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"'Boomers' Vs. "Busters": Who Would You Hire?; School Administrators Tackle Tough Issues; Renegade Reunion

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"BOOMERS" VS. "BUSTERS": WHO WOULD YOU HIRE? -- Baby boomers have sharply different attitudes toward work compared to the "busters" -- born between 1965 and 1983, says Roger McCormick, professor of counselor education at the University of Dayton. The 4.3 million baby boomers, thrust into a highly competitive world, apply traditional values to their jobs. "They believe you have to work hard, and eventually, you'll make it," McCormick said. "They have respect for authority, and they're loyal. They're willing to wait for advancement."

But the younger workers, 3.5 million of them, bring to work an "attitude of entitlement." "They want to see immediate rewards, quick advancement. They want to know the rules up front, right away," McCormick said. "They'll work hard, because they're ambitious and they want a good lifestyle."

Employers need to know what motivates the busters, who don't always respect corporate hierarchies because they are peer-oriented, McCormick says. And as for loyalty: "If the pay's better somewhere else, they're gone. A job's a job."

McCormick is a specialist in the psychology of individual differences. But he's also seen the differences in his own family, between his oldest and youngest daughters: one a boomer, and one a buster.

Contact Roger McCormick at (513) 229-3628 or (614) 746-9455.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS TACKLE TOUGH ISSUES -- What should a school do when a student has AIDS? What approaches to drug and alcohol education really work? Educators from across Ohio will meet in a conference beginning July 13 at the University of Dayton to tackle issues both urban and suburban schools face: teen pregnancy, dropouts, discipline and suicide. Speakers include Kitty Stofsick, AIDS education coordinator for the Ohio Department of Education.

Wanda Johnson, a coordinator of the program, said schools are fighting some serious problems: one in five American students lives in poverty, 1,000 students attempt suicide each day, and 4.6 million teen-agers use alcohol, according to a national study. "A broad array of problems face school boards and teachers today," Johnson said. "We need to do preventive planning."

Contact Wanda Johnson, Dayton Public Schools, at (513) 275-6365.

RENEGADE REUNION — About 25 University of Dayton graduates have created their own tradition of returning to campus every other year for the Fourth of July weekend. They call themselves the "Class of the Early '70s" and spend the weekend visiting hot spots from the '70s (Milano's and Westward Ho), picnicking and getting reacquainted with the campus and one another. It's a family affair, with children along for the trip down memory lane. "We relive our youth," says Jane Luczak, a graduate who is attending from Washington, D.C. "Every other year we pretend we're 20 years old."

Call Jane Luczak at UD Garden Apartments at (513) 229-5241.