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Contact: Pamela Gregg
gregg@udayton.edu

NEWS RELEASE

**UD'S MIKE KELLY AND SESQUICENTENNIAL FANFARE
TO BE FEATURED IN FUN PHILHARMONIC SALUTE TO SPORTS**

DAYTON, Ohio — Two University of Dayton favorites — Flyers Head Football Coach Mike Kelly and the musical Sesquicentennial Fanfare — will be featured when the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra presents Pops Goes Out to the Ballgame, a musical salute to American's love of sports.

Kelly will join a first string line-up of distinguished sports figures providing play-by-play coverage of some of the featured pieces in the concerts, to be performed at 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 28 and 29, at the Dayton Convention Center. Tickets are \$16 to \$44 and available by calling the DPO box office at (937) 224-9000.

With philharmonic music director Neal Gittleman on the conductor's mound, the concert features music highlighting America's favorite pastimes, from baseball and football to boxing, skating and more.

Along with Kelly, special guests Johnny Bench, retired Cincinnati Reds catcher; Ritter Collett, *Dayton Daily News* Sports Editor Emeritus; and Larry Hansgen, WHIO Radio program director and former "Voice of the Flyers," have been asked to provide some color commentary to pieces such as Richard Hayman's "Freddie the Football," Frank Proto's "Casey at the Bat" and others.

Kelly said he's looking forward to becoming the voice of Freddie the Football, a composition for narrator and orchestra about a football who gets to help decide the outcome of a Super Bowl.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
300 College Park Dayton, Ohio 45469-1679
(937) 229-3241 (937) 229-3063 Fax
www.udayton.edu

"I had to laugh when I first read the story about the adventures of this little football," said Kelly of the piece described by Gittleman as "very silly and quite charming." It's a little corny, but it's a great story and sounds like it will be a lot of fun," Kelly added.

The evening will include a special tribute to Ohio colleges with performances of Scott Boerma's "UD Sesquicentennial Fanfare," commissioned in honor of the University's 150th anniversary, as well as a medley of fight songs from Ohio universities.

Cheerleaders from UD and Wright State University will provide the sideline color for the fun musical look at sports.

Kelly, who nears his 20th anniversary at the University of Dayton with a remarkable winning percentage of .830, has been named the Pioneer Football League's Coach of the Year in four of the seven seasons the league has been in existence.

Bench, who was elected in 1989 to the Baseball Hall of Fame, moved successfully from athletic superstar status to television and radio network sports broadcaster. Considered one of the greatest catchers of all time, Bench was named a National League Rookie of the Year, National League Most Valuable Player, World Series Most Valuable Player and 14-time All-Star with 10 consecutive Gold Gloves.

Collett was named *Dayton Daily News* Sports Editor Emeritus following a 45 year career as a sports writer and editor with the *Dayton Journal Herald* and *Dayton Daily News*. He was inducted into the writers' wing of the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1992, has authored eight books and heads the selection committee for the national fraternity Phi Delta Theta award in memory of Lou Gehrig.

Hansgen, recently retired after 17 seasons as the broadcast voice of the UD Flyers basketball team, is program director for News Talk 1290 WHIO Radio where he started as sports director in 1981. He continues to serve as broadcaster for the UD Flyers football team, recently completing his 12th season.