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Dayton at Bat!

04.25.2009 | Campus and Community The current generation of baseball fans has seen steroids and gambling rock the sport. University of Dayton School of Business Administration Dean Matt Shank will help fans make sense of the dark side of baseball in a free, public talk titled "Greatest Baseball Scandals." Shank, a sports business expert, will discuss topics such as the Pete Rose scandal, the Congressional hearings on steroids, the Black Sox scandal and more at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 3, in the Roesch Library.

Shank edits *Sports Marketing Quarterly*, for which he has helped write an article titled "Defining Scandal in Sport: Media and Corporate Sponsor Perspectives." Recently, Prentice Hall published the fourth edition of Shank's *Sports Marketing: A Strategic Perspective*, a sports marketing textbook used at universities worldwide.

After Shank's talk, fans can head to Baujan Field for a vintage "base ball" game played the way it was in the 1800s. The Dayton Clodbusters will take on the Columbus Muffins at 3 p.m., weather permitting. Local sports radio talk show hosts Mark Neal, from WING's Dayton Sports Scene, and Mark Schlemmer, from WONE's SportsTalk 980, are scheduled to serve as celebrity team captains.

In the 1800s, the ball was bigger than today's baseball but smaller than a softball. Players did not use gloves. The pitcher delivered the ball underhanded from 45 feet as requested by the batter. Players could record an out by catching the ball on the fly or on its first bounce.

Dayton at Bat! is a free, public exhibit of baseball memorabilia from the collections of National Baseball Hall of Fame writer Si Burick and Dayton philanthropist Miriam Jacobs. The four-month display has the only known baseball autographed by three of the world's top four home run hitters — Sadaharu Oh, Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron. Baseballs autographed by Warren Spahn, Johnny Vander Meer, Lefty Grove, Bob Feller and President Woodrow Wilson, and a manuscript of Sparky Anderson's biography, *The Main Spark*, also are among the approximately 140 items on display now through June 14.

Parking for library events is free. On weekends use B Lot, which can be entered after turning from Stewart Street to Zehler Street. Baujan Field is a short walk from the library. During the week, please stop at the Visitor Center for a parking pass.

For more information, contact Shawn Robinson, associate director of media relations, at 937-229-3391 or srobinson@udayton.edu.