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UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

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ILLUSTRATION BY JESSICA KLEJA/ART DIRECTOR. PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAYTONIAN YEARBOOK

weather

(Source: www.nws.noaa.gov)

Some light snow before break!



43/35
RAIN

TODAY



38/30
SNOW

WEDNESDAY



37/26
SNOW

THURSDAY

SGA RECORDS DENIAL CONTINUES

page 5

THE TICKER

LOCAL

ANIMALS REMOVED FROM HORSE RESCUE

The Miami County Sheriff's Office removed 100-150 animals involved in an animal cruelty case from Serentiy Horse Rescue Sunday. The animals included several horses, sheep, goats, ducks, chickens and peacocks. The investigation is ongoing.

Information from whiotv.com

LOCAL WOMAN STARS IN OSCAR-NOMINATED DOCUMENTARY

Oscar-nominated documentary "The Invisible War" features a local woman sharing her story of prolonged sexual harassment, rape and assault while employed by the U.S. Coast Guard. Kori Cioca, a resident of Warren County, enlisted in the guard when she was 20 years old. The film was up for Best Feature Documentary but unfortunately didn't win.

Information from whiotv.com

NATIONAL

NASCAR CRASH INJURES 33 FANS

Thirty-three NASCAR fans were injured during the final lap of the 2013 Nationwide Series when a driver's car went airborne into the stands. Kyle Larson, 20, crashed into the fence after Regan Smith attempted to block another driver's move at Turn 4. Injured victims were treated in the track's care center and sent to medical facilities off the property.

Information from usatoday.com

KARDASHIAN, WEST EXPECTING A GIRL

Hollywood couple Kim Kardashian and Kanye West recently discovered they are expecting a baby girl due in July. Kardashian, 32, confirmed the pregnancy back in December after the news was accidentally revealed during West's show in New Jersey.

Information from usatoday.com



Members of the band Schneider & Co. perform at the Battle of the Bands competition, Feb. 23, in Kennedy Union. MEREDITH KARAVOLIS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CAMPUS

CONVERSATION GROUPS

Students can learn about other cultures and customs around the world during conversation groups at noon Tuesday, Feb. 26, in Rike Center 108. Students can bring their lunch to the event, although lemonade and cookies will be provided.

SPRING BREAK-OUT TRIP

Campus Ministry encourages students to travel on their spring break-out trips from Thursday, Feb. 28, to Sunday, March 3. Trip destinations include Cincinnati, OH; St. Louis, IL; Erie, PA; and Salyersville, KY. Students can contact Campus Ministry for any questions.

UD RUNNING CLUB

Students are invited to participate in the UD Running Club's weekly runs at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, in front of the RecPlex. Questions can be directed to UDayton.RunningClub@gmail.com

NEWS FROM HOME

Flyer News brings the news from home to some of the UD students from the larger hubs that make up the Dayton student body.

ILLINOIS

CPS CONSIDERS NEW SEX EDUCATION PROGRAM

CHICAGO -- Chicago Public Schools are considering revamping their sexual education program to include discussion of sexual orientation and sexual identity. The program is prompted in part by new federal and city standards on health education.

Information from chicagotribune.com

PENNSYLVANIA

LOCAL TEEN RECREATES "PITCH PERFECT" SCENE

CONNELLSVILLE -- A New Castle teen recently recreated the "Cup Song" as seen in "Pitch Perfect" using Tupperware instead of a plastic cup. Kiersten Kelly, 17, was born without a wrist and hand on her left arm. Her video posted on Facebook has been "liked" more than 90,000 times as of Saturday, Feb. 23.

Information from wtat.com

CHINA

SCIENTISTS LINK SMOKING, DEMENTIA

BEIJING -- A team of Chinese scientists recently found a link between smoking and dementia. The team interviewed nearly 6,000 people ages 60 and above for the study. They found that nearly 11 percent of the participants had severe dementia.

Information from usa.chinadaily.com

MISSOURI

CHURCH HOLDS GUN VIOLENCE PANEL

ST. LOUIS -- A Midtown church recently held a panel on gun violence to discuss issues such as mental health, parental neglect, urban education, Hollywood and the media Friday, Feb. 22. The 125 people present at the discussion also learned about two programs to possibly reverse the gun violence epidemic.

Information from stltoday.com

OHIO

HIGH SCHOOL HOLDS ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

CLEVELAND -- Students and faculty from Cloverleaf High School participated in an active shooter training Saturday, Feb. 23. The Medina County Sheriff's Department said it's hoping to prevent this kind of emergency rather than respond the problem.

Information from Newsnet5

SAUDI ARABIA

POLICE ARREST "YOUTUBE GANG"

TABUK -- Tabuk police recently arrested the "Youtube Gang" who have been involved in several robberies around the city. The gang was known for posting their crimes to social networking sites such as YouTube.

Information from arabnews.com

SAMHAIN PUBLISHING
HORROR

ADAM CESARE
VIDEO NIGHT

ink
FORNIA WALTERS GRITTA

AZ ANNO ZOMBIE
PETER MARK MAY

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RONALD MALFI

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Venerable editors reflect on time on Flyer News, campus

CHRIS MOORMAN
Editor-in-Chief

The University of Dayton is not known for journalism in the same way it's known for basketball, but that hasn't stopped some graduates from becoming top editors at major metropolitan newspapers around the country.

Kevin Riley and Thom Fladung both graduated from UD in the 1980s and actually worked together for two years as members of the Flyer News staff. Now, Riley is the editor of the Atlanta Journal Constitution and Fladung is the managing editor of the Cleveland Plain Dealer, two of the best daily newspapers in the nation.

Fladung served as editor-in-chief of the Flyer News during his junior year from 1980-1981. He decided to stay on the paper as a columnist his senior year, writing twice a week for his column, "A Little Night Music," until he graduated in 1982.

He said, as editor, there were difficult times [Editor's Note: a major understatement], but that he loved his opportunity to be editor and work with the staff he had at the time.

"It was challenging, not unlike you know the challenges you face in professional life," said Fladung, a Canton, Ohio, native. "A lot of the challenges are the same, breaking news that you think a lot of people, a lot of readers will care about. Working with staffers, being organized

"At the time, we used to have to drive the paper to the Beavercreek Daily News in Beavercreek, Ohio, a newspaper I later worked for, which coincidentally, I will emphasize, no longer exists. But we used to drive the paper out there twice a week. But it was a lot of the challenges ... and the other thing it was though, was it was also the fun. That's where I really started to get a feeling of how fun newspapering can be. We really pushed each other and we were competitive with each other, but we were also friends and a lot of the deadline nights I remember a lot of Milano's subs and a lot of laughing."

After graduation, Fladung said he stayed on for a year at the Beavercreek Daily News before working at the Columbia Record in Columbia, S.C., for several years.

He then worked his way up through the ranks at several newspapers, including a couple stints at the Detroit Free Press, eventually working up to managing editor, before moving to Minnesota to be editor of the St. Paul Pioneer Press in 2005. In 2011, he left the Pioneer Press to become

the managing editor of the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Fladung said the education he received at UD, despite not going to a traditional journalism school, has been invaluable to his success in the newspaper industry.

"First of all, I was grounded in good fundamentals of journalism and just good fundamentals of what a solid, liberal arts education like UD gets you, just brooded in curiosity and hard work," Fladung said. "UD students work very hard. They play hard, but they also work very hard."

"I think it also helped from a very early age that I thought it was fun. The people I worked with were fun. Honestly, I think you do, I know I did, you have a chip on your shoulder because you're not a Mizzou grad and you're not going to be and you're not a KU grad and more of them are more likely, regardless of talent level, to skip ahead to a larger metro newspaper. Guys like me have to grind. ... The Cleveland Plain Dealer isn't necessarily going to reach into the University of Dayton and pluck somebody out. And that's just a fact of life, but I wouldn't change a damn thing. Not all those moves were easy and they weren't easy on my family, for sure. But in terms of the professional development and what I learned and what I was able to carry forward from UD, I wouldn't change a thing."

While Fladung was running Flyer News as a junior, a freshman from Cleveland was starting out at UD and trying to figure out if he wanted to be a journalist. For a time, Kevin Riley didn't want to be a journalist.

He started off as a staff writer for the news section of Flyer News, working his way up to news editor during his junior year. Riley said he stopped being involved with Flyer News during his senior year to focus on gaining internships or actual professional experience.

He was going to become a journalist.

Riley, who graduated in 1984, worked on the copy desk of the Dayton Daily News during his senior year. According to Riley, the copy desk was a good place to start after completing professor Larry Lain's copyediting class in his sophomore year.

"In those days, things were very different because the university didn't really have computers," Riley said. "We used typewriters and stuff like that. But for copy editing, we had two computers, I think, that you could use. And so, you'd use them occasionally to learn how to edit on



Left: Thom Fladung, the class of 1982, is the managing editor of the Cleveland Plain Dealer. PHOTO COURTESY OF THOM FLADUNG
Right: Kevin Riley, the class of 1984, is the editor-in-chief of the Atlanta Journal Constitution. PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVIN RILEY

a computer and one of the things he would do was to have people take their final on a staggered schedule and have to do it on the computer and then he would meet with you and go over the final and how you did.

"You had to edit probably the equivalent of a day's work, half day's work for a copy editor and then grade you on headlines, trimming stories to an appropriate length, style, grammar, all that. So I'll never forget, it was an early class for the whole semester even though my final was late in the day because of the schedule, he tells me, 'You know, Kevin, I've been giving this test for years and you got the highest score on the final that anyone has ever gotten.' Then he said, 'You know, you missed class so many times that you're still getting a 'B.' I keep that with me and that's something I've told him, again that's something else that I've learned, a big part of being successful out there in the world is being on time, being where you're supposed to be, having respect for people's time and especially deadlines in this business. That's the class I most remembered."

Both Riley and Fladung credit Flyer News with teaching them how to manage people, something that has helped them climb through the ranks in the newspaper business.

"When I was at Flyer News, practically everyone on staff was a volunteer," Riley said. "My style of leadership, which was forming at that time, was not being about bossing people around because you couldn't. It was about learning how to lead by example and persuading people of a good way to do things and the value of working together on something and kind of creating the sense that



we were all in this together to accomplish something important.

"And that's very much how I try to lead at this newspaper because when you lead journalists in a newsroom, I believe you only get so far by ordering people around. These are smart people who are very articulate and who are motivated to a higher purpose than just making money or that kind of thing. They care about doing things that are important. So that was something that the Flyer News experience gave me that has been the most important thing I keep with me."

Fladung said Flyer News helped him at making decisions quickly. Something that is critical for being successful in a newsroom.

"I think one of the worst things for a newsroom is to think the editors are nervous, or insecure, or are unsure about exactly what to do," Fladung said. "You simply can't portray that in a newsroom because journalists are like German Shepherds, right? If they sense fear, they'll go for the throat."

"I think you have to be decisive and you have some idea of what you want and you can clearly talk about that and then go after it. So yeah, I'm a big believer in making quick decisions. I'm also a big believer in gathering information. ... And, at some point, a decision needs to be made, and I'm happy to make it with input from you and everyone else I work with, but when it comes time, I'm happy to make that decision and I will make it quickly."

Both men said they enjoyed reporting while at the Flyer News, but were also glad to be columnists, although Riley is slightly apprehensive to go back and read some of his columns

from his UD days.

Lain, a professor of communication for 30 years at UD and the Flyer News adviser for 25 years who retired at the end of the 2011-2012 academic year, said when Riley was named editor-in-chief of the Dayton Daily News in 2007, he emailed Riley a note of congratulations.

"I said, 'One thing I think I should tell you now that you've got all these people working under you, I've still got my old grade books, so I'll be looking for a check in the mail,'" Lain joked over the phone last week. "He emailed back, 'I don't care. My grades were what they were, but for God sake's don't dig out any of my old columns from the Flyer News and pass those around.'"

Fladung said Riley was just being modest.

"I'm sure you could trot out columns from those big books that you guys still have up there that would make me wince," Fladung said. "But you know, not all of them. Not all of them. You've got to put it in context. You were a young journalist and a college student, and I bet you I could read Riley's and not wince as well. I bet you I could find some columns Kevin did that stand up, and that I could still enjoy."

Riley said one of the stories he enjoyed writing the most for his column "Backstreets" was about early registration and how athletes benefitted from the policy.

"This was before everything was electronic or online," he said. "You had to go there and stand in line and everything was on paper. At the time, I had a friend who had a friend who told him about it and was trying to get into some classes. He was a double major in engineering, and he forged the coach's initials and he got in and he registered for his classes early. I wrote a column about that and people got real angry. People who benefitted from that system."

Fladung's shining moment as a columnist came when he wrote a column about the Dayton police breaking up keg parties on campus, back when kegs were actually allowed on campus.

"They did periodic crackdowns on underage drinking," Fladung said. "I wrote a kind of parody column about it and about how these big cops busted a keg party. And the next day, my phone rang on my desk and I picked it up and it was Sgt. Whatever of the Dayton police."

"He kind of started grilling me and

Flyer News alum making name for self in local television

CHRIS BENDEL
Staff Writer

Three years ago, 2010 University of Dayton graduate John Bedell may have tuned into News Center 7 at his house on 228 College Park to catch up on the latest local news of the day.

Now, as a general assignment news reporter for WHIO-TV, he is the one on the screen bringing local news stories to UD students and the greater Dayton area.

Bedell, a Walsh Jesuit High School graduate from Akron, said that UD adequately prepared him for his current job, as well as provided many memories and lasting relationships.

He said his favorite aspect of UD is simply, “the people there ... it’s definitely the best decision of my life going there.”

Bedell notices that many alumni agree with him.

“There’s not a college around the country where kids talk as fondly about UD while they’re there and then once it’s their alma mater,” Bedell said. “It’s a great education and it’s a blast going there.”

Along with his class schedule, which produced a degree from UD in communication, Bedell was involved in Flyer News, serving as the assistant sports editor during his junior and senior years, appeared on Flyer TV and hosted a radio show for his four years at UD.

During his senior year, he hosted “The Coaches Roundtable,” a talk show in which he would interview the head coaches of the fall sports.

During his time at UD, Bedell thoroughly enjoyed attending the Flyer basketball games, nights at Milano’s and the house parties in the Ghetto.

Since Bedell has a summer birthday, he turned 21 the summer before junior year and frequented Milano’s on Brown Street during his junior year while living at the Lawnview Apartments.

“I don’t know if it’s just because it was so close, but I got hooked on Milano’s,” he said. “The whole thing was a blast.”

Bedell explained the various opportunities gave him “a lot of practical experience ... I was able to hit the ground running [in the professional world].”

“It got me a job, that’s for sure,” he said.

Bedell’s job search his senior year took him from October right up until graduation where he looked at opportunities “all over the place.”

Before signing on with the CBS affiliate WHIO-TV, Bedell interviewed with ESPN and a radio station in Cleveland.

After interviewing for a few different positions, Bedell’s job search ended with a flurry of activity.

Bedell interviewed with the news station the Friday before graduation, headed to Daytona for a week for UD’s annual Dayton2Daytona, and then began working with WHIO-TV shortly thereafter.

The perks of the professional world for Bedell include the opportunity to focus strictly on his area of interest.

“I get to just do my major,” Bedell said. “I don’t have to worry about other classes. You’re working in communications every single day.

“It’s nice not to have homework and exams. I’m done with work when I come home for the day.”

Three years out, Bedell has transitioned to the professional world, but

said it did require some adjustment at first.

“It was pretty nerve racking the first few months out of school ... going out of your comfort zone and the place you’d known for four years,” he said.

After working and living in Dayton for three years outside of the campus bubble, Bedell has grown to know the Miami Valley region.

He recommends Mamma DiSalvo’s in Kettering on 1375 E. Stroop Rd. if one is in need for some “really good home cooking.”

Bedell makes sure that his UD experience is never far away.

“I have a Kiefaber street sign on my desk at work,” Bedell said. “[My coworkers] want to know, ‘What’s Kiefaber?’”

Kate Bartley has worked at News Center 7 with Bedell for nearly two years and said Bedell’s success is not surprising.

“I think he’s a fast learner,” she said. “He’s experienced in radio which has helped him transition well into TV. In today’s age, you have to be experienced in multiple platforms.”

She also said Bedell’s love of UD is



John Bedell, a 2010 UD graduate, is a journalist and reporter for WHIO-TV News Center 7. PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN BEDELL

pretty evident, as she said UD runs in the Bedell family. Bedell’s younger sister graduated from UD in 2012 and his younger brother is a sophomore at UD.

“He loves UD,” she said. “Everyone knows it. I think he’s really proud of that.”

Editors (cont. from p. 3)

then he laughed and said, ‘You know, actually, we really liked that column. We cut it out and put it up in the department.’ That felt good. It’s those kind of things that keep you going after all the long nights and the things that don’t go right and the picture caption that’s wrong and everything else.”

Mistakes happen in the newspaper business, and Fladung and Riley said they have had their share of gaffes.

Fladung, without any hesitation, remembers running a story as editor that, to this day, still baffles him.

“Small fire does little damage,” he said. “That was the exact headline of it. We were so hurting for news that day that it was on the front page. And when I think about stories that are just inflated beyond their worth and stories that just shouldn’t be on the front page, I often think of ‘Small fire does little damage.’ ... So we were all thinking, it was one of those late deadline nights and we were kind of desperate, and the headline is accurate. Then the Flyer News comes out and we’re all looking at each other

like, ‘What the hell were we thinking?’ Small fire does little damage isn’t even a story, much less a front page story. But, you know, it’s all relative. It was that day. So, obviously that stays with me.”

But, they said, you have to learn from your mistakes and move forward.

Both have families with strong UD ties as Riley’s oldest daughter, Anne, graduated from UD last May with a degree in education. He said his other daughter, Erin, is currently a sophomore at Dayton. He said his son, Colin, is in high school and has narrowed his college search down to two schools, one of them being Dayton.

Fladung’s daughter, Kayleigh, is a junior communication major at UD and is the assistant news editor at Flyer News. The Fladung father-child combo is one of only a few to happen in the history of Flyer News.

Fladung promises that he did not push his daughter to attend UD or write for Flyer News, but is proud that she decided to do so.

“Honestly, I swear to you, I didn’t force her to go there,” Fladung said. “I was really happy when she chose UD. I didn’t even go on the trip with her because I didn’t want it to seem like, ‘You have to go to the school

where dad went.’ Now, my wife will tell you, ‘Yeah, you back off then. You just spent 18 years selling the school.’ But I was really proud when she went there, and I didn’t choose journalism for her or communications and didn’t say she had to work on the Flyer News, but I’m glad she did.

“It was weird her freshman year when we dropped her off at Marycrest, obviously I hadn’t been to Marycrest in many, many years and at the time I went there Marycrest was all women, so just dropping her off at Marycrest was kind of mind-blowing. It’s almost surreal. It’s almost not real that’s she’s at UD and working on the Flyer News. The first time I saw her byline in the Flyer News, yeah, I was very proud. Equal with that, I’m glad she’s getting that experience because I know how valuable it is. No one can know better than me about how valuable it can be to work at the Flyer News and how much fun it can be. And what a headache it can be sometimes, too. But, I don’t remember that. I remember the fun times and what I got out of it.”

When asked if they had any advice for new student entering the university, Riley said to take advantage of the four, or sometimes five, years students get to spend at UD because it

never happens again in life.

Fladung agreed, to a point.

“I’ll trot out all the things UD would want me to say and I have to say which would be study hard and represent the university and all those larger things, but you have to go to Flanagan’s for St. Patrick’s Day,” Fladung said. “Also, in my time, Xavier was not very good at men’s basketball, and our big rival was Notre Dame, so you have to go to a game in which UD beats its big rival.

“I think that’s the one thing you should experience is being inside the Arena when the Flyers are beating a big rival, a hated opponent and the place is shaking. You never forget it.”

UD isn’t the first place young, prospective journalists think of when choosing a college, but Lain said Dayton and the Flyer News have a storied history of success that can stack up with most journalism schools around the country.

“We’ve had people go through our journalism program and do very well,” Lain said. “... We’ve had people, in fact, we had a person who was on the fast track at the Wall Street Journal, and she decided to step back and go back to graduate school and go into social work of all things. We’ve had people do very nicely for

themselves. UD is not known as being a journalism school, but folks have been able to get good experiences at UD, both in the classroom and because of the way Flyer News has been able to do things over the years and the good relationship we’ve had with the commercial newspapers in town.”

Fladung agreed, saying if he had the chance to choose colleges all over again, Dayton would still be his choice.

“No one mentions UD when you talk about Mizzou, or you talk about Kansas, Northwestern, but you get together at professional conventions and there are UD people and we are well-represented,” Fladung said. “I think it speaks, in part, to what Dr. Lain did. He really was one of the leaders of establishing journalism at the University of Dayton, and he was a pro. And he was tough. We all learned copyediting from Larry Lain.

“It’s not technically a J-school. I don’t have a J-school degree, but you don’t have to, to go do journalism. I’m very proud to say that many of the people I worked with at the Flyer News went on to be damned good journalists.”

Husted journeys from Flyer athletics to Ohio politics

BRADY ASHE
Chief News Writer

In the final moments of the 1989 NCAA Division III football championship game, University of Dayton All-American defensive back Jon Husted came down with a game-winning interception to solidify a Flyers victory.

But for Husted, now Ohio Secretary of State, the game is still on the line.

As the state's chief elections officer, Husted oversees Ohio's entire elections process and appoints the members of boards of elections for each of the state's 88 counties. With Ohio serving as a heatedly contested swing state in the 2012 presidential election, the secretary of state said he faced a confluence of unique challenges in November as the national media remained transfixed on the state's election process.

Major media outlets like CNN and The Washington Post suggested prior to the vote that Husted could be "the most important man" behind the presidential election.

"When you're in such a high-pressured and chaotic situation like that, things come at you faster than you can deal with them," Husted said. "There are so many moving parts, you really have to just focus and pri-

oritize in handling the major issues."

The Republican hardliner's ability to juggle an overwhelming amount of responsibilities he said was learned during his time at UD where he was forced to balance academics with athletics. An education and communication double major, Husted expressed little interest in politics and no future plans of running for public office while he was a student. What little spare time he had between football and school was spent training and working out.

In the eyes of Husted's former coach Mike Kelly, the GOP politician was a "freak athlete" and is still the "ultimate competitor." The former Flyers football coach said Husted consecutively set the team's physical fitness test record twice and would have been successful at any position on either side of the ball.

As it was, Husted specialized in kick returns and started three years as a shutdown cornerback.

Kelly said Husted's success in the political arena comes as no surprise, attributing the former athlete's competitive nature as the driving force behind it.

"He would have been successful in anything he decided to do," Kelly said. "He's a man who's full of integrity and isn't afraid to be brutally

honest if it means getting the job done. With Jon, what you see is what you get and that's something that's rare in politics these days."

After graduating from UD with a bachelor's degree in December 1989, Husted elected to remain at the university and earn his master's degree. Shortly after graduating with his master's in 1992, the gridiron veteran unsuccessfully interviewed for a coaching position at the University of Toledo.

That's when Husted decided to work for a local congressional campaign of a candidate he felt strongly about. But after only a few weeks with the campaign, Husted received a phone call from college football titan Nick Saban, then head coach at UT.

The four-time national champion coach told Husted that another coaching position opened up that he wanted him to fill.

Husted said when he told the congressional candidate about the coaching position at UT, they promoted him to campaign manager to persuade him to stay. He did.

"That was an important decision," the secretary of state said. "My life could have turned out very differently. I could have ended up more like my old teammate Jon Gruden."

Only eight years deep into his

already promising political career, Husted was elected in 2000 to the Ohio House of Representatives as a state legislator. In 2004, Husted's colleagues appointed him as the state's speaker of the house. At age 37, the representative was one of the youngest officials to ever serve the position.

When his term limit expired in 2010, Husted continued his public service to Ohio when he was elected into the state Senate. Mere months into his senate term representing the 6th District, the Republican successfully ran to serve as the 53rd Ohio Secretary of State.

Aside from overseeing elections, the secretary of state's responsibilities entail reviewing statewide initiative and referendum petitions, regulating commerce and business services and investigating election fraud and irregularities. Husted is currently taking on initiatives to electronically modernize the voting system in Ohio and reshape how congressional districts are drawn.

After all his success, Husted said UD athletics and academics taught him the life lessons and professional skills necessary to thrive in a competitive environment.

"Dayton was a great institution when I was there and it's even better now," he said. "The school not only



Jon Husted, a 1989 graduate, is now the Ohio Secretary of State. PHOTO COURTESY OF STATE OF OHIO

gave me a great education, but taught me how to be an adult. I couldn't be more proud to be an alumnus."

The secretary of state currently resides in Upper Arlington, Ohio, with his wife and three children.

His 17-year-old son Alex will fulfill his father's legacy next fall when he joins the UD community and football team. He will play in the Flyers' defensive backfield like his father.

"That's something you can't even really describe," Husted said. "I'm excited to see what he'll do at UD, but even more excited to see what it will allow him to do after."

Grad voices antics of Globetrotters

KAYLA TILLIA
Staff Writer

Nick Wiget earned his master's degree in communication in 2003 at the University of Dayton.

Since attending UD as a graduate student, Wiget has taught undergraduate courses at UD and is currently an announcer for the Harlem Globetrotters.

Wiget earned his undergraduate degree at Wilmington College of Ohio in 2001. While working as a disc jockey, Wiget applied to the communication master's program at UD. Wiget attended UD as a graduate student because he liked that the program allowed students to "focus on things you want to focus on."

Wiget was offered a teaching position after taking his comprehensive exams.

"I was asked if I wanted to be at UD for another year, so I thought I

failed my exams. I was then asked to come back to teach. It was a total surprise," Wiget said.

While teaching the small group communication course at UD, Wiget says he was able to work with students he still calls friends to this day.

"My best memories at UD were being in the classroom teaching. The students at UD were some of the smartest groups of people I've ever been around," Wiget said.

"I think I learned more from the students than what I taught them. Teaching students at UD was easy because all the students were so smart and outgoing," he said.

One of his favorite stories from his time teaching at UD included the first day he began teaching.

After believing he ruined his relationship with his students on the first day by pretending to be a student, Wiget was happy to learn that the students believed the

prank was funny and continued to pull the prank every semester he taught.

"I would still try to do that again if I ever taught again," Wiget said.

After teaching at UD, Wiget went to Bowling Green State University and also taught at Wright State University.

He began announcing sports while in college and believes he "came full circle in sport announcing" after landing his current job working for the Harlem Globetrotters.

"The Harlem Globetrotters have been entertaining fans for 87 years by presenting a unique blend of basketball and comedy in order to entertain fans around the world," Wiget said.

Wiget believes the coolest part about working for the Harlem Globetrotters is the smiles you get to

See Announcer on p.6

Number of days SGA has withheld student organization funding information from the student body:

13

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Brendan Michaelis, a sophomore music therapy major, performs with his band, Brendan and the Brown Bag Bandits, at the Battle of the Bands competition, Feb. 23, in Kennedy Union. MEREDITH KARAVOLIS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DIFFICULTY | medium

sudoku

3				7	6			8
7	9			5	8	6		
			1				5	9
		9			2		8	
			6		4			
	2		8			3		
9	4				1			
		6	5	2			9	4
8			4	6				5

SOURCE: WebSudoku.com

Announcer
(cont. from p. 5)

see on the audience’s faces during the show.
The show is “all about having

fun and being a kid eternally,” he said.
Wiget has been able to travel the world with the Harlem Globetrotters and was recently able to go to Afghanistan to announce a game being performed for the military troops serving there.

Wiget says the experience gave him “a whole new appreciation for those serving in the military” and found it to be a surreal experience.
When Wiget reflects back on his time at UD, he believes the thing he loves most about UD is the people.
Wiget says he “never feels like a

stranger” when he comes back to campus and could walk back to his old office and feel at home. Wiget considers all his former students to be lifelong friends and one of his favorite things to do on tour is met up with alumni who live in the area.

“The most important thing is the people you are able to meet and make connections with in the future,” Wiget said.

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Previous editor says balance is beneficial in job search

CONNOR MABON
Copy Editor

Education is a treasure chest, whereas experience is the wisdom in knowing how to use what is found in it.

Seetha Sankaranarayan, former arts and entertainment editor of Flyer News and 2012 University of Dayton graduate, said that she believes getting involved, and understanding what exactly one is involved in, is what separates a person from the rest of the pack in the eyes of an employer.

"I don't really think the numbers speak to what you did at the university," she said. "I was involved in a whole lot, like working for Flyer News, being an ASI 150 mentor and helping to organize events. Employers like that."

Sankaranarayan is currently employed as an advertising consultant at the Observer Publishing Company, which is based a few miles south of Pittsburgh, Pa. She sells advertisements to local busi-

nesses for the Almanac, which is a local newspaper that caters to the South Hills neighborhood.

"What's nice is that I'm familiar with a lot of the businesses in the area, since I grew up near them and I get to know people on a more personal level," Sankaranarayan said. "The work is constantly changing. We have to call at least 15 clients a day, and they obviously can't be the same people, so [the job] stays interesting."

Her road to employment wasn't easy and many college graduates face a similar problem. She encourages UD students to evaluate the time they've spent at school and figure out what it takes to get where one wants to go.

"My top suggestion is if you think you're doing enough, you're not," Sankaranarayan said. "You need to make yourself stand out to employers, so apply early because you're up against people who are sitting on their bachelor's degree looking for a job."

As for experience, Sankarana-

rayan feels it's necessary, if not imperative, to seek out avenues to hone the skills needed to not only be a well-rounded individual but also a professional in one's field of study.

"You end up knowing so much from student organizations," she said. "Grades help, but there needs to be a mix between grades and experience."

Sankaranarayan is regarded by those who've worked with her while she attended UD as being a vibrant and upbeat soul full of life.

Meredith Hirt, a senior marketing and entrepreneurship major, had the opportunity to know what Sankaranarayan was like during her four years at UD.

"I worked with her at UD Mag[azine] as student writers, which is somewhat like Flyer News where we had to write and proof-read and stuff like that," Hirt said. "She loved her job, and it was very obvious to everyone who worked with her. Seetha always went after what she wanted and gave her



Former A&E editor, Seetha Sankaranarayan, class of 2012, works for Observer Publishing Company in Pittsburgh, Pa. ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/FILE

advice to that effect." In a job market that's crawling its way back to calmer seas, Sankaranarayan's go-getter attitude throughout college should

be a reminder to students that the rougher the ocean, the better the sailor becomes.

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Former editor-in-chief shares advice

KATIE CHRISTOFF
A&E Asst. Editor

Jacqui Boyle, former editor-in-chief of Flyer News, has achieved success since her days at University of Dayton. She earned her Master's degree last year, recently began a job at a newspaper in her hometown and is now a newsworthy subject in the paper that she once worked so hard to produce.

After earning her bachelor's degree in 2011, she graduated from UD with a master's degree in journalism in 2012, and served as editor-in-chief of this student-run paper the previous year.

Before earning this top position, Boyle was assistant arts and entertainment editor her sophomore year and arts and entertainment editor her junior year. This experience with writing, along with an internship at Cox Media Group Ohio, helped her attain a job writing for the life section of the Dayton Daily News, upon graduation.

She worked for the Dayton Daily News until last Tuesday, when she began her current position as assistant editor at Business First, a weekly newspaper in Louisville.

"I'm really excited," Boyle said of her new job. "When I was at Flyer

News, my favorite positions were editor positions. My passion is really for editing and coming up with story ideas."

Boyle attributes much of her success to the journalism classes she took at UD. She said her classes prepared her to take on a journalistic role in the real world, and her professors gave her a lot of practical knowledge. She also credits Flyer News with preparing her for the professional world.

"Flyer News was, by far, my most valuable experience at UD," Boyle said. "It gives practical experience that includes writing, editing and interviewing skills." Not only did her years at Flyer News prepare her to work as a journalist, but she said it also helped create some of her best memories at UD.

"Some of my best friends were on the staff," she said. "Although we spent really long hours in the office, I was working with people who loved doing their job, and we had a really good time."

Boyle said her overall experience at UD was a great one. She said she built many close relationships and this helped her grow intellectually as a person. Some of the close relationships she built with her professors

further aided her success by giving her good references for internships.

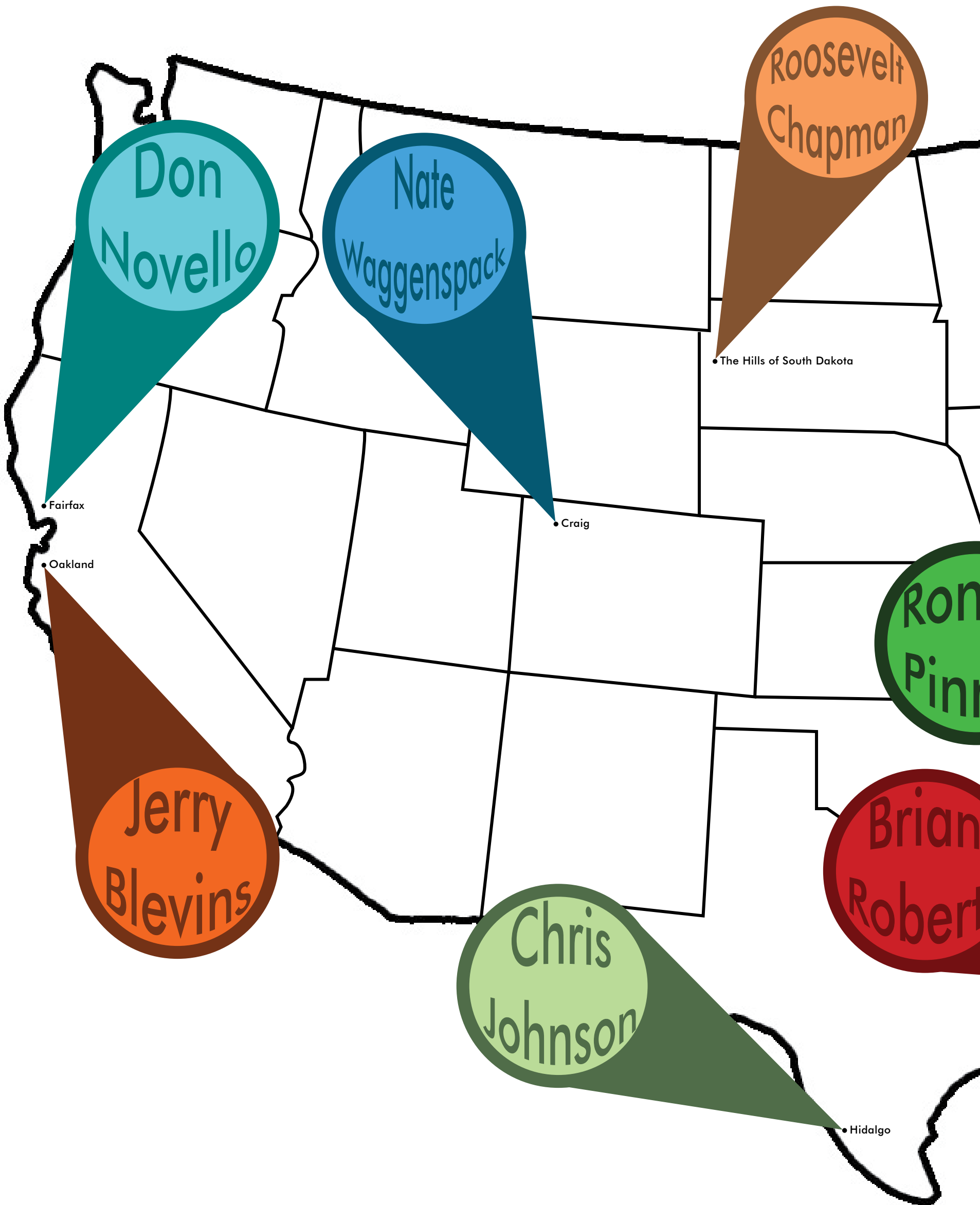
During her college years, Boyle interned with the St. Mary's Development Corporation, the Downtown Dayton Partnership and Cox Media Group Ohio, where she was offered a job with the Dayton Daily News after she graduated.

"My biggest piece of advice is that you really need to network," she said. "A large part of getting a job is who you know."

She advises current undergrads to keep in contact with everyone they meet, and build a network in the area in which they want to work. Though these internships undoubtedly provided her with valuable experience in her field, she remains insistent that her time with Flyer News was the best experience to prepare her to work at a newspaper.

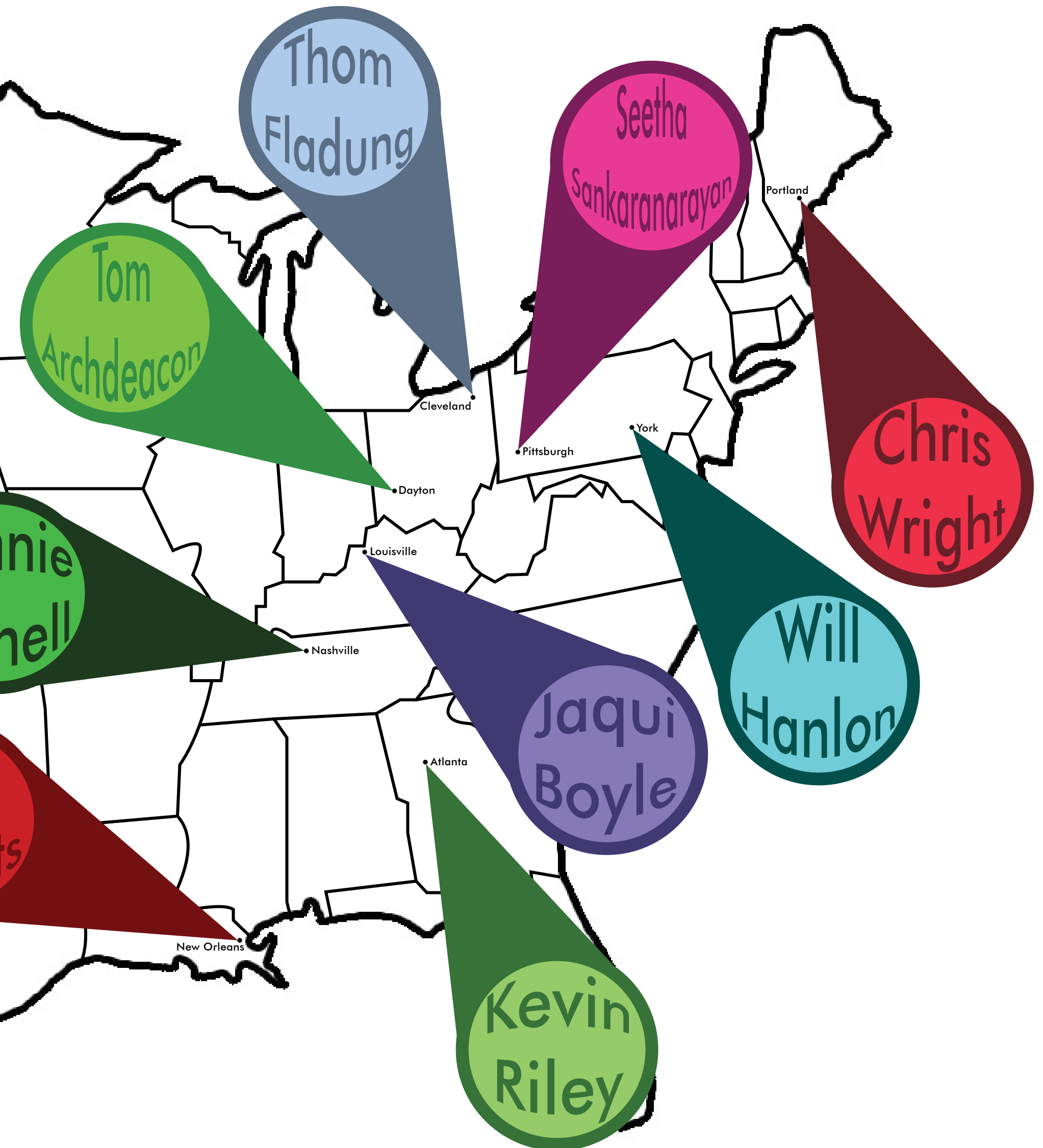
Boyle is a big advocate of the importance of the paper not only for journalism major but for the entire campus.

"I think it's the most important organization on UD's campus," she said, "And I really hope the campus realizes how important the work we are doing is."



WHERE THEY ARE NOW

FLYER NEWS | Tuesday, February 26, 2013



'SNL' writer, performer encourages fortitude, taking risks

ETHAN KLOSTERMAN
Managing Editor

One may not expect a man, who almost flunked out of the University of Dayton, to go from an advertising copywriter to the ranks of a writer and performer on "Saturday Night Live," but comedian and actor Don Novello, class of 1964, did.

Novello came to Dayton, in January 1961, just days after graduating from high school in Lorain, Ohio. He spent a "miserable" first year living at a tuberculosis hospital-turned UD dormitory about nine miles away from the main campus.

Even after struggling to make grades in a number of classes, he graduated with a degree in economics a semester early.

"At UD, I got my only 'A' in speech," he said. "I don't know why I didn't realize I was good at it [at the time]."

Even after his bumpy start at UD, he holds one memory especially close to his heart. He recalls a professor, Mr. King, whom he had for history freshman year. He gave Novello a life-changing break, as he was failing a class, which would have knocked him out of school.

"I went to this guy and asked if there was anything to do," Novello said. "And this guy said to me, 'How

old are you?' I said '18.' He said, 'Well, I didn't feel like studying when I was 18 either,' Novello said. "And he gave me a 'C,' and I stayed in college."

"I really would have flunked out, and this was right before Vietnam, and I would have gone into the Army," Novello said. "He showed humanity and kindness."

He spent three years as a Flyer, including a year studying abroad in Rome, which provided him with material he's been drawing off of since the 1970s.

After spending a few years in the advertising and business world, he made the jump to the creative side of advertising and eventually went on to do stand-up comedy, which garnered his writing the attention he was striving for.

Father Guido Sarducci, a mustached, chain-smoking priest, was developed based off Novello's time in Rome during his year abroad.

After not having been in drama in high school or at UD, he said he was fortunate with how things progressed with Sarducci.

"I got lucky right away," he said. "Within a year or two, I was on national television."

Novello and his Sarducci character saw peak success when, after appearances on the "Smothers Broth-

ers Comedy Hour," he found his way on to "Saturday Night Live" in the late 70s as a writer. Father Sarducci appeared in numerous "Weekend Update" sketches on the show.

Ever since his days on SNL, he has been working in the show business and comedy world. He has had minor roles in numerous movies, including being the voice actor in the 2001 animated Disney movie "Atlantis: The Lost Empire" as Italian demolitions expert Vinny Santorini.

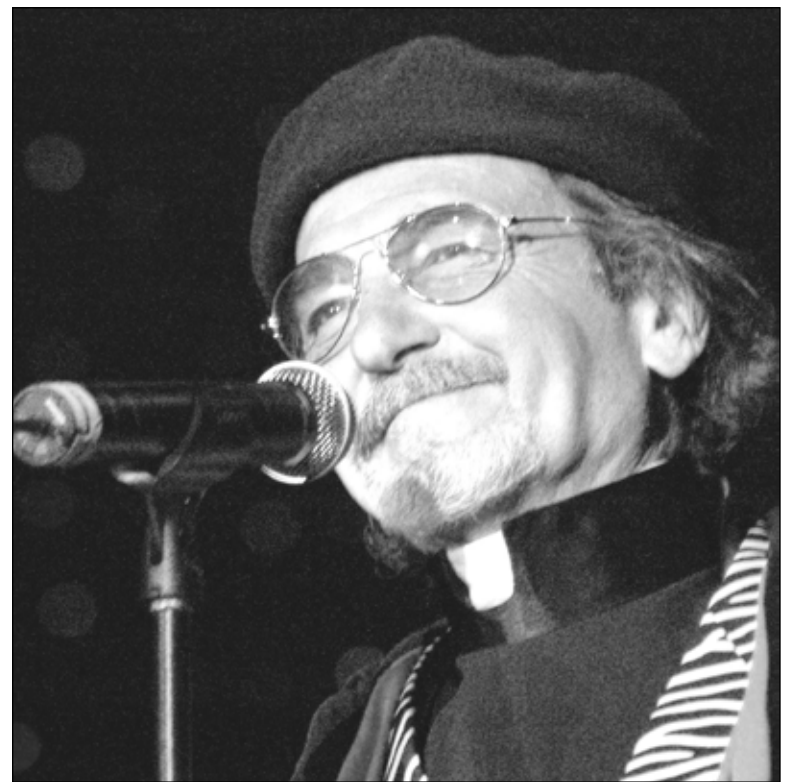
In recent years, Novello, as Sarducci, appeared on "The Colbert Report," in addition to giving the benediction at Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert's Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear, in October 2010.

Novello's comedic writing success has translated into writing three books. All three are compilations of letters written by Novello, under the pen name Lazlo Toth, to celebrities or politicians. He started in 1973, and "it just kept running."

The letters were not fan letters or always the most serious. Some of his favorite responses were when people repeated what he wrote in the original letter.

"One of my favorites is when I wrote to Preparation H," he said.

He asked what the "H" stood for, and Novello said the company's response was, "We are writing back to



Comedian, writer and performer, Don Novello, class of 1964, now lives in Fairfax, Calif. CONTRIBUTED BY LANE SARASOHN

inform you that the 'H' stands for hemorrhoids."

Novello hasn't been to campus recently, but he was brought in to be a keynote speaker at the 2004 Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop. Former workshop director Tim Bete had all good things to say about Novello.

"Don was definitely one of my favorites of all time," Bete said. "He's outrageously creative ... so incredibly down to earth."

Novello attributes his successes to not being afraid to take chances, and encourages students who have dreams in writing or comedy to have courage to follow them.

2012 graduate starts music career in Nashville, Tenn.

CC HUTTEN
A&E Editor

Ronnie Pinnell, class of 2012, took his pursuit of a music industry career from Dayton to none other than Music City, Tenn.

Minus the cowboy boots.

Pinnell grew up around the University of Dayton, and started working with ArtStreet's Street Sounds Recording Studio while he was in high school.

"Street Sounds is my home," he said.

While studying electronic media and music technology at UD, Pinnell worked with a number of local and students artists such as (I Am)James Wade, JYST, BJSR, Taylor Alexander, Archer's Paradox, Chick da Flyest, Travis Porter, DJ Beats and Lauren Eylise.

He returned to Dayton for a most recent show, Humpday Hangover, at Timothy's Bar on Wednesday, Feb.

20, featuring DJSB and (I Am) James Wade.

Pinnell said he anticipates returning to Dayton again, and he hopes he can do more shows at UD soon.

He said his favorite memories at school were every weekend, DJ-ing shows, especially the weekends he ran sound for Big Sean and Wiz Khalifa.

Pinnell not only gained experience spinning, but said he learned and grew immensely from his time at UD.

"I learned how to build a small network, using mine and other's strengths to build something great," he said. "This community taught me quite a bit."

His passion for music combined with the connections he created while at UD led him to follow his dreams to Nashville, Tenn., as a staff engineer at Sound Emporium Studios.

"My work varies from day-to-day," he said. "Being around music all the time gives a great creative vibe here.

It makes me want to get better at what I do and strive for greatness."

Artists like Johnny Cash, Kenny Rogers, Taylor Swift, Willie Nelson and Kenny Chesney have recorded projects with Sound Emporium Studios and have provided notable contributions to the music industry.

Despite Nashville's predominately country reputation, Pinnell works on his own mix tape projects in addition to sound engineering, solo and in collaboration with his roommate James Wade.

Pinnell dropped his mix, "White Boy Wasted Vol. 1," Tuesday, Feb. 12, specifically for his past visit to UD.

He is currently working on his single, "Pretty Damn Good," and his project "#WHEREUBEEN?" with James Wade is to be released this spring.

"Whatever I do, I want to be great at it," he said. "I want to help people as much as people have helped me."



Ronnie Pinnell, class of 2012, is a staff engineer for Sound Emporium Studios in Nashville, Tenn. CONTRIBUTED BY RONNIE PINNELL

forum

"In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure."

-Bill Cosby
American comedian and actor, 1937-

fneditorial COLLEGE:

EDUCATION FROM UD PREPARES STUDENTS FOR FUTURE SUCCESS

This issue is full of the inspiring stories of University of Dayton graduates both recent and past. These alumni are out in the world doing great work informing the world, providing a needed laugh and giving people a chance to escape through entertainment.

Hopefully, you have enjoyed reading about these former Flyers and their post-graduation adventures. More importantly, however, we hope that this issue has made you think about what you want to accomplish after you walk across the stage to receive your degree.

This task is more urgent for some of us than for others. First-year students should probably be more focused on things like choosing the right major and learning to balance an academic and a social life, while seniors are within arm's reach of the "alumni" status that this issue's subjects hold.

Regardless of urgency, however, it's never too early for any of us to at least begin to consider what we will contribute to society once we have a degree.

Do you want to help advance our understanding of science or medicine? Do you want to own your own business? Do you want to raise a family, and if so, will you be a working parent, or taking care of things at home? How will you engage the people you meet in your career and your community?

While we don't yet need answers to these questions, asking them can help us to figure out what we will want from our lives. At a time when we have so many directions to choose from, maybe simply finding out which questions we want answered will show us which path we should take to solve them.

It's a big world out there, but hopefully our UD education will prepare us to meet it. It sure seemed to serve this issue's subjects pretty well.

Where we are now: Lent



DANIEL CLEVELAND
Asst. Opinions Editor

This special issue has a theme of, "Where are they now?" in reference to the alumni of this university who have gone on to bigger and better things.

However, in light of recent extra-curricular "controversies" concerning the university's Catholic, Marianist identity, I think a better question would be, "Where are we now?"

This university was founded in 1850 when members of the Society of Mary purchased 125 acres of farmland to open the doors of St. Mary's School for Boys, which then held just 14 students taught by Marianist priests and brothers. Over the years, it has served as a primary school, college preparatory school, novitiate, college and university. It has survived multiple fires and disease and has changed names a few times, but one thing has never changed: The mission and identity of this institution has always followed the Catholic, Marianist tradition.

The UD we know today may not be exactly the same as when it was first founded, but these underlying traditions still guide its existence. As such, it's essential for us, especially at this time, to maintain those traditions; not only because of the coming change in leadership within the church, but also due to the significance of this time in the liturgical year. Specifically, we should be focused on the foremost matter at hand – Lent – and understanding its meaning.

Lent is a time for Christians to devote themselves to prayer, selflessness and generosity in remembrance of their baptismal promises. It's a season that can be productive in orienting our minds and readjusting our lives to better condition our souls. Therefore, it's important to set goals, or Lenten resolutions, by which we will strive to abide for the 40 days before Easter.

Such resolutions can seem to be somewhat trivial, and once we've made them, it's easy to forget them throughout this season. In order to be consistent in our Lenten practices, we need to find an appropriate way to remind ourselves – hourly, daily, weekly, whatever our goals call for – of our commitment to those resolutions.

Even more crucial is that we approach our Lenten goals with reverence. Too often, Lenten resolutions are treated with the same admira-

tion as New Year's resolutions. They can easily follow a trite approach of serving our ideal dietary needs or the convenience of our daily routine, and in many cases fail to reflect the true meaning of the season.

That's not to say there is a right or a wrong way to plan for Lent. Indeed, such commitments are made only after deeply personal reflection. But we should take care to find motivation in spiritual betterment rather than selfishness or convenience.

It's also important to make sure we think of the Lenten journey as one that is non-linear. In other words, it can be hard to keep up with our goals for the season, and naturally, as humans, we may fail. But it must be remembered that Lent is not a one-and-done type of journey. It is a time for constant, consistent improvement, and it's never too late to start over, even if in the final week or days of the season.

As long as we have our hearts in the right place, Lent can be a beautiful, spiritually productive time.

So as we address the question, "Where are we now?" let's not forget the integral religious traditions of this institution, and, especially for Christians during this time in the church, let's make sure we remember the importance of Lent as we go about our lives on this campus.

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Word on the street...

What do you hope to be doing in 10 years?



"I want to be working in brand management for a music festival - hopefully for AC Entertainment."

ANNIE BOONE
Senior
Marketing



"I hope to be working for a marketing agency in London."

NICK BREHL
Freshman
Undecided



"I want to be the mayor of Cleveland."

MADDIE FOX
Senior
Operations Management

Budget crisis solved through smaller government



ALEX HUNTON
Columnist, Senior

Today, people are panicked that with \$85 billion in cuts to spending this year, the world just might end. I can see where they might get that impression from our president, who speaks at length about the problems soon to befall our great nation and how it's all the Republican Party's fault. I'm here to tell you it's a Washington issue, created by both parties for political gain to grow government.

Government loves to tell us how necessary it is, and how it has all sorts of responsibilities to us. It tells us how it always needs more of our money to operate so that it can do a million things, and then never tells us what those things are. It loves to say that it is the solution to the human condition, and we believe it. We need to change that.

We need to demand a radically smaller government.

Washington refuses to admit that it has a spending problem, and it's going to spend us and our children into oblivion. In four years of President Obama's leadership, we've racked up more than \$4 trillion in debt, and the sequestration only "cuts" \$1.2 trillion from future spending over 10 years. We're still racking up debt, just not as fast. The only way out of this

mess that Washington created is to make Washington smaller.

As Ronald Reagan said, "A government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we'll ever see on this earth!"

We have to demand a stop to this madness. If there's duplication, it must be eliminated. If it is ineffectual, it must be canceled. If it is bankrupt, it must either be restructured or dismantled.

Our Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution to establish a system of limited government, where the federal government only possessed a small number of necessary powers, and the rest were left to the states or to the people. Where's Social Security in the Constitution? Where's Medicare? Where's the Department of Education, which is doing a bang-up job of putting us further and further behind other

countries?

You'll hear claims that getting rid of these programs will leave grandma out to die, or that we're abandoning the poor, or that the country will fall apart without so-called "vital" bureaucracy.

There's not an ounce of truth to any of it. We got along just fine without because we're decent, smart, and hard-working people. We're the most innovative people on the face of this earth and are capable of solving any problem. Who invented the airplane, one of the most innovative machines in the world?

Not government, but two brothers who ran a bicycle shop, and wondered if we could fly with the birds. Stories like this prove that not only is it not the job of government to help, but we don't need it! We need to be responsible for

ourselves, learn and practice self-reliance, and help those in need by getting dirty and helping them, not by reaching into somebody else's wallet and saying that we've done good.

We need to reward those who have labored with the fruits of their labor, not accuse them of stealing from someone else and take what is rightfully theirs in the name of "fairness."

I believe that America really is the "shining city on a hill" that Reagan talked about. We are the world's best hope for freedom, but before the world can realize this, we must realize this: We have to get our government under control so that we don't enslave our children with the debt that we created.

I know that together, we can do it, but the question is: Are we willing?

letter to the editor

SOFT decision is final, let's move on

As the seemingly endless number of articles related to SOFT continues to litter the opinions section of Flyer News, I thought I would take a brief moment of my time to weigh in on this historic debate.

I will keep both this article and my thoughts on this subject simple, as I have several other articles to write on controversial topics. All I ask is that you not only be tolerant of my forthcoming thoughts, but that you also adopt them as your own. Anything less will result in further Flyer News articles and a formal complaint to the university.

So, as I was saying, there seems to be an unusual number of arti-

cles related to SOFT in the Flyer News lately, the most entertaining of which have come mostly from members of the organization itself.

As I read these articles, I can't help but wonder how it is that a person could beat a dead horse in a public forum to garner support for a frivolous cause while simultaneously speaking of high-mindedness. It is quite a fine line to walk, especially given SOFT's version of free-thinking seems to be strangely at odds with their recent actions.

Perhaps the thrill of being part of a controversy has clouded the judgment of some of the more outspoken members of SOFT.

Regardless of your position on this controversy, I'm having a difficult time understanding how this poor horse continues to be on the receiving end of so many beatings. The matter seems relatively simple. The University of Dayton is a private institution. Like any private institution, it is well within its rights to deny any club status, especially one formed by a collection of pretentious, self-important college students desperately wanting to believe the imaginary cause for which they are fighting is worthwhile.

This is how free societies work. When an individual—or institution in this case—chooses not to participate in an activity that they

do not like or agree with, that person cannot be coerced or guilted into doing so.

How difficult is it to accept this message? If you're looking to stir up controversy because you just finished watching the "Dead Poet's Society" and your current comfortable university lifestyle is not providing enough cheap thrills, there is any number of message boards online whose members have views contrary to your own that you could join—message boards full of "freethinking" people like yourself who are just as eager to shove their beliefs down your throat as you are to do the same.

So the next time you inevitably take a "problem" to a public fo-

rum, perhaps you might consider both the merit of doing so and whether the side you are on is the wrong one.

But what do I know? I'm just a freethinker.

BRIAN KRILOV

GRADUATE STUDENT
FINANCIAL MATHEMATICS



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ARCHDEACON: A LIFETIME OF STORIES

CHRIS MOORMAN
Editor-in-Chief

Sitting in the Kennedy Union dining hall, Tom Archdeacon felt different. For one of the few times in his life, he was the one being interviewed and not the other way around.

Archdeacon is a 1972 graduate from the University of Dayton and is a nationally award-winning storyteller. He's the first one to tell you he's not really a sports writer, but really a writer of people.

A native of Ottoville, Ohio – a small town of “850 people and two blinking lights” — Archdeacon said he came to UD as a biology major.

Journalism didn't even appear on his list of potential career fields.

“I was a bio major until I got to organic chemistry, and then I panicked,” Archdeacon said. “So, then I switched to communications, and then I was an English major and picked up an education minor.”

His foray into journalism started with the Flyer News, although his time as a staff writer ended almost as

bizarrely as it started.

“I just kind of picked up writing for the paper [Flyer News] on a whim and then I quit the paper,” he said. “Protest or something, I can't remember. Something about black affairs. I thought they weren't giving them enough attention. I went from a guy that never covered anything to this radical guy. So, I remember I quit, and there was one black guy on staff and I tried to get him to quit with me, but he wouldn't quit. So, it was just me who protested and quit.”

Archdeacon explained that his first beat at Flyer News was as the black affairs reporter as the civil rights era was ending. He said the UD campus during the early 1970s was filled with interesting ideas that were completely new to him, coming from Ottoville.

“It was a fun time because it made me think and it was a vibrant time for me because it made me think and rethink all these things,” Archdeacon said. “I came from a small town that was all Catholic, all white, all farmers pretty much and I mixed with all these different kinds of people and I was like

Alice going down the rabbit hole.”

“It's just like all these different thoughts. First, they couldn't find anybody to cover black student affairs, I had no journalism experience so I said, ‘I'll do it.’ And, so, I went over to the Alpha Phi Alpha house, the fraternity, and said, ‘Listen, I'm your reporter, and I don't know anything, so guide me through it.’ And these guys saw this as like fresh snow, boy, and they molded me. They took me to everything, and I learned. And that's kind of how I took each beat here. I loved it.”

He said his first big interview was with Jerry Rubin, a member of the Chicago Seven. Rubin was a leader of the anti-war movement during the 1960s and 70s, and in the early 1970s he spoke at Dayton in front of Kennedy Union.

“This is one of my first interviews and there are students all over. He's talking about taking over St. Mary's Hall and all this stuff and he's got a loudspeaker and I'm trying to interview him and he realizes I'm this bumpkin, and a plane from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, one of those transport planes, flies over real low, and he screams into the microphone, ‘Everybody down, they're taking your picture.’

“So like a thousand people hit the ground, and I'm standing there somehow and he makes me get down. So, now, I'm lying down next to him doing my interview. That was one of my first big interviews.”

According to Archdeacon, it took him almost five years to graduate, but it was the best decision of his life. A decision that almost never happened because he was accepted into Notre Dame and thought about attending school in South Bend.

“I started out at Notre Dame,” he said. “I got accepted to Notre Dame and went over there for one day and said, ‘This sucks. I don't want to be here,’ and left. I came to Dayton, and that was the best move I made.”

Archdeacon said he went home to Putnam County most weekends his freshman year but made up for it later during his college days.

He said he also enjoyed living on Lowes for four years. Archdeacon said he still remembers how beat up his house at 340 Lowes St. was. While talking in KU, he told the story about the first time he saw his house on Lowes.

“We were going to move to 340 Lowes St., and I had lined up the house we were going to move into with some guys from New York, a guy from Pittsburgh and a couple other guys from Ohio,” he said. “I'd lined up the house, so I was the first one to get here back in the summer a week before school

starts.

“So, when I get there, the porch is pulled out to the curb with chains around it. They had had a party, whoever lived there over the summer, these guys were drinking and they hooked a truck to the porch with chains and pulled the porch off the front. That was the house we moved to, and we stayed there for four years and it was a wreck, but we loved it.”

During school, Archdeacon said he had to work several odd jobs as a way to help pay his way.

“I worked at a cement plant as a janitor,” he said. “I worked at a restaurant called the Cork and Cleaver. It's not there anymore. It was on South Dixie Drive. It was a nice place, like a step down from the Oakwood Club or something like that.”

“And I worked as a lawn boy for some rich people in Oakwood. They would allow me to use their car and tried to get me to date their daughter who was desperate for dates and I was desperate for a car, so I said, ‘Sounds like a good trade to me.’”

After graduating, Archdeacon hitchhiked to Miami to get married to a girl he had met at UD. It didn't work out.

So he stayed in Florida, working as a bartender and a school teacher. After some time though, Archdeacon said he needed to do something else with his time.

“I got into sports at this little paper in Homestead, Florida,” he said. “At the time, I was working at a bar and at a golf course and I was like, ‘Man, I've got to find something else.’ This paper said they had a sports opening, and I played sports in high school and I worked at the Flyer News. I started out ... you've seen me type? I type with one finger, it's pretty pathetic, but I didn't know how to type. I didn't know anything, but I started in sports and liked it.”

He then moved over to the Miami News and became a national columnist, covering the Dolphins, Heat and Hurricanes. He also got to cover sports like boxing, his favorite sport.

“Yeah,” he said about boxing being his favorite sport. “And everybody goes, ‘Ugh, how can you do that?’ But I just love it, you know. First of all, these guys are the bravest guys in the world to get in there. Everybody makes cracks about boxers, but it takes balls to get in there. When everybody else gets out of the ring, you're looking at the other guy with no helmet on. Just try to hold your hands up for three minutes. Or just your arms for that matter. They get tired real quick much less when someone is trying to punch

you.

“There is nothing more electric than a fight night. When you're waiting for a big fight in Las Vegas or Madison Square Garden and the fight crowd is there like the people in the fancy clothes, the pimps and hookers, the gamblers and the movie stars and the big-time athletes. Then you've got all the wise guys smoking their cigars. And then all the fight crowd ... and then when the thing starts...yeah, I love it.”

Archdeacon has won numerous awards, both at the state and national level, but the award he is most proud of is for being named the top boxing writer in the country.

“The one I'm proudest of, which doesn't mean anything in the journalism world, is the Nat Fleischer Award,” Archdeacon said. “It's for the top boxing writer in the country, and I won that several years ago. I'm proudest of that one because boxing is dear to my heart [Editor's note: mine too, Tom]. It's like a real special deal. I've won like APSE, a few of those awards, a lot of state awards and several national awards, but that Nat Fleischer one is pretty cool.”

While in Miami, Archdeacon started hanging around the Fifth Street Gym run by the Dundee family. Angelo Dundee was a trainer for numerous champions, most notably Muhammad Ali, and is inducted in the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

Archdeacon said he would go down to the gym with a cup of coffee and split it with some of the guys who ran and hang around the gym. That's where he fell in love with the Sweet Science.

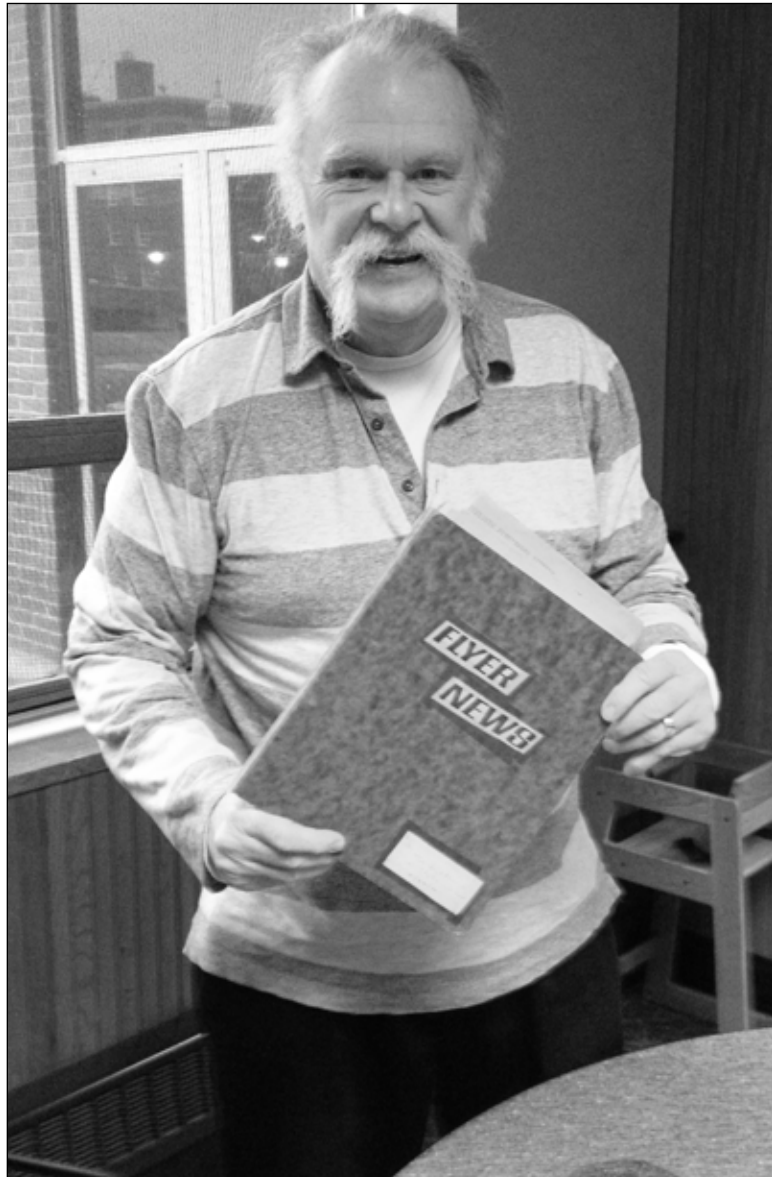
On Nov. 12, 1982, Archdeacon covered a junior welterweight title fight between Aaron Pryor and Alexis Arguello in the Orange Bowl. That bout would become famous for its rather controversial conclusion.

“I was covering boxing down there and I covered the fight, so I was covering them each and every day,” Archdeacon said. “So, I got to know those guys real well. Both those guys came from real tough backgrounds.”

“He [Pryor] says it's peppermint schnapps. Some people think it's cocaine,” Archdeacon said. “They don't know what it was. Panama Lewis was his trainer and he says, ‘Give me the other bottle.’ It was the end of the 12th [13th] I think it was. Going into the 13th [14th] because Arguello had just peppered him pretty good and then he drinks this and comes out like a wild man and beats him.

“I remember they wouldn't let us

See ARCHDEACON on p.14



Tom Archdeacon of the Dayton Daily News shows off a folder of his news clippings he saved from writing for Flyer News. CHRIS MOORMAN/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

DAYTON INVASION OF NBA JUST BEGINNING

DAN WHITAKER
Asst. Sports Editor

In the long, storied history of the University of Dayton men's basketball program, the school has had its fair share of memorable teams, games, players and coaches.

One thing this historical program does not have, however, is a rich NBA tradition.

Since 1953, when UD legend and recent Atlantic 10 Hall of Fame inductee Monk Meineke was selected by the Fort Wayne Pistons in the 1953 draft, UD has only sent 19 players to the NBA. Negele Knight, who retired in 1999, was UD's last player to play in the NBA.

That was until a breakout of new NBA talent in the past two seasons, as UD has seen three of its recent graduates make teams. Those three players were 2008 grad Brian Roberts, 2011 grad Chris Wright and 2012 grad Chris Johnson.

For those unfamiliar with these recent UD stars, Roberts was a four-year starter for the Flyers from 2004-08. A three time All-Atlantic 10 performer, he finished his storied UD career fourth on the all-time scoring list with 1,962 points.

Wright was a three-year starter for UD from 2007-11. One of Dayton's best above the rim players ever, he is 10th in career rebounds and first all-time

on the blocked shots and dunks lists. Wright also is 15th on the career scoring list with 1,601 points.

Johnson was also a four-year starter for the Flyers from 2008-12. A do it all guard, he's 11th on the all-time rebounding list, fifth on the all-time 3-points list.

Since their time at UD, all three players have taken different paths in making an NBA roster and have done exceptional jobs representing the school.

For Roberts, his path to the league was rather unconventional. Out of college, he went overseas to begin his professional career, first signing to play with Hapoel Gilboa Galil of the Israeli Super League. After one season, he signed with the Brose Baskets, a team from Germany, and played there from 2009-12, winning three straight league titles.

Following his time in Europe, Roberts signed a summer league contract with the New Orleans Hornets in the 2012 NBA offseason, and after a productive run of games, the Hornets signed him to a two-year contract. So far, in his NBA rookie season, Roberts has a been a spark off the bench for New Orleans, averaging 14.4 minutes per game, 6.6 points, 2.3 assists, as well as shooting 38 percent from three.

Wright made it to the league quicker than Roberts but still experienced a



Brian Roberts finished his UD career fourth on the all-time scoring list with 1,962 points. PHOTO BY CHRIS LANGER/DAYTONIAN

whirlwind of a path.

Wright went undrafted in the 2011 NBA draft, and due to the ongoing NBA lockout, had no opportunities to sign with a franchise. He was eventually drafted by the Maine Red Claws in the first round of the NBA developmental league draft. Following an impressive year, Wright signed a training camp contract with the Golden State Warriors, survived three rounds of cuts and made the regular season roster.

He would have an up and down year, as three separate times he would

be called up and sent down to the Warriors' D-league affiliate, the Dakota Wizards. The following offseason, Wright signed an offseason contract with the Toronto Raptors but was released before the start of the season.

Wright has since re-signed with the Red Claws this season. In 26 games, he is averaging 17.8 points, while adding close to 10 rebounds and two blocks per game. Wright was also named to the NBA D-League All-Star game team, and is ranked as the 11th best prospect by the league on its website.

Johnson got his start in signing with the Philadelphia 76ers to fill its summer league roster but was eventually released.

The Orlando Magic gave him his next opportunity in October 2012 but also released him later that month. In November, Johnson was taken in the first round of the NBA D-league draft by the Rio Grande Valley Vipers.

Following a solid start to the season, his NBA dream was realized when the Memphis Grizzlies signed him to a 10-day contract, on Jan. 23. In eight games with the team, he averaged 13 minutes and scored 3.6 points per game.

The Grizzlies would sign Johnson to a second 10-day contract but released him after it expired. Johnson re-joined the Valley Vipers on Feb. 22, where he is averaging close to 30 minutes and 12



Chris Wright of the Maine Red Claws finishes a windmill dunk against the Sioux Falls Skyforce, Dec. 2, 2012, at the Portland Expo in Portland, Maine. PHOTO COURTESY OF RICH OBREY/NBAE VIA GETTY IMAGES

points per game this season.

While UD has yet to put a genuine star into the NBA, the new trend of NBA talent coming from its roster has to be a promising trend—one that can only mean big things for the future of UD's program, and possibly mean it is well on its way to sending consistent talent for NBA fans to watch.

ARCHDEACON (cont. from p. 13)

in his [Pryor's] dressing room at the Orange Bowl, right after the fight. But I had covered the Miami Dolphins all those years and the Miami Hurricanes. I knew all the guys there, and there's another way back into his dressing room through a back door. They let me slip through all these things. I crawled back there and he had just gotten back into his dressing room and he's lying on the floor grabbing his stomach, writhing in pain from something, whatever he took. So I wrote the whole story of watching him through the shadows of him writhing in pain on the floor."

The Miami News would fold later in the 1980s and Archdeacon found himself to be a hot commodity, according to former University of Dayton communication professor Larry Lain.

Lain worked on the copy desk of the Dayton Daily News at night during the time Archdeacon was coming back to Dayton from Miami.

"All I can really talk about Arch, very much, is that he was considered a prize catch," Lain said. He was a big deal at the Miami News. And the Miami News folded. It was in the early

80s, sometime. There was lot of competition to hire Tom. The Dayton Daily News was happy that they sort of won the bidding war.

"We had other people who took it personally if you changed their copy," Lain continued. "They did their job and we did ours. But Tom was given freer rein because he wrote a more narrative style. He was never intended to be a reporter. He was always intended to be a featured columnist from the very beginning. And that meant more freedom to build a story in a narrative way rather than an inverted pyramid way. Every once in awhile on the copy desk we would say, 'Archdeacon will never use five words when 10 will work just as well.' Normally it's the other way around. Usually, we like reporters who can find a way to use five words in three. But that wasn't Arch. Everybody really respected what he did because he's a great reporter that, of all the journalists I ever worked with, he handles quotes better than anyone I've ever seen."

Archdeacon said he didn't want to leave Miami.

"I would have stayed there," he said. "I loved it. But the paper went out of business and I got transferred back, it was a Cox paper and they sent me to

Dayton. So I thought, 'I'll stick here about six months and then get the hell out of here again.' And then I met my wife here. Next thing I know, it's been like 20 years, but it's been good."

Archdeacon said he enjoys writing stories that are outside of sports, outside of his comfort area, like his story about Kristy Irvine Ryan after the 9/11 attacks.

"When 9/11 happened, they [the Dayton Daily News] sent a photographer and me to New York, and I like panicked," Archdeacon said. "Like the AP has 200 hundred people there, and The New York Times has like 200 people there, and we got me and another knucklehead and we're driving as fast as can to get to New York.

"He's never been to New York and I've gone there for a lot of sporting events, but I'm like, 'How are we going to cover this?' ... We found there were six people who died that day in the Twin Towers who were UD grads. And we found one, Kristy Irvine Ryan, she was from Long Island and we went out to visit her dad. And we told the story of Kristy Irvine Ryan's last hours and it was like a love story. Her husband was a musician and they lived in Greenwich Village and they had just gotten married. We told the

story of her talking to her husband on the phone, and that was real powerful because felt like it was one of their own here. So it's stories like that that mean the most."

Recently, Archdeacon has had some health problems, but that hasn't caused him to lose his passion for finding great stories.

In 2010, he was diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia. And, in the summer of 2011, he had heart bypass. A kind of one-two combination that could have had him lying on the canvas.

"I got diagnosed with leukemia, chronic myeloid leukemia, but it's a kind they can treat with a pill and keep at bay," Archdeacon said. "And it's like the kind Kareem Abdul-Jabbar had. But it the scares the living s--- out of you. I take this really expensive pill and it keeps it at bay, it builds a little bubble around the stem cell.

"Then, the next summer, in 2011, I had heart bypass surgery from years of being a sports writer and being a knucklehead of eating and drinking anything that I could grab. So, I had a single bypass surgery. Now I feel fine again. I'm not watching my diet like I should. I'm not the poster child for great health, but it makes you kind

of realize. I've been really lucky. If I would have gotten this kind of leukemia say six-seven years ago ... I'd be dead now."

"I didn't want to be like this sick guy," he said about not writing about illness and letting readers know what was happening with him. "But maybe that's not fair. Maybe I should get out there and be a bigger advocate and be behind the scenes. I didn't want to wear it on my sleeve, but maybe that will change down the road here. If it wasn't for research, I wouldn't be here."

In all, Archdeacon said he still loves what he does and getting "juiced up" while chasing down a good story like a closer thoroughbred at the Kentucky Derby. Horse racing is another one of Archdeacon's preferred sports.

For young students, Archdeacon has a simple piece of advice:

"Find some kind of experience that is completely out of your ballpark," he said. "Just get way out of their comfort zone and try something. Those are the things I remember. I don't remember going to Timothy's, those memories are a little hazy, but I remember those things where I got out of my comfort zone and tried to meet some different kinds of people."

Former Flyer News sports editors finding place after UD

MICKEY SHUEY
Chief Sports Writer

Since graduating from the University of Dayton, Nate Waggenpack and Will Hanlon have learned the world of sports writing isn't as glamorous as some make it out to be.

The two former Flyer News sports editors are still in the newspaper industry, though their paths have been quite different from what either expected.

For Waggenpack, a 2011 alumnus, that path led to Craig, Colo., a city with a population of less than 10,000. As a sports reporter for the Craig Daily Press, Waggenpack never covers the college or professional games in the area, as there are none.

"It is almost exclusively high school and community-type sports," Waggenpack said. "At least 65 percent, I'd say, is [dedicated] to Moffat County High School ... the only high school we have here in our area."

Roughly 1,800 miles east of Craig, in York, Pa., Hanlon usually is putting together pages for the next morning's edition of the York Daily Record.

While he isn't writing sports, his job as sports designer for the paper is still something he finds enjoyable.

"I don't think I necessarily like this better or worse, but I've learned that the real world isn't college," he said. "A few years ago, I would have loved to cover [major sports] as a writer. Now, I'm not sure."

Both Hanlon and Waggenpack think of their experiences at Flyer News as time well spent. According to Hanlon, making the transition from the paper's sports desk to the role of editor-in-chief his senior year was tough, but it allowed him to hone some important skills.

"Dealing with young writers was tough for me ... some would miss deadlines, others would turn in poor-quality writing," Hanlon, a 2009 graduate, said. "I know I wasn't a strong writer early, so that helped me keep things in perspective. Now, I'm glad I was able to help them grow as journalists."

One of those young writers Hanlon helped mold was Waggenpack, a sophomore at the time.

"Will was always helping me improve my writing, and provided a lot of constructive criticism,"

Waggenpack said.

While the two never really got to know each other outside of work, both agreed that seeing a familiar face to both of them was always nice.

When former Flyer News adviser Larry Lain retired at the end of the 2011-2012 school year, Hanlon and Waggenpack were among the dozen former staff members at his retirement party. Both credit Lain with helping them get to where they are now.

"I actually got the job here because one of [Lain's] former editors-in-chief contacted him looking for recent graduates," Waggenpack said. "When I was at UD, Dr. Lain was always there to answer my questions."

"I got to know Lain very well senior year," Hanlon said. "It wasn't just going over the state of the paper, either. He helped me grow as a person, rather than just as an editor-in-chief."

According to Hanlon, the sports desk at Flyer News during his tenure was a lot different from those found at local and national papers. But, he explained that was essentially the goal.

"We wanted to compete with the Dayton Daily News for readers," he said. "Since we couldn't put up breaking news or game stories right away like they did, we wanted to provide people with stories they couldn't really find anywhere else."

The answer, Hanlon said, was publishing strong, one-of-a-kind features in the section. Hanlon recalls one of his most memorable stories being a piece on former basketball player Charles Little during his senior year.

"I arrived at UD Arena a few hours early," he said. "It was Little's last home game as a Flyer and I observed him and talked to him before hand. After the game, I had the chance to talk to his mother about everything."

"She really put the story in perspective. She was more excited about him graduating than she was about the game."

Since then, Hanlon's job description has changed but so have the challenges.

He said working at a paper, like Flyer News, which prints no more than twice in one week, was a challenge in itself. Making sure everything in the upcoming issue was as timely as possible was difficult. Deadlines were hard to manage,

but he said at the Daily Record, there's no luxury of a few days to pull things together.

"Those late nights that were just once or twice a week at UD are every day for me here," Hanlon said. "The copy desk is obviously busy at night. Everybody needs to be on top of things, or else things don't get done."

Like Hanlon, Waggenpack said he encounters a variety of challenges. As a writer covering unconventional age groups, he often faces the different dilemma of inexperienced interview subjects.

"Most of the younger kids I talk to for my articles don't have as much media exposure as people in Dayton," he said. "I always try to get the Moffat coach and the opposing coach; usually they are more detailed than the middle school athletes are and add some additional context."

Stress aside, both noted they have been involved in covering important stories for their respective papers.

For Waggenpack, a two-part feature on a local track star was one of his most memorable pieces. He said the story detailed the high and low points of the runner since the end of his senior season and touched on the personal struggles he faced.

"I was happy that it didn't turn out to just be a 'fluff' piece," Waggenpack said. "I got some very honest interviews and it ended up being about ... how he knows and his coach knows that he has a long way to go. I thought that story turned out really great. It was one I'm proud of."

Hanlon, who has worked for the York Daily Record for three and a half years, copy edited stories covering the Jerry Sandusky trial and said it was one of the most extraordinary things he's experienced there.

"There's no big paper up in State College, so when the Sandusky scandal hit, a lot of our writers were going up there," Hanlon said. "Because of the town's [isolation], it was almost anyone's game."

For both, those kinds of stories are what make the challenge of working in sports news worthwhile. Even if they aren't sure where they will end up, Hanlon and Waggenpack are both enjoying the moment. Not to mention, the fact that they're still working in the field of journalism.

"I've always thought I'd some-



Will Hanlon, a former Flyer News editor-in-chief, currently works for the York Daily Record in York, Pa. COURTESY OF WILL HANLON



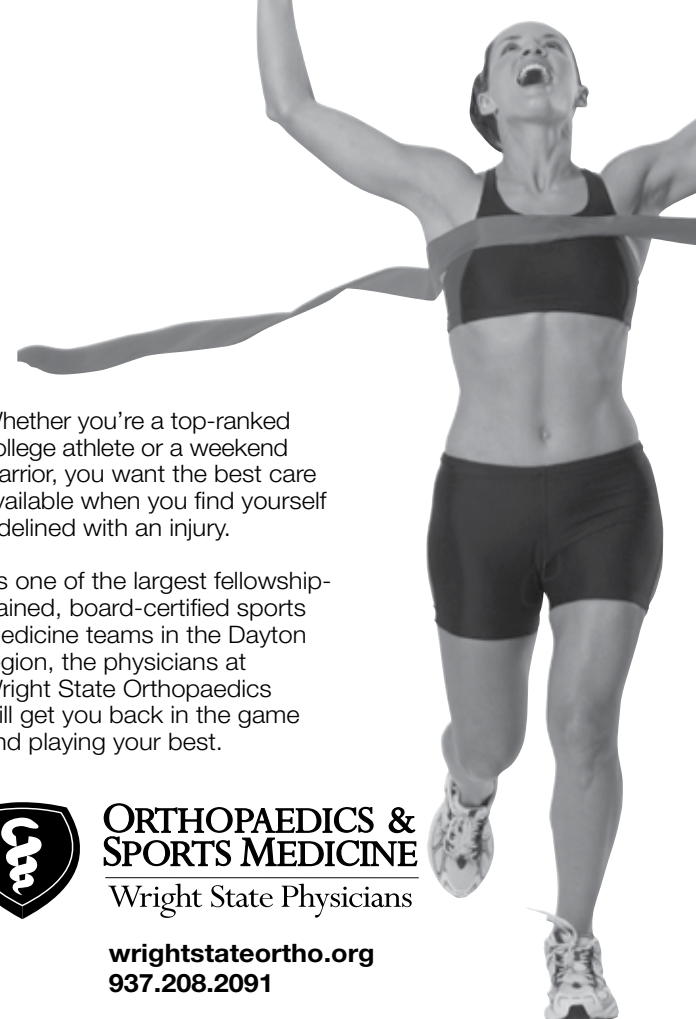
Nate Waggenpack, a former Flyer News sports editor, currently works for the Craig Daily Press in Craig, Colo. COURTESY OF NATE WAGGENSPACK

day like to move on ... but I've been saying that for nearly four years now," Hanlon said. "I'm still here."

"There's not a whole lot beyond my job here, but I'm really happy,"

Waggenpack said. "I'm doing what I want to do, and that's write sports. Other than that, I don't really have any goals in mind."

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BLEVINS GOES FROM WALK-ON TO MLB PITCHER

STEVEN WRIGHT
Sports Editor

When Jerry Blevins initially looked at the University of Dayton with a high school friend and future collegiate roommate, he thought law school was in his future after learning the university had one.

Thankfully for his future employers, the baseball team was holding tryouts after he arrived on campus.

“When I chose Dayton, my first year there I saw they had open baseball tryouts and had put a flier out,” he said. “I decided to do it and I made it.”

Blevins now is a relief pitcher for the Oakland A’s, which also happened to be his favorite team growing up as a youngster. He credits the 1990 World Series between the A’s and Cincinnati Reds as the start of his fandom.

He walked-on to the Dayton baseball team in 2002 and pitched for two seasons under head coach Tony Vittorio, who he still talks to on a regular basis.

Blevins became the first Dayton alum to play in the majors since Garry Roggenburk pitched his final year in 1969 for the Seattle Pilots, the first season of what is now the Milwaukee Brewers franchise.

Blevins was drafted by the Chicago Cubs in the 17th round of the 2004 Rule Four Amateur Draft. He said his parents informed him of the news.

“I was in Columbus getting ready to travel for a summer league team, the Columbus All-Americans, and I got a phone call from my parents saying that my name was called in the draft,” he said. “It was definitely one of those moments you’ll never forget.”

In three years with the organization, he advanced from low-A Boise to double-A Tennessee before being traded to the A’s in 2007. Blevins said he credits the trade to reaching where he is today.

“It was a little bittersweet,” he said of being traded. “You come up with a group of guys in an organization ... so you have a lot of people you consider brothers. It’s worked out for me in the long run. It’s probably the best move for my career

for me to come to Oakland, and I’m definitely grateful.”

He would also pitch at double-A for the A’s, until he was called up to the majors on Sept. 15, 2007. He would make his debut the next night against the Texas Rangers, pitching the ninth inning where he would retire the side. In the outing, he threw his first career strikeout in his first at-bat against Rangers’ outfielder David Murphy, which Blevins said was the “icing on the cake for a first outing.” He said Murphy today is one of his best friends.

The next season, he began in triple-A Sacramento, and would continue to move up and down between the minors and majors until 2012, when he remained on Oakland’s roster for the entire season.

Blevins owns a career 8-6 record with a 3.35 ERA in 214 appearances. In 2012, he had a career season, finishing with a 2.48 ERA in 65.1 IP. He would pitch in the postseason for the first time during the American League Division Series against the Detroit Tigers, entering three games and allowing only a single hit and no runs in 3.2 innings pitched.

Blevins was inducted into the Arcadia (Ohio) High School Hall of Fame in 2007, shortly after being promoted to the majors. During baseball season, he stays in the Bay Area, but calls Findlay, Ohio, home during the offseason.

Not being particularly close to a city where a major-league team plays, the choices for a family visit during the year are slim. When the A’s travel to face the Reds at Great American Ball Park, on Aug. 6 and Aug. 7, plans already have been made for that to change.

“The most excited I’m looking forward to is getting to play in Cincinnati this year,” Blevins said. “I’m going to get the chance to play in front of friends and family, and it’s about as close to what I can call a hometown. It’s been circled on a lot of people’s calendars for when they need to make room. That’ll be a fun trip.”

The feeling of being a part of a community is one of the things that sticks out to Blevins the most about his time at UD. He said he gained a feeling of pride and unity from being at UD and thought the level of friendliness everyone showed



Jerry Blevins of the Oakland Athletics pitches during a game against the Detroit Tigers, Oct. 6, 2012, at Comerica Park in Detroit, Mich. COURTESY OF MICHAEL ZAGARIS/OAKLAND A'S

helped shape him today.

“I think it had a tremendous effect on me, not just through baseball and coach Vittorio,” he said. “The classes and all the professors that I had were all really helpful. You know, it’s an influential time in your life in late teens and early 20s in trying to figure out who it is that you are, and being around a lot of positive people, that always helps mold you.”

A former resident of Lowes Street, which Blevins called incredible during Lowes Fest, he remembers Christmas on Campus being his favorite activity at Dayton, and one he wishes he could come back to sometime.

“I like how everyone comes together to make it special for the entire community in the surrounding area,” he said. “I have a lot of

people that I miss with my family being gone 9 or 10 months out of the year, which makes it hard to justify leaving for Christmas as well. It’s definitely something I feel like I want to come back to and always will hold a great place in my heart.”

On Jan. 23, Blevins did get to return to Dayton, though, as he made a donation to the UD baseball program and attended the UD men’s basketball game against Fordham University at UD Arena.

He said it still feels like only yesterday that he was a student, despite the campus having some visual changes, noting that ArtStreet was newly built and the baseball team still played its game at the old Stuart Field in his third year.

Despite leaving school early after being drafted, Blevins said he loves where his life has taken him.

“I get to do something that I love everyday and make a living off of it,” Blevins said. “A lot of people don’t get to do that, and I understand how hard of a daily grind it would be otherwise. I realize my window for being an athlete is short, as obviously you can’t do it forever, but I’m trying to take advantage of getting to go outside and play catch every day. It’s pretty spectacular.”

Blevins said his original plan in coming to UD was to earn a finance degree before heading to law school. Reflecting back if he had to make the choice again, Blevins didn’t hesitate in his answer.

“Yeah, I would definitely not go into law,” he said. “The further I get away from school, the more I understand. I’m kind of happy it didn’t work out for me.”