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Orange and Brown Scrambled Eggs Before a Bengals Game? UD Psychology Professor Contends Some Strange Fan Antics May Be Healthy; UD Study Predicts Slower Employment Growth in Dayton in 1989

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University of Dayton psychology professor Charles Kimble has never painted his body orange and brown, performed the Ickey Shuffle in his living room or impulsively taken off his shirt in "the Jungle" in sub-freezing temperatures--but he understands sports fans who do. For Cincinnati Bengals fan(atic)s, Bengalmania is rampant this week as the team gears up for the AFC championship game on Sunday and possibly the Super Bowl later this month.

"This kind of behavior is a release for people," said Kimble, an avid football fan who taught a sports psychology class at UD last semester. "When they display their association with a successful team, they tend to get more outrageous than the ordinary person on the street because they feel anonymous and irresponsible. They blend into the crowd."

As bizarre as the behavior sounds, it may actually be healthy. "If it doesn't get out of hand, I think it's a good opportunity to vent emotions." With a laugh, he added: "Although it's not too healthy to take your shirt off in 20-degree weather."

For media interviews, contact Charles Kimble at (513) 229-2168.

UD STUDY PREDICTS SLOWER EMPLOYMENT GROWTH IN DAYTON IN 1989

Employment in the Dayton area grew moderately at 2 percent in 1988, with the most growth occurring in the non-manufacturing sectors, according to a study by John Weiler, director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Dayton. The outlook for 1989 is not quite as good--employment increases are expected to be closer to 1.5 percent.

"Before concluding that economics really is the 'dismal science,' it is important to note that we are talking about the rate of increase in employment," Weiler said. "Not too long ago we were talking about falling employment and rising unemployment rates."

Weiler predicts that employment in service industries will grow at a 4 percent rate in 1989, with the most growth in business services.

Retail employment, which showed signs of a recovery in 1988, will continue at a level below 4 percent. "Several factors are operating against more dynamic growth--the decline in the relative market shares of large, general merchandise stores, a slowdown in the growth of retail spending and the disappearance of Gold Circle in Dayton," Weiler said.

Weiler anticipates no decline or growth in manufacturing employment, which he labeled as good news. "The Dayton economy is still heavily tied to the domestic auto industry, and 1989 is not expected to be a banner year," he said.

Faculty and students in UD's Center for Business and Economic Research analyze issues of importance to businesses, governments and nonprofit organizations. For media interviews, contact John Weiler at (513) 229-2453.