next step is to schedule an appointment with the Office of Education Abroad to choose a destination and partner school or program. Contact the office at edabroad@udayton.edu or (937) 229-3728.

“I think that studying abroad for a semester is not emphasized here at UD, and more students should look into it,” Capka said. “I’ve also participated in one month programs, but four months compared to one month makes a huge difference.”

For more information about studying abroad, go to international.udayton.edu.
New digital signage offers improved communication outlet for university, organizations

CHRIS RIZER
Chief News Writer

Visitors to Kennedy Union will view campus activity information in a new format called digital signage, replacing posters which proved to be an ineffective way to communicate to students, according to Amy Lopez-Matthews, director of Student Life and Kennedy Union.

New digital signs, which display information on widescreen televisions, are on each floor of KU, according to Brian Turner, director of University and Kennedy Union.

Student Life and KU are using three of Dayton information technology.

Matthews, director of Student Life and Kennedy Union, said the Visix system has been in use since 2009, according to a Daily Transcript report from last year.

The system is used in the Student Life and KU office in KU, Room 214.

Having digital signage installed at UD was not a quick process; SGA first pitched the idea to Lopez-Matthews during the 2007-2008 academic year, she said.

Research has been carried out since then to find a system that could be used campus-wide, but according to Turner, the 2009-2010 SGA executive vice president and graduate student in the School of Business Administration, it was his SGA administration that finally took decisive action to make the signage a reality.

Jewell’s SGA administration stated in a resolution its intent to “more effectively communicate with the students to increase the SGA’s transparancy and accountability, as well as assess the feasibility of implementing a new centralized messaging system for students through the use of digital signage.”

The 2009-2010 SGA also passed legislation titled, “Allocation of Funds towards the Digital Signage Project,” setting aside a total of $29,600 for the signage.

Jewell said SGA viewed the signage as “an investment for the whole campus.”

Maura LaMendola, the 2009-2010 SGA executive vice president and senior international studies major, said last year’s SGA was so intent on implementing digital signage because it was challenging to communicate to the student body through e-mail and bulletin boards.

“it was made us (SGA) look secretive, and really we just didn’t have resources to communicate,” she said.

The digital signage in KU did not come to fruition until this year for several reasons.

According to LaMendola, the administration was busy with a switch to Banner Self Service, an organizational program that runs porches.

udayton.edu, which includes class registration tools, student financial and organization information, and the campus calendar. She also said UD had to establish funding for the signage, and had to develop a policy so everything displaying its name would have a consistent marketing image, including the signage.

“I know the project was originally going to start in KU and eventually is supposed to make its way around campus to different buildings,” LaMendola said. “I just hope that it really does become what we envisioned it as, because student government did put a lot of money into that … and we wouldn’t just do something like that if we didn’t think it would be helpful to everybody.”

A document called “UD Digital Signage Proposal,” dated Jan. 7, 2009, states that the campus has 26 suitable spots where enough people would regularly view the signage and which meet technical qualifications to house it.

Turner said if other departments want to utilize digital signage, they also have to use the Visix system, requiring them to purchase their own content players and screens, and cover additional costs such as licensing fees for Visix.

“Digital signage is a wonderful tool to ensure that the channels of communication with the student body are effective and efficient,” said Lindsay Fouse, director of external affairs for SGA and junior business economics major.

“It allows us to use vibrant, information-rich messages in a very practical manner. The Student Government Association is excited to have a new, dynamic medium for students to reference on a daily basis located right in the heart of Kennedy Union.”
UD CELEBRATES 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARIANIST FOUNDER’S BIRTH

Celebration Events:
Thursday, Jan. 27
6 p.m., Founders’ Dinner in Kennedy Union Ballroom

Monday, Feb. 7
4:30 p.m., Marianist Heritage Lecture in the Kennedy Union Ballroom

Friday, March 11
6 p.m., Lackner Awards Dinner honoring faculty and staff; invitation only

Friday, April 8
12 p.m., Cincinnati Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr presides at Mass on the anniversary of Chaminade’s birth in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception; followed by a reception

Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012
Closing Liturgies

KAITLYN RIDE\L
Staff Writer

This semester, the University of Dayton will host events to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of William Chaminade, the founder of the Society of Mary.

UD kicked off the festivities with a mass for Chaminade Day, the founder’s feast day, held on Saturday, Jan. 22, in the RecPlex. The event was open to Marianists within the Dayton area and all members of the UD community. The mass celebrating Chaminade’s life and ministry was then followed by a reception also located in the RecPlex.

Throughout the rest of the semester, there will be a wide array of events, ranging from a Chaminade banner dedication to Marianist heritage lectures. These activities aim to remind the student body of Chaminade’s important role in UD’s spiritual growth, as well as the development of UD as an educational institution.

“Education is the route [through which] the Marianist mission is able to transform our world and bring forth justice.”

Maureen O’Rourke, Coordinator of Marianist Activities

“We celebrate Blessed Chaminade’s birthday because his life and vision still inspire people all over the world today to work on the transformation of the world,” said Father Jim Fitz, rector and chairman of the committee planning the 250th anniversary celebration.

In addition to these events, the Marian library will display Marianist artwork throughout February, according to a university press release. A banner of Chaminade also will hang in Kennedy Union throughout the year, and a statue of Chaminade has been commissioned, which will be mounted in KU’s Central Mall.

William Chaminade was a priest living in Bordeaux, France, during the time of the French Revolution when priests were persecuted if they refused to take an oath of allegiance to the revolutionary government. Chaminade refused to take the oath, and was forced to go underground to spread the Christian faith secretly.

In 1804, after the Revolution had ended, Chaminade developed the Sodality of the Madeleine in Bordeaux. The Sodality, which developed into the Society of Mary, or the Marianists, is based on the idea of sharing Mary’s mission of bringing Christ into the modern world. Chaminade based his ministry on the equality of all Christians, despite gender, age or rank.

“Chaminade’s work of bringing Christ to the world, as Mary did, is very important to the work of the university today,” O’Rourke said. “Our Catholic and Marianist mission grounds us and inspires us at every level — our recruiting practices for students, the student judicial process, student housing, the development opportunities offered to faculty and staff, [and] the faith formation opportunities for all faith traditions on campus.”

For a list of the events celebrating Chaminade’s life, go to udayton.edu/news/articles/2010/12/celebrate_chaminade_250_anniversary.php, and for more information about these events, call the rector’s office at (937) 229-2999.
Arizona tragedy resonates with writer

When I flew into the Tucson International Airport on Tuesday, Jan. 4, I expected to leave the next week carrying with me nothing but memories of visiting family in the sunny skies of a southwestern winter, and lessons I would learn about investigative journalism at the Campus Coverage Project conference.

Then, on Saturday, Jan. 8, my trip vastly changed as I sat in a classroom at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University in Phoenix, and a conference director walked in and announced that Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords had been shot.

I sat there not really processing what I’d heard, partially because we didn’t have much information yet, but the shock only grew as more details spilled in frenzied confusion; first, news organizations were reporting Giffords dead, and then correcting her status to alive and in critical condition.

A grave spotlight was on Gabrielle Giffords that morning, but we eventually learned that she wasn’t the only victim of 22-year-old Jared Loughner’s shooting rampage; 13 others were injured, and six, including a 9-year-old girl, were dead, according to the Arizona Daily Star.

When I saw the word “Oracle,” a flash across a CNN broadcast, a street sign I saw just three days before went through my mind, but even with its picture on the screen in front of me, the shock prevented me from making the connection that I was that close to the scene of the catastrophe just days before it happened.

When the classroom emptied for a break before our next workshop, I called my family, both in Tucson and Ohio, and when the next workshop resumed, the directors of the program gave us the option to work in a mock newsroom as a staff figuring out the story of the Tucson shootings.

We couldn’t help but investigate the story because we were journalists, and we couldn’t stop thinking about it because we were human, and several fellow human beings had been hurt without reason.

We worked as journalists at a pseudo-news organization, learning how to report in the midst of the shock of a crisis, not even planning to produce a written or broadcasted product.

On an undeniably real level, as the unreality of the shock subsid- ed, I realized we were also searching for the answer to the more human questions the entire nation was begging.

Those human questions started pouring in the next evening as I sat with my aunt in Tucson watching KGUN9, one of the city’s television news stations. The questions overflowed in my heart as tears fell from my eyes, empty and broken as they gazed at the faces of the nine who died in a shooting that happened not far from where I sat.

Although I hold words to a high esteem as a journalist, even for a person in my line of work, there are some emotions which words can never begin to describe.

When something as tragic as the Tucson shooting happens, those questions we all have in our hearts mingle so closely with emotion that the depth of the feelings of emptiness and loss are so powerful that words are a helpless attempt to somehow put a label on something we don’t understand.

That evening, the entire news broadcast on KGUN9 was dedicated to the shooting and the generous reaction of the Tucson community coming together to support each other in any way possible through a tragedy nobody understood.

It detailed the lives of those who were lost in the shootings, each of them innocent and good-hearted people with so much left to give.

Answers to technical questions, like the condition of Gabrielle Giffords, sifted through little like the sands of the Arizona desert blowing in the wind; the minute those hard facts blew away, nothing but swift and empty nothingness filled their place as the station ended its broadcast naming those lost in the shooting.

They displayed their pictures, with each followed by a moment of silence, and tears no doubt flooded the eyes of countless viewers as we all wondered how something so horrible could have happened.

My heart broke a thousand times when the innocent face of 9-year-old Christina Green appeared on the screen, and even more so on the next evening broadcast when KGUN9 visited her grade school where her “classmates tied balloons, ribbons and stuffed animals to the fence in honor of their friend while they struggled to understand their friend’s death.”

When I boarded the plane for Ohio the next morning, the sadness didn’t stay in Arizona as the plane took off toward the snowy Midwest.

Some of those sunny skies came back with me to Ohio from the joy of visiting family in Tucson and of the wonderful experience I’d had at the workshop in Phoenix, but it was laced with the utter sadness of the tragedy in Tucson.

As I drove from the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport to my home in McDonald, Ohio, on slick, snow-covered roads, there was no doubt that I was in a different state completely, and my heart lagged like my tires on the slushy roads as I remembered the tragedy in Tucson.

Then, as I drove into my small, Ohio hometown, I saw something oddly comforting in a flag waving at half-mast, no doubt flying in respect for those lost and healing, physically and at heart, in Arizona.

I saw a support for the ailing, and respect for the dead, stretching thousands of miles across a country that joined together to mend itself. That flag held the last lesson I carried home from Tucson; when one part of our country is broken, America still stands as one.
ON-CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT MAKES IMPACT ON STUDENT NEIGHBORHOODS

JEN CHENEY
Assistant News Editor

As part of the University of Dayton’s newest sustainability project, the Greenhouse Effect, students are now receiving report card grades based on their power usage, an effort which has made a significant impact on energy use.

Senior electrical engineering major Nicky Hanus has been working on this project for her thesis. Hanus said there is a difference in energy use since implementation of the report cards.

“In a survey of over 350 students, 46 percent admitted their first grade [on the report cards] did prompt them to make changes in their energy use,” she said. “The report cards have aided them in gauging their energy use, thus increasing energy consciousness.”

This sustainability effort has already saved the university money as well.

“According to our numbers, the approximately 300 houses and 150 apartments [tracked] saved a total of $7,320 during the months of November and December alone,” said Nathan Lammers, a graduate assistant in the program for renewable and clean energy.

According to Lammers, students will soon be able to reap the benefits of the university’s cut costs. The administration agreed to provide monetary incentives to the top 30 performing houses and top 15 apartments for February and March.

“The houses have been doing well and may potentially do better if they get more reward than just an ‘A’ on their report card,” Lammers said.

The only components taken into account when grading a house are the natural gas and electricity use, according to Lammers. Water use isn’t included, but it may be added in years to come. Students’ electricity and natural gas use per month are compared to the use of previous residents of the same house. The more energy saved against that initial grade set by previous residents, the better grade overall.

While some students believe residing in older houses puts them at a disadvantage, this is not the case, according to Lammers. Each house is compared not with other houses, but only with its own energy use in previous years.

Junior chemistry major Siobhan Finnen said the report card has decreased energy usage in her home. Finnen said her house’s grade of a B in November encouraged her and her roommates to be more conscious about their gas and electricity use, which resulted in an A+ grade for December.

“The report card did make me more aware of energy use, as a reminder that just because I don’t [directly] pay for the electric doesn’t mean it’s not being used,” she said.

HOW TO MAKE THE GRADE

› Make sure you don’t leave windows open if you are trying to heat or cool the house.

› Remove air conditioners from windows during the winter months.

› Turn off lights and electric appliances when you are at class or asleep.

› In the winter months, turn the thermostat down while sleeping, at class or off campus for break.

› Be sure to lock windows just slightly, to avoid wearing down the seal.

Classifieds

HOUSING

NEWLY RENOVATED HOUSES-APARTMENTS.
5 minute walk to UD. Call UD grad. John Poley 937-223-9790

Leo’s Quality Student Housing
The Original! Behind Panera Bread
Secure your housing for next year
Furnished, some homes with leather living room sets, Maytag washer/dryer
Some homes with marble bathrooms, off street parking, first class.
Check out website leosrentals.com or call (937)456-7743 or cell (937)371-1046.
Availability 3-5 students
65, 63, 57, 49, 29, 38, 40, 50 Jasper St.
119 Fairground, 48, 50 Woodland, 42, 46
Frankstreet. To make your stay comfortable and a very enjoyable schoolyear.

LAST CHANCE: LANDLORD HOUSING IN GHETTO FOR 2011/2012 SCHOOL YEAR. Deluxe 2 person house. Go to www.udlandlordhouse.com, then click 412 Kiefaber.

Don’t miss your chance to advertise in the Flyer News!

CONTACT US TODAY!!
advertising@flyernews.com
937-229-3813
Simply the best: 2010’s top three films

The Social Network

The founding of Facebook holds the storyline of the creation of all its parts, from the website and company, Facebook, to the founding of the social networking website and company, Facebook. The film portrays the events leading up to the creation of Facebook, focusing on the early days of the company’s founding, including the relationship between founder Mark Zuckerberg (played by Jesse Eisenberg) and his co-founder, Chris Hughes (played by Justin Timberlake). The film also delves into the legal battles that ensued, including the company’s acquisition by Facebook, Inc. and the subsequent lawsuit against the company.

The Social Network was directed by David Fincher and written by Aaron Sorkin, who used the book by Ben Mezrich as his basis. The film was nominated for seven Oscars, including Best Picture, Best Actor for Daniel Day-Lewis as Steve Jobs, and Best Supporting Actor for Mark Ruffalo as Michael Liedtke.

Black Swan

The film follows the story of Nina, a young dancer who is chosen to play the role of the black swan in a production of Swan Lake. Nina is determined to win the role, but her obsession with perfection leads to a breakdown. The film explores themes of identity, control, and the pressure to succeed in the competitive world of ballet.

The Social Network

The film was directed by David Fincher and written by Aaron Sorkin, who used the book by Ben Mezrich as his basis. The film was nominated for seven Oscars, including Best Picture, Best Actor for Daniel Day-Lewis as Steve Jobs, and Best Supporting Actor for Mark Ruffalo as Michael Liedtke.
ROUND THE CLOCK FUN AT MEAD

Tour company of ‘9 to 5’ to blend music, humor, insight about women in workforce

FRANK STANKO
A&E Editor

Starting Tuesday, Feb. 1, the Victoria Theatre Association will present “9 to 5,” the musical adaptation of the 1980 Lily Tomlin-Dolly Parton-Jane Fonda comedy about secretaries who get revenge on their boss.

The production, with music and lyrics by Parton, will run through Sunday, Feb. 6, at the Schuster Center’s Mead Theatre.

According to cast-member Kenneth Joseph “K.J.” Hippensteel, female empowerment songs like “Get Out and Stay Out” highlight the show’s message.

“It’s a show about women’s rights,” he said. “The show takes place in 1979, and even my parents have said that’s how it was, how women have had to fight to take charge.”

The musical stars Dee Hoty as working mother Violet, “American Idol” runner-up Diana DeGarmo as “backwoods Barbie” Doralee, and Mamie Parris as office novice Judy.

The three female leads give fantastic performances, according to Hippensteel.

“Dee’s great; she’s gotten [three] Tony nominations,” he said. “Diana’s a good actress and sounds just like Dolly [Parton]. But Mamie, she’s the type you’re really going [to the show] to see.”

Judy’s big song, “Get Out and Stay Out,” is well-suited to Parris, Hippensteel said.

“I think she’s going to be the next big thing,” he said. “She’s got a big Broadway sound, and I think the song sounds better than how it did on Broadway.”

Hippensteel has a unique role in “9 to 5.” During a normal performance, he plays Bob, one of the office’s weasels. At the same time, he knows the lines and blocking for the roles of Joe, Violet’s love interest, and Dwayne, Doralee’s supportive husband. If the actors playing Joe and Dwayne have to miss a performance, Hippensteel would go on for them.

Along with his understudy duties, Hippensteel also serves as a “swing” for “9 to 5.” If any other male cast member can’t make a performance and there isn’t an understudy for the role, Hippensteel would take that cast-member’s place.

“I have gone on at three separate occasions for two separate parts,” Hippensteel said.

Joe and Dwayne, Hippensteel said, are nurturing characters.

“Joe is an overly kind individual, who is stuck on Violet,” he said. “He’s significantly younger than her, and stops at pretty much nothing to make her feel good. He’s pretty honorable. Dwayne is Doralee’s rock. When things get rough, he holds down the fort, and sends her out with a good outlook and a peanut butter sandwich.”

Hippensteel, who received a fine arts degree with a focus on musical theater from Wright State University, previously spent over a year as sleazy fiancé Glen in “The Wedding Singer’s” tour.

“The tour was full of young people, newcomers on their first show,” he said. “There was drama.”

The “9 to 5” tour, Hippensteel said, has been smoother.

“We’re more relaxed and laid back,” he said. “It’s a mix of professionals, people who live to be here. There’s no knocking heads. It’s a really great atmosphere.”

Evening performances for “9 to 5” are at 8 p.m., with the exception of a 7:30 p.m. performance on Sunday, Feb. 6. Matinees are at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 5, and Sunday, Feb. 6. Admission for “9 to 5” ranges from $32 to $81 for weeknight performances, and $38 to $86 for weekend performances.

Hippensteel said the show’s mixture of social consciousness and musical comedy makes for an entertaining performance.

“It’s a great project and something to be proud of,” he said.

WHAT YOU REALLY WANT TO DO IS DIRECT! But first you have to cast. Film Connections is holding a workshop from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 25, at ThinkTV, 110 S. Jefferson St. The workshop will teach filmmakers how to find the right actors for their projects. Presenter is Karri O’Reilly, who has been involved with over 100 features, short films, commercials and television programs. The workshop is free for FilmDayton members, $5 for non-members and $1 for non-member students. For more information, go to filmdayton.com.

IT’S A BLUE WEDNESDAY at ArtStreet’s Studio E. Paula Krauss will teach a workshop on cyanotype – a photography process that produces a blue, or cyan, print. The event will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26. Materials will be provided for participants, who are asked to wear stainable clothes. To register, go to artstreet.udayton.edu/workshops.

“RIDE THE DIVIDE,” the 2010 Vail Film Festival’s winner for “Best Adventure Film,” will play for one night only at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26, at the Neon, 130 E. Fifth St. The film follows three mountain bikers’ journey through the world’s toughest bike race. Tickets are still available. For more information, go to www.neonmovies.com.
BILLY JOE:
NEW POSTER GREAT REMINDER OF UD’S HERITAGE, HISTORY

As students returned to classes, they may have noticed a new face in the crowd. Hanging almost two floors tall, the painting of Father William Joseph Chaminade, or as one religion teacher refers to him “Billy Joe,” is sure to catch the eyes of anyone entering the first floor of Kennedy Union.

We at Flyer News were initially quite startled by the looming look of our founder. Although he has no voice, the giant poster addresses many concerns on this campus. As students returned to classes, they may have noticed a new face in the crowd. Hanging almost two floors tall, the painting of Father William Joseph Chaminade, or as one religion teacher refers to him “Billy Joe,” is sure to catch the eyes of anyone entering the first floor of Kennedy Union.

As a Marianist school, it’s essential to have a grasp of our heritage. As a staff, we couldn’t conceive of a better way to spend hundreds of tuition dollars. The poster reminds us of the need for environmentally friendly processes, we fail to remember we spent lifetimes polluting with regard for nothing but profits. We risk not only historical hypocrisy when we scold China about its economic policies. Today, no other country in the world has more external debt than the United States, and China holds close to it.

China received all the formal to-do befitting a global player and economic partner of the United States, with President Obama hosting only his third formal state dinner of his presidency. Such black-tie recognition was clutch for a country and a leader who has neither the moral high ground nor the friendship of China. That tendency of China to suppress those who disagree with it is dangerous for both the country and its citizens.

Nevertheless, America has very little credibility to tell China to keep its nose and opinions out of other countries, such as Taiwan or North Korea. Iraq is one of multiple areas in which the U.S. decided it knew best and intervened to impose the proper values. We might dislike the fact China has Taiwam set in its sights, but we can’t claim the importance of non-interference when we sell arms to the Taiwanese. Additionally, criticizing China for its jailing dissidents is hard to do when we imprison people indefinitely in places like Guantanamo Bay. The most important thing needed between China and the United States is respect, but this cannot be achieved if America insists on holding China to standards itself never met. Friends can encourage others to live better, but America currently has neither the moral high ground nor the friendship of China.

America must take an honest look at its policies, both political and economic, and set aside its notions of supreme superiority if any process is truly to be made with China. That would be something worth celebrating with a black-tie dinner.

China: Respect crucial to relationship, questions of politics, economy hypocritical

It is one thing to wish for the “peaceful rise” of a country based on sound economic principles and fair political practices; it is another to be able to credibly extort others to develop following these rules. As the visit of China’s President Hu concluded last week, American news organizations tentatively hailed the minor progress that seemed to be made between the two countries. China received all the formal to-do befitting a global player and economic partner of the United States, with President Obama hosting only his third formal state dinner of his presidency. Such black-tie recognition was clutch for a country and a leader who sometimes feel taken less than seriously by the US. The Chinese delegation also signed numerous trade deals with the Americans, something both sides hailed as crucial to creating jobs and fostering economic openness.

In addition to the economic deals, which are measured in millions of dollars and thousands of jobs, the visit also emphasized a much more subtle trade of words. Hu’s response to questions about human rights and the Korean peninsula were as notable as deals for new airplanes from Boeing.

Yet such pressure for the perfect answer on subjects of internal politics and economic policy leave the United States looking disingenuous at best and hypocritical at worst. America extorts China to practice sound economic policy as it rapidly grows into a global power. But there exists a desire to place constraints on China, as well as other developing countries, that ultimately would impede their growth, while forgetting the rapid and haphazard rise of America. When we complain about China exploiting workers in order to make cheaper products faster, we forget that for almost a century, American industry thrived through the exploitation of forced labor.

Additionally, when we stress the need for environmentally friendly processes, we fail to remember we spent lifetimes polluting with regard for nothing but profits. We risk not only historical hypocrisy when we scold China about its economic policies. Today, no other country in the world has more external debt than the United States, and China holds close to a trillion dollars of it. Furthermore, our complaints about human rights have a potential to ring hollow.

One emblematic issue is the house arrest of a recent Chinese Nobel Peace Prize winner. While the most recent American winner of the Nobel Peace Prize can’t leave the house without the government knowing either, the press papparazzi surrounding Obama is nothing compared to the house arrest of the 2010 winner, Liu Xiaobo. The tendency of China to suppress those who disagree with it is a dangerous game for both the country and its citizens.

Nevertheless, America has very little credibility to tell China to keep its nose and opinions out of other countries, such as Taiwan or North Korea. Iraq is one of multiple areas in which the U.S. decided it knew best and intervened to impose the proper values. We might dislike the fact China has Taiwan set in its sights, but we can’t claim the importance of non-interference when we sell arms to the Taiwanese. Additionally, criticizing China for its jailing dissidents is hard to do when we imprison people indefinitely in places like Guantanamo Bay. The most important thing needed between China and the United States is respect, but this cannot be achieved if America insists on holding China to standards itself never met. Friends can encourage others to live better, but America currently has neither the moral high ground nor the friendship of China.

America must take an honest look at its policies, both political and economic, and set aside its notions of supreme superiority if any process is truly to be made with China. That would be something worth celebrating with a black-tie dinner.

Word on the street...
If you could study abroad in any country, where would it be?

“Spain, because I love the Spanish language and culture, and I’ve never been there.”
MAGGIE GILLESPIE
GRADUATE STUDENT
HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

“We’d go to Germany, because of the pretzels and the mountains.”
PAT DYER, PREMEDICINE
SCOTT ZINGALE, ENGINEERING
FRESHMEN

“Australia, because I would love to go scuba diving there in my free time.”
EMILY MAY
FRESHMAN
PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY

“No person is your friend who demands your silence or denies your right to grow.”
Alice Walker, author, 1983
Student embraces MLK’s dream

What is your personal dream for the University of Dayton? That was the question I pondered during my involvement with UD’s first annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. retreat from Saturday, Jan. 15, through Monday, Jan. 17.

I had one of the most enriching experiences of my life through this unique collaborative effort between Campus Ministry, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Center for Social Concern and several other campus departments. The weekend’s goal was to enable students to see King’s three main principles of nonviolent activism, economic inequality and racial injustice, and use these ideas to inspire change for our campus.

Coming from a diverse public high school in Akron, Ohio, this weekend was the first time I ever felt a true sense of belonging in two and a half years at UD. The retreat included a group of 23 total students, and on the surface, it seemed that none of us were really alike in terms of our racial, cultural, ethnic, religious and campus affiliations.

But within these differences, there developed a tremendous potential for understanding, coming together, and embracing common goals and the surface, it seemed that none of us were really alike in terms of our racial, cultural, ethnic, religious and campus affiliations.

But within these differences, there developed a tremendous potential for understanding, coming together, and embracing common goals and dreams. Despite our apparent differences, we responded similarly to King’s famous comment of “injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

What inspired me the most from these discussions was a newfound ability to see people from a more objective perspective. At one point, we explored uncomfortable case studies of actual injustice at our very own UD, and I was impressed by our ability to identify some common ground beliefs of nonviolent activism.

The two most poignant cases we discussed included a common tendency to avoid socializing with African-American students, and an uncomfortably closed-minded attitude toward openly gay students. In both examples, there was an inference that neither belongs here, and it opened my eyes to how a continuous support system doesn’t always exist for all of our peers.

After listening to the insights of all the people on the retreat, I formed a new set of personal beliefs about what is impeding this campus from becoming a better place for all.

Far too often, we all suffer from complacency within this UD community, and we struggle to be aware of a potential clique mentality that has enveloped our actual practice of the word. We are often far too comfortable within our own individual niches on campus just like the classic Flyer News expose on racially segregated tables in the Kennedy Union dining hall last year. So once again, this beckons King’s statement of “Almost always, the creative, dedicated minority has made the world better.”

We must exhibit zealousness for acceptance and a curious intrigue for being open-minded, and create a perpetuating system that supports such behavior in all aspects of UD life. And finally, such passion must result in an eagerness for breaking through traditional comfort zones, along with an unassuming discipline in working toward a united goal.

Our community could be doing more, and it is through an awareness of the potential for an opportunity that students, faculty, staff and Dayton residents can re-realize an ideal dream of community together en masse.

As King once said, “We must learn to live together as brothers, or perish together as fools,” and through that inspiration, we should continue to strive toward being accepting, and always finding ways to improve the lives of all people around the world. There is no better place to start living this dream than with our very own UD.

I invite you to strive for a conversation with someone new about your dreams for this campus, and discover these curious opportunities for common ground and hope.


For one reason or another, the new year always brings a lavish party and a restored hope for self-betterment. Some wish for luck, others money, and many wish for love. The resolutions we make to ourselves at the beginning of each new year are daring, robust and often too impractical to achieve in the month of January, let alone the rest of the year.

After spending a week of my Christmas vacation in the mountains of Central America completely devoid of modern resources, I’ve decided that my New Year’s resolution will not stem from the typical repertoire of losing weight, watching less TV or spending more time with loved ones. In fact, precisely less than one hour after my flight landed in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, it was inherently obvious to me that we, as a society, have completely lost our sentiment of gratefulness.

We complain about the traffic on our way to work, failing to appreciate both the car and infrastructure that allowed us to arrive there safely.

We become frustrated with temporary power outages, while in parts of the world, people go without the luxury of electricity for their entire lives.

We are struggling to fight an obesity epidemic in our country, yet malnutrition and starvation are commonplace in the rest of the world.

We dread homework and registration for classes, forgetting the millions of illiterate people who will never learn to read and write in their native language.

We resent the wait at the health center, emergency room or doctor’s office, while many travel (no, not drive) several hours to medical clinics that may not be able to treat them upon arrival.

We are continually irritated by the everyday hassles of our Tangent computers, when there are millions of people who couldn’t pay for, let alone conceptualize a computer no matter how hard they tried.

We pay inordinate amounts of money for the best Internet connection in our homes and on our mobile phones, but we completely neglect to be thankful that we have the ability to be obsessively connected to technology every minute of our day.

We grumble about having to park in the furthest possible spot in the parking lot, when owning a car places us amongst the wealthiest, most fortunate people in the entire world.

Look around. We live in the finest country in the world. We can participate in the government, practice any religion we choose, and have an excess of resources and luxuries all the while. However, I think all of us forget truly how much privilege we have every day.

This new year, be proud to be American, but more importantly, be grateful for it, too!

Woes of South Sudan’s independence

Voting ended in Southern Sudan this Friday, Jan. 15, on whether or not the Southern tip of the country would succeed from the North. Counting is underway, and the results are expected to be announced on Sunday, Jan. 30. According to the Associated Press, 10 sample polling stations reported 96 percent participation, far past the 60 percent necessary to validate the results, with 96 percent for succession and three percent in opposition.

These predictions are not a surprise to those who were watching the plebiscite; overwhelming support was expected far in advance.

The differences between the North and South have led to constant tensions between the two since the country’s independence. The North is situated in the arid Sahara Desert, and its inhabitants generally speak Arabic, and are Arab Muslims and better educated than those in the South. Southern Sudan boasts more fertile farmland and a population that mainly consists of black Christians and animists.

When Sudan was under colonial British rule, the British ruled the North and South separately, but upon independence, the two merged, and the new capital was set in the North at Khartoum. Due to fears the North would dominate the new country, a civil war broke out, the first of two that would stretch on for half a century.

But to think that this referendum will usher in a new era of peace would be misleading. South Sudan is on the precipice of independence and all of its ills. The euphoria over independence will be short lived when the government surveys the South Sudan to see where it governs: an impoverished lump of territory that mainly consists of black Christians and animists.

This patch of oil-rich land could be a constant and explosive thorn in Sudan’s side. Sudanese oil revenues fund the Khartoum government, which has a bad history of corruption and plunder under former dictator Omar al-Bashir. The South Sudanese government’s social problems will be even more difficult, but solving South Sudan’s problems will be crucial to South Sudan’s survival.

One need only look at Tunisia to see what happens to governments inept in the everyday hassles of our Tangent computers, when there are millions of people who couldn’t pay for, let alone conceptualize a computer no matter how hard they tried.

We pay inordinate amounts of money for the best Internet connection in our homes and on our mobile phones, but we completely neglect to be thankful that we have the ability to be obsessively connected to technology every minute of our day.

We grumble about having to park in the furthest possible spot in the parking lot, when owning a car places us amongst the wealthiest, most fortunate people in the entire world.

Look around. We live in the finest country in the world. We can participate in the government, practice any religion we choose, and have an excess of resources and luxuries all the while. However, I think all of us forget truly how much privilege we have every day.

This new year, be proud to be American, but more importantly, be grateful for it, too!
First Four preparations underway at UD Arena

The University of Dayton Arena is getting a high-profile makeover.

As part of the local preparations for the First Four NCAA Tournament games this coming March, four new video boards will be added to the corners of UD Arena, and a recently unveiled committee will handle the final touches on the overall project.

Chris Whaler announced the formation of the First Four Local Organizing Committee at a press conference on Tuesday, Jan. 4. According to Whaler, a committee like the LOC is nothing new for a city hosting a large sporting event.

“Whenever you look at major sporting events – bowl games, Final Fours or the College World Series – Local Organizing Committees coordinate the focus of the community to support the event,” said Whaler at the press conference. “So today we are announcing a Local Organizing Committee to lead the charge to not only help successfully launch the First Four for the NCAA, but to also give us the best chance to keep it in Dayton by selling out the First Four games.”

The first goal of the newly formed, 19-member committee was the revamping of the 41-year-old UD Arena with four 12-by-22 foot video boards. The new video screens – which cost $1.6 million — were mandated from the NCAA, according to Tim O’Connell, senior associate director of athletics and executive director of UD Arena.

The video boards are operation- al and will be in use for the Flyers home game on Wednesday, Feb. 2, against St. Bonaventure University, but the committee has more work in store for the First Four.

To ensure the First Four’s success, the LOC has two more phases to its plan. The first is to create an enjoyable experience for participants, and thus the LOC assembled a subcommittee solely responsible for the well-being of the traveling parties, according to O’Connell. He said the subcommittee will work to make sure the teams and people who come to Dayton for the First Four have a first-class experience in terms of hotels and dining as well as quality transportation to and from the airport.

“Everyone who comes to the games will have a great experience not only at the arena, but also around the city itself,” said O’Connell.

The final phase is to sell out the event, according to O’Connell. This is the most important aspect for the LOC, he said. A ticket subcommittee was created to sell out the First Four, and according to O’Connell, almost 5,000 tickets are left for the event. He said the committee isn’t worried about the amount of tickets still remaining, though.

“Ticket [sales] are a little sluggish, which does not surprise us,” said O’Connell. “Our ticket [sales] subcommittee is out there talking to people, and we anticipate tickets are going to go very quickly.”

The First Four is expected to bring in $3 million for the Dayton community this year, according to UD officials. The LOC wants to make sure the First Four stays in Dayton. According to O’Connell, the Dayton community could expect $10 million from hosting the First Four in addition to the second and third round games. An NCAA tournament event like the First Four brings economic benefits, and exposure to the Dayton community, O’Connell said.

“You need to make sure the community is going to get it is invaluable. I mean, you just can’t put a number to it.”

The Flyers’ women’s basketball team handed the University of Richmond its first Atlantic 10 Conference loss this season on Saturday Jan. 22. UD improved to 3-2 in the A-10 with the 66-55 win.

Redshirt junior guard Josh Parker went 8-for-14 from the three-point line in the men’s basketball 91-57 win over Fordham University on Saturday Jan. 22. Parker’s eight threes were one shy of Norm Grevey’s UD record of nine.

Points scored by the Flyers men’s basketball team in Saturday’s win over the Rams. It was the team’s most points scored since a 96-68 win over the University of Massachusetts on Feb. 27, 2010.
Men’s Basketball

THE BOOTS: ANALYZING UD’S CURRENT CONFERENCE STATUS

The Boots is Flyer News Sports Editor Jacob Rosen’s way of applauding or criticizing various noteworthy events in the world of sports. The word “Boot” refers to a torturous childhood nickname from his older brothers, and thus, this serves as his own personal sports writing payback.

BOOT UP: CJ Heating Up – Almost lost within the back-and-forth play of the University of Dayton men’s basketball team lately has been the improved performance of junior forward Chris Johnson. Last year’s winner of the Atlantic 10 Conference Chris Daniels Most Improved Player Award, Johnson was expected to lead the Flyers again this season alongside senior forward Chris Wright. But the younger Chris stumbled out of the gate, scoring in double figures just twice in the first eight games.

But since then, CJ has been on fire as one of UD’s main go-to weapons offensively. He is averaging a team-high 15 points with 6.4 rebounds in the past 12 games since Tuesday, Dec. 7, scoring in double digits each time. He credited his teammates for helping him regain his rhythm as one of the top players in the A-10.

“Just confidence, just getting better every day in practice and just my teammates having confidence in me,” Johnson said about the reasons for his better play. “And when I do feel great, they have a lot of confidence in me to knock the shot down.”

BOOT DOWN: Road Woes – A common negative trend for the Dayton Flyers over the past several years in A-10 play has been the team’s struggles on the road. The Flyers are currently 1-2 thus far away from UD Arena in the league, and hold a meager 12-31 record over the past six years since the 2005-2006 season. An odd feature that head coach Brian Gregory noted about those struggles is that it might be partially out of the school’s hands because of the A-10’s current pod scheduling system. This is the new setup without divisions in which each school is assigned annually three key rivals that it will play twice each season.

“The change in the conference I think has affected this, and when you take a look except for the top couple teams, winning on the road is always tough in this league; there’s no doubt about that,” Gregory said.

Either way, these usual struggles are something that will need to change around at least a little bit for the remainder of this season. The five remaining road games are against Duquesne, La Salle, Rhode Island, Charlotte and George Washington, and you’d have to hope for two victories at the very least if UD wants to make a strong case for an NCAA Tournament at-large bid.

BOOT UP: A Fresh Assist – One of the most entertaining aspects of the UD season thus far has been the development of freshman point guard Juwan Staten. Although it is still early, it is clear that Staten has lived up to all of the sky-high expectations as one of the most highly touted and hyped recruits in program history. He currently leads NCAA freshman and the A-10 with 6.6 assists per game, ranking seventh in the country. It’s been a big surprise to many, and something promising because of the traditional stigma with being a first-year player.

“As a freshman, the most important thing is that you bring positive energy to every situation,” Gregory said. “Because as a freshman, you don’t know anything, and you are going to make mistakes, and you are going to screw up sometimes and all that, but I’m OK with that, and that’s why I’ve always played freshmen, but they have to bring unbelievable energy, and it has got to be a positive energy.”

Those comments were in direct reference to freshman guard Brandon Spearman’s contributions Saturday, Jan. 22, against Fordham University, but it can apply to Staten as well. Both freshmen guards will be relied upon even more during the second half of the conference slate this season.

BOOT DOWN: Living Dangerous – When most sports commentators criticize Dayton’s style of play, one of the most glaring weaknesses is the team’s reliance upon three pointers. That was on full display in UD’s impressive victory over Fordham, as the team attempted a total of 34 long-distance shots. The Flyers have attempted 419 such shots in 20 games this season, tied for 49th in the country, but have only converted 33.7 percent of them. Despite that fact, it isn’t that troublesome to the team’s head coach.

“We are a three-point shooting team, and sometimes the percentages don’t show it, but we are a three-point shooting team especially when the ball is moving and going inside first,” Gregory said. “It’s who is taking them and then when, and it is when they are being taken that is always the most important thing for me.”

Only junior guard Paul Williams (45.6 percent) and Johnson (36.2 percent) have been above average efficiency shooters for the team this season, and that’s something that might need to change moving forward. Players like redshirt junior guard Josh Parker and junior forward Luke Fabrizius have been inconsistent at best sometimes this season, and a heavy reliance upon the three-point shot is not the healthiest way to produce offensively in the conference.

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.
PARKER LEADS FLYERS TO STELLAR WIN OVER FORDHAM

JACOB ROSEN
Sports Editor

This blowout was just what the doctor ordered for the University of Dayton men’s basketball team.

Fresh off yet another narrow loss, the Flyers responded with a vengeance in a 91-57 victory over Fordham University at UD Arena on Saturday, Jan. 22. UD set new season highs in points, rebounds and assists, and tied the top mark for three-pointers made, marking the largest margin of victory in over two years.

Led by a career-high 27 points from redshirt junior guard Josh Parker, Dayton dominated the Rams in nearly every facet of the contest. It was a meaningful performance for the Flyers, and one they believed showed a lot of positive signs moving forward.

“I saw a lot of energy out there, a team that wanted to play and a team that played the game of basketball with a lot of energy and good defense, and when you play good defense, you can bring the ball up the court,” junior forward Chris Johnson said.

Last Saturday, Jan. 15, the Flyers fell in the final minute to archrival Xavier University. The team came out with positive energy against Fordham after a week of practice at home, and held a dominant 37-20 halftime advantage.

The second half then marked the start of Parker’s Broadway-worthy performance. He made eight three-pointers overall, including six after the break, finishing one shy of the all-time school record set by Norm Greene 21 years ago.

“Yeah, it was just the confidence of my coaches to keep telling me, ‘If you’ve got a shot, go ahead and knock it down,’” Parker said. “And my teammates had confidence in me, and it was just flowing, and I felt like the basket was a big ocean for me tonight.”

Overall, the Flyers converted 13 threes on the night, and collected 24 assists on 35 total made field goals. UD also outscored the Rams 24 to three off turnovers, while the bench outscored its counterparts 46 to nine.

Improved rebounding then was a positive sign, as Dayton earned a 56 to 38 edge on the glass over the Rams, thanks to a grand total of 24 offensive rebounds. Junior forward Josh Benson was a key spark to that production, compiling 10 points and eight rebounds — including five of the offensive variety — in just 11 minutes off the bench.

“That’s something we work hard at every day, pounding the glass, rebounding and running, that’s a big part of our program, and we take pride in it,” he said.

“That’s something that came up big for us today and helped us get the win.”

Despite the absence of junior guard Paul Williams from the starting lineup — he played just three minutes off the bench while battling the flu — this might have been one of the team’s best games all season. It was the first time UD won by at least 30 points since a 75-44 victory over the University of North Carolina at Greensboro on Dec. 20, 2008, and it was the perfect epitome of what head coach Brian Gregory wanted to see from his team.

“I’m pleased with the way our guys played,” he said. “Our defense set the tone, and from that, we were able to get our transition game going, and I felt we did a great job of getting the ball inside and then playing from the inside out and getting some open shots from that.”

The loss extended Fordham’s conference losing streak to 30 consecutive games, and Dayton will face much stiffer competition next week. First up, the University of Richmond Spiders will visit UD Arena today, and then the Flyers will travel to first-place Duquesne University on Saturday, Jan. 29.

“It’s because of those impending challenges that the Flyers are moving past this win quickly, and using it as an inspiration for another quality performance.

“It’s just now taking in this win and getting prepared for Richmond, and we’ve got to come in ready to win and ready to get prepared, and play a great game Tuesday,” Parker said. “We are looking forward to it, and now it’s time to get back to work.”