12-18-1968

The University of Dayton's First Diploma Exercise for the 119th Commencement Year

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Recommended Citation
"The University of Dayton's First Diploma Exercise for the 119th Commencement Year" (1968). News Releases. 3294.
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DAYTON, Ohio, December 18, 1968 --- The University of Dayton will award its 20,000th diploma of graduation this Saturday, December 21, at its first diploma exercise of the 119th commencement year. The exercise, at which 566 associate, bachelor and graduate degrees will be awarded, will be held in the UD Fieldhouse at 2:15 p.m.

The first diploma of graduation was awarded to Charles Sherer in 1885 from what was then known as St. Mary's Institute. He was the only recipient that year. Since that time, 19,721 men and women have received diplomas from the Institute, St. Mary's College and the University of Dayton, the three names under which the University has been known since 1850.

Receiving recognition also will be 21 honors graduates including six Daytonians. Graduating magna cum laude as the top graduate is Joseph A. Altieri, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Altieri, 6620 North 5th Street, Philadelphia, with a 3.896. He will receive a Bachelor of Technology degree.

Other magna cum laude graduates are Monika Reitzung, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nikolaus Reitzung, 3722 Dover Drive, Fort Wayne, Indiana, bachelor of science in biology, 3.869; Cheryl Anne Leiberman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Bernard Leiberman, 2224 Benson Drive, Dayton, bachelor of arts in social work, 3.863; Mary Kathryn Neary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew J. Neary, 7535 South Chappel Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, bachelor of arts in English, 3.831; Barbara Gray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton A. Gray, 3743 Lowell Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, bachelor of science in chemistry, 3.733; Nancy Lee Blackwood of Centerville, bachelor of science in home economics, 3.718; Patricia Skalka, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Skalka, 13301 Avenue, N, Chicago, Illinois, bachelor of arts in journalism, 3.718; and Margaret Ann Gast, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Gast of 152 Washington Street, St. Henry, Ohio, bachelor of science, 3.836.

Cum laude graduates are Sandra M. Polaski, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Polaski, 1051 East 25th Street, Erie, Pennsylvania, bachelor of arts in English, 3.685; Mary Louise Anthony, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David H. Anthony, 220 North Herman Street, New Bremen, Ohio, bachelor of science in biology, 3.678; Bro. John Skerl, S.M., East