

3-10-1999

## Channel 2 to Air Documentary on History of University of Dayton

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### Recommended Citation

"Channel 2 to Air Documentary on History of University of Dayton" (1999). *News Releases*. 8730.  
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March 10, 1999  
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## NEWS RELEASE

*(Editor's note: The official date of the University of Dayton's 150th anniversary is March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph. UD will hold a spring convocation for faculty and staff at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 24, at the Frericks Center to strengthen and renew the University's Catholic and Marianist identity. A listing of other sesquicentennial events can be found at [www.udayton.edu/150/](http://www.udayton.edu/150/))*

### CHANNEL 2 TO AIR DOCUMENTARY ON HISTORY OF UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

DAYTON, Ohio — WDTN-TV (Channel 2) will air the documentary *Our University on the Hill: The First 150 Years of the University of Dayton* from 8 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, March 23.

Carl Day, a WDTN news anchor, is narrator of the program, which was produced by local PBS affiliate WPTD (Channel 16). It first aired Dec. 3 on that station.

The documentary — part of UD's sesquicentennial celebration, which runs through May 2001 — highlights the school's history, accomplishments and the people who helped make it the largest private university in Ohio and one of the 10 largest Catholic universities in the country.

The documentary divides the University's history into six segments: as a school for boys beginning in 1850; as an emerging college in the 1880s through World War I and the 1920s; the pre-World War II years when women were admitted and enrollment flourished; the post-war years with the GI Bill and new departments, courses and resources; the continued physical and academic growth of the school over the past four decades; and the University today as a nationally recognized institution of higher learning.

A significant cost of the \$60,000 project was funded with a gift by Jim Tinney, owner and CEO of Edge & Tinney Architects Inc., UD's contracted architectural firm since 1982.

Tinney said he became involved with the documentary to preserve an important part of local history.

"UD has meant — and still means — so much to the Dayton community," he says. "This relationship has to be preserved, and what better way than through a well-done documentary?" The piece also chronicles UD's commitment to the spirit of its Catholic heritage, its role in higher education and to the quality of graduates it produces, Tinney says.

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UD was founded in 1850 by the Marianists, a Roman Catholic teaching order of brothers and priests. In summer 1849, the Rev. Leo Meyer, S.M., and Brother Charles Schultz, S.M., were sent to Dayton to minister to the sick during a cholera epidemic. In Dayton they met John Stuart, a local parishioner whose young daughter had died of cholera. Stuart, wanting to return to Europe to be with his wife, accepted a St. Joseph medal from Meyer and a promise of \$12,000 at 6 percent interest in return for his 125-acre farm, which would become the University of Dayton.

UD's sesquicentennial celebration, which runs through spring 2001, includes song and dance, religion and humor, and events that range from film to philosophy. Among the highlights: UD presented Elizabeth Dole with its first Leadership with Virtue Award in February; Erma Bombeck's family will present her papers to UD's archives during the Erma Bombeck Conference on Popular American Humor (March 29-April 1); the 176-page, hardcover book *University of Dayton, From Nazareth to the New Millennium* will soon be available for purchase; and UD's Center for Social Concern has recruited more than 150 students, faculty, staff and alumni who have pledged to perform 150 hours of community service.

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For media interviews, contact **Jim Tinney** at (937) 293-2022.