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Crime-Fighting Computers; Ergonomics for the Workplace; Going Long for a Degree and a Job

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CRIME-FIGHTING COMPUTERS -- Imagine a computer system that can help a police captain better allocate personnel or a probation officer make more informed sentencing recommendations. Two UD engineering professors are turning Montgomery County officials' computer software dreams into hard reality. Charles Ebeling has designed a computer simulation model to examine patrol car use to analyze quality of service to citizens. Ron Deep has worked with the adult probation department at the Montgomery County Common Pleas Court to develop software that "profiles" a composite of adults on probation to enable officers to make better decisions during pre-sentence investigations on persons who have pleaded guilty to crimes.

Contact Charles Ebeling of Centerville or Ron Deep of Beavercreek at 229-2238. Both are associate professors of engineering management and systems.

ERGONOMICS FOR THE WORKPLACE -- Maintenance costs eat up $1 of every $3 spent on a military aircraft over its lifetime. UD researchers have developed "the largest and most comprehensive database in the world" to help engineers design aircraft that can be easily maintained, according to UD mathematician Phil Krauskopf. Called CREW CHIEF, the database includes thousands of body size, clothing, visibility, accessibility and strength measurements from nearly 1,500 subjects in ergonomics experiments. UD's Research Institute developed CREW CHIEF for the Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory and the Air Force Human Resources Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, but has marketed the software nationally to 50 aircraft companies and universities. Its applications range from cars to trucks to any workplace where an engineer evaluates people's capabilities.

Contact Phil Krauskopf, UD associate research mathematician of Huber Heights, at (513) 256-2282 or Joe McDaniel, industrial engineer at Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory, at (513) 255-2558.

GOING LONG FOR A DEGREE AND A JOB -- When UD football coach Mike Kelly hits the recruiting trail, he can woo prospective players with glowing reports of UD's domination in Division III play. Seven appearances in the playoffs in the 1980s. Four trips to the championship game -- the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl. Two championship titles. Then Kelly pulls out his "ace in the hole." His most powerful recruiting tool is engineering, a degree not offered by many other NCAA Division III schools. "I'm here to study first and play football second," says sophomore center Henry Richardson, one of 18 engineering or engineering technology majors on the team. Richardson's attitude doesn't surprise Kelly: "We're finding that the student-athlete is much more career-minded."

Contact Mike Kelly at (513) 229-4423 or Doug Hauschild at 229-4460.