Visioning UD  ■  Concussions and our kids

READY FOR HIS CLOSE-UP
Grace, joy and a sense of humor are ever-present in the colorful art of Brother Cletus Behlmann, S.M., including those he created of UD's campus like this watercolor which hangs in Kennedy Union. We pray that his welcome to heaven was similarly radiant. Behlmann, director of the St. Mary's University Art Center & Studio Workshop, died July 12, 2016.
11-time champions
HARD KNOCKS
Concussions, children and our schools

RUDY
Our mascot lost his mustache and gained muscle. A look back at Rudy Flyer’s birth, and look ahead to his far-out future.

HIS LIFE’S WORK
What Super Bowl legend Chuck Noll ’53 learned in Dayton

CONTRIBUTORS

COURTNEY MOCKLOW sat down with UD legend Father Norbert Burns, S.M., for a story this issue. A senior communication major and marketing minor from Chicago, she’s been writing for the magazine since January 2015. Courtney, who said she believes “in the power of a well-written story to influence and move its audience,” will pursue a journalism career.

RYAN WILKER proposed, researched and wrote the cover story on Rudy Flyer while a student writer for UD Magazine. He graduated in 2016 with a bachelor’s degree in sport management. Ryan, who was also a student assistant in the Office of Athletics Communication, is currently a postgraduate intern in athletics media relations at Villanova University.

SHANNON MILLER, a former sports reporter for the Detroit Free Press, gets this issue’s gold star in proofreading for knowing the year of Michael Jackson’s first moonwalk (1983). An editor for on- and off-campus audiences since 2010, Shannon has written features for this magazine on topics as diverse as breast cancer research, 9/11, civic engagement and coach Archie Miller.
Faith in our future

When University of Dayton students left for fall break, faculty and staff played with Legos and took a stroll through virtual reality.

But they weren’t playing. They were dreaming together about the University’s future and using creative ways to express their hopes and dreams.

One group constructed a monorail that would run between the center of campus and River Campus. Another built an urban farm in a reclaimed factory as an experiential learning space. Using virtual reality, others walked through a classroom of the future and considered ways they might revolutionize teaching by supplementing their lectures with engaging, immersive experiences.

This was the scene on campus on “Visioning Day,” a series of opportunities for faculty and staff to think seriously about our future.

I am asking the University of Dayton community and our alumni to think big, even audaciously, as we create a strategic vision together. We’re a great university with a collaborative spirit, but we would be a shadow of who we are today if, throughout history, we had not had big aspirations and adapted and changed for the times.

And, quite frankly, we are better than others know of us.

Here’s our collective challenge: We must look honestly at our strengths, weaknesses and the challenges ahead of us. As we gaze 20 years into the future, we need to develop a few powerful, transformational ideas that will provide strategic direction, help prioritize investments, spark private support at higher levels — and move the University to a new level of excellence. At the end of our strategic visioning process, everyone needs to feel they’ve been heard.

That’s why I’m crisscrossing the country — from Dayton to Chicago, New York to Los Angeles — to talk to alumni about their dreams for their alma mater. I’m encouraged by the level of engagement and the wealth of creative ideas. (See story, Page 49.)

I’d love to hear your thoughts about the core values of UD that resonate with you. What differentiates a UD education? What areas of excellence will we be known for in two decades? What are those areas in which we fall short, and how do we tackle the issues of affordability, accessibility and diversity so that students from all socio-economic walks of life feel welcome and supported?

Thousands have already weighed in, and you can, too, at udayton.edu/VisionUD.

Join me at an upcoming alumni gathering for a dialogue about our future. Tap into weekly online conversations as we grapple with questions about the growing influence of digital educational technologies and the significant trends in American society that will shape the curriculum of the future. Read my fall faculty and staff address, where I candidly lay out the challenges and invite all who love the University of Dayton to help shape our aspirational vision.

We teach our students to adapt and change in a changing world, still true to the urgings of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade.

Today, we embrace that same challenge — with imagination and faith in our future.
Have thoughts about what you read this issue?

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: University of Dayton Magazine 300 College Park Dayton, OH 45469-1303

EMAIL US AT: magazine-letters@udayton.edu

TWEET TO: @daymag

Please include your city and state. Indicate whether you wish your email address printed. Letters should not exceed 300 words. University of Dayton Magazine may edit for clarity and brevity. Not all letters are printed because of space. Opinions expressed are those of the letter writers and not necessarily of this publication nor the University of Dayton.

HISTORY OF COMMUNITY AT LINCOLN HILL

Your autumn University of Dayton Magazine concerning the Lincoln Hill Gardens ["Grow On"] brought back memories of my youth. I was born one block away on St. Paul Avenue in 1932 and lived in the east end of Dayton. My memories include sledding down Lincoln Hill, playing basketball in Lincoln gym, playing baseball and other sports at Lincoln and the St. Mary’s playground (Twin Towers), and attending grade school at St. Mary’s and high school at Chaminade.

BILL FORTENER ‘58 FAIRBORN, OHIO DPFORTENER@ATT.NET

SAFETY CONCERNS

I love reading my University of Dayton Magazine, and it is great to hear about what is going on around the university and the community, especially since I am usually so far away. My magazine goes to my original home in Ohio and, since I am in the military, my parents then forward it to wherever I am. Currently I am stationed in Monterey, California, and attending the Naval Postgraduate School to get a master’s degree in mechanical engineering.

I have a comment about the Autumn 2016 issue. On Page 27 there is picture in the bottom left corner of the page that shows a man standing on a chair swinging a sledgehammer to put stakes in the ground. I guess being in the Navy has made me a bit more safety conscious than I used to be because the picture just made me cringe. Please let the workers and volunteers know that this is unsafe. (I am sure they probably already know.) I would also recommend screening your pictures a little better to ensure that little things like this don’t make it into print.

SCOTT M. BIRKEMEIER ’09 MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

SPREADING ICE

My thanks to you for writing and including an article on the early days of UD varsity ice hockey in the Autumn 2016 issue ["Powder-blue Jerseys and Dental Plates"]. Next year will be the 60th year of a continuous hockey program at UD. Your timing could not have been better.

Tom Frericks and I did not foresee the influence UD would have on spawning ice hockey within the state of Ohio. Through our efforts and that of the players who felt privileged to represent the school, fledgling programs
at Ohio State, Bowling Green, Miami (of Ohio) and Ohio University led to the establishment of varsity and club programs throughout the lower Midwest states.

The initial commitment that the school made to provide the program for players and ice hockey fans influenced many students to enroll and be part of the UD family. These are fond memories for more than 1,000 players to date and growing. Thanks for including them in the wonderful publication.

WALT DEANNA '62
NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

INSPIRED BY EXCELLENCE
The article “Powder-blue Jerseys and Dental Plates” [Autumn 2016] by Doug Harris talked about the previous success of the University of Dayton hockey team and the commitment and passion the players and coaches put into the game. Reading this article has inspired our current team to ask ourselves, “What could be?” The passion for the game of hockey and organization is still evident and something the team wants to re-establish. Students and coaches still commit themselves to find the success that was previously held in this organization. Since the team stopped competing at the NCAA level, the organization has struggled to reach the success it once had at the club level due to funding. The student-athletes, coaches and alumni wanted to make the University of Dayton community aware of our team and ask for support. The team plays at Kettering Recreation Center on weekends and posts updates to Twitter @Dayton_Hockey and on Facebook at UD Hockey. We also want to graciously ask the University of Dayton community to consider donating to the team. Thank you for the consideration, and Go Flyers!

HENRI BEAUDOIN ’17
DEERFIELD, ILLINOIS
JBEAUDOIN1@UDAYTON.EDU

Editor’s note: Donations can be made at givenow.udayton.edu. Under “fund” click “search for another fund” and type in “ice hockey.”

PROMOTE GOD AND ONLY GOD
As a Christian and a Catholic, I am bothered when I see the secular world penetrating a good institution in any way. As a Catholic university, we should stand out as a shining example, rather than just be another school. On Page 18 an article titled “7 Metal Songs You Must Have” [Autumn 2016] listed some songs by metal groups. When I was in college, I was a big fan of one of the many Christian metal groups. We can stand out as Christians. Our choices are really not that limited. We do not need to promote the worldly views and values. We are flooded with that by the major media and many other sources. We need to be vigilant in showing Christ’s light and his values in every way that we can.

JEFF SCHINDLER ’91
BEAVERCREEK, OHIO

PRESIDENTIAL PICTURES
As usual, you have delivered an outstanding issue [Autumn 2016]. I particularly loved the photo of the three presidents featured on Page 4 (“Gratitude”). I am a black sheep of a Notre Dame family, and it reminds me of the attached picture of three Notre Dame presidents. Your photo might be an interesting comparison between the personalities of the universities. Your picture is destined for enlargement and framing in my office.

KEVIN MONAHAN ’00
SAVOY, ILLINOIS

A VERY SPECIAL PLACE
The University of Dayton has always encouraged and nurtured friendships and service to others. I grew up at UD and value not only what I learned but who I shared those experiences with. Our group, The Dayton Nine, love getting together and remembering. Kudos to 321 [“Life lessons from a single bathroom,” Autumn 2016].

TERRY DUFFEY CARLTON
POSTED TO UDQUICKLY

PARKS LOVE
Loved @daymag article on the alumni who worked for @NatlParkService. Before I started working at UD I spent 2 summers working at @PerrysVIPM

@DTHOMAS2003
POSTED TO TWITTER

CORRECTION
On Page 57 of Class Notes in the autumn magazine, we incorrectly noted the town where Deborah Verderame ’89 lives. While she is a founding partner with the law firm of Pearlman & Miranda in Bloomfield, New Jersey, she resides in Charlotte, North Carolina.
Can it really be that 20 years ago I was a freshman at @univofdayton? I may not be in Ohio any more, but part of my heart is. #iheartUD

Just a friendly reminder that you are currently eating dinner (or should be) at a NATIONALLY FIRST PLACE RANKED dining hall. Ya, it’s chill.

All the Spinas say a big “thanks” to the @udaytonvb team for the great T-shirts!

Reason No. 12047492 why being a student employee at @univofdayton rocks: free shirts galore!

This past weekend I learned University of Dayton is a game changer, cousin vinnys is my new favorite pizza place, and I’m obsessed w sushi

Deciding on University of Dayton for graduate school was probably one of the best decisions I made for my education thus far in my life

30 yrs ago I drove to @univofdayton to visit my boyfriend. Today we are moving our first born into Founders. #flyerfamily #howdidthishappen

“…and may your porch always be too small to hold all of your friends!” @univofdayton

Just spent my Sunday walking around my alma mater. My hope for all my students is to find a place they love as much as I love @univofdayton

Chatted with fellow @DaytonFlyers tonight. Clear @univofdayton is always in our hearts … The @UDaytonAlumni assoc keeps it top of mind!

Three words that mean so much to me. At @univofdayton visioning session.

1 yr ago today, Karen & I arrived at UD for the 1st time for interview. 3 days later we left thinking this might be it. Today we are home.
Serving those who served
Among the Best Colleges for Veterans

More than 90 students are using their military benefits to study at the University this fall, an increase of about 45 percent from a year ago. This fall, these students learned they study at one of the Best Colleges for Veterans, according to the U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges 2017 guidebook, which names top-ranked schools that help make pursuing a college education more affordable. Veterans Services staff at UD provide personalized tuition and educational plans, accommodate military personnel absent because of service requirements, and designate a point of contact to provide academic and financial advice. There are other advantages. Said Ashley Marolo, a 26-year-old junior majoring in dietetics who served as a paratrooper, “We can connect throughout the day or get our families together. Having the veterans group makes me feel more connected.”

More visible presence

Public safety is making its presence on campus more visible through initiatives to emphasize relationship building and community policing. The most immediately evident change is the continuously lit red and blue lights atop each cruiser to allow anyone in the student neighborhood to see them from blocks away. “Students and parents are asking for more visibility of public safety on campus,” said Rodney Chatman, executive director of public safety. Public safety will also staff a substation at 461 Kiefaber St. during select times of the week and during high-activity periods. Other initiatives address training, recruitment, diversity, procedure reviews and increased interactions through a citizen policy academy and regular meetings with students. Chatman has also made himself more accessible; follow him on Twitter @UDChiefChatman.
Ending book deserts
theconsciousconnect.org

Thanks to Karlos Marshall ’15, Miami Valley children will receive the gift of reading this season from an unlikely place — local barber shops and hair salons. Marshall founded The Conscious Connect in 2015 to mobilize neighborhoods around urban education and literacy. This fall, he teamed with the University Libraries diversity and inclusion committee to collect 1,500 books that are relevant to children in urban communities. The nonprofit then distributes them to barber shops and hair salons, which offer the books free to neighborhood children who lack access to quality, affordable and relevant books. “Too often the materials that children are required to read do not connect with and relate to their experiences,” said Marshall, academic development coordinator at UD’s IACT and a graduate of the higher education administration master’s program. Among the books recommended for donation is The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats, a favorite of Marshall’s 7-year-old son, Tremere.

Stations of the cross

Forged from metal, the stations of the cross now installed in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception have been a labor of love for artist Michael Bendele. For each, he started with a flat piece of metal, then hammered and worked the metal until an image arose to draw us into the reality of the suffering of Christ. Bendele said each station focuses on a central image and action — the tension in Jesus’ bound hands when he is condemned to death, or the hand of Veronica reaching out to wipe Jesus’ face. The bold images allow the congregation to view all 14 from any vantage point and in context with one another. Bendele — a Delphos, Ohio, artist — also considered vantage point when making the stations for the Marycrest Residence Complex chapel in 2008; those stations, set in the floor, depict what one might see in the ground had they walked alongside Jesus as he took his steps toward death and everlasting life.

Big love

Always in our hearts, Big Steve is now at the heart of Red Scare’s Flyer pride. The student spirit organization designed this year’s shirt in homage to No. 5 Steve McElvene, the red-shirt sophomore men’s basketball center who died May 12 at his home in Fort Wayne, Indiana, from hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. The No. 5 Flying “D,” designed by Patty Minardi Borgman ’93, is the shirt’s focus, said junior Claire Fischer, Red Scare president: “He was a big part of the Dayton community, and the way it is displayed keeps him at the center of it.” Red Scare wore their shirts Nov. 11 at the season opener, which included a ceremony with McElvene’s family on court surrounded by the team and at the center of cheers and tears from all the Flyer Faithful.
No secrets here

The 2017 Princeton Review guide on America’s best colleges tells the world what students are already cheering about, that UD is:

**No. 1** Everyone Plays Intramural Sports

**No. 3** Happiest Students

**No. 5** Their Students Love These Colleges

**No. 8** Best Quality of Life

**No. 14** Students Most Engaged in Community Service

Only about 15 percent of America’s 2,500 four-year colleges are profiled in the 2017 edition of *The Best 381 Colleges*.

The University of Dayton is highlighted as one of the Colleges That Create Futures, Colleges That Pay You Back and Green Colleges. It ranks in the top 20 for Impact Schools and Top Internship Opportunities. In November, UD was named by the Princeton Review and *Entrepreneur* magazine as No. 15 in Undergraduate Schools for Entrepreneurship Studies, the 11th consecutive year for a top-25 ranking.

“The University of Dayton’s outstanding academics are the chief reason we chose it for this book, and we strongly recommend it to applicants,” says Robert Franek, Princeton Review’s senior vice president and the book’s publisher and author.

Building our reputation

With a focus on building the University’s national reputation, UD announced in October that it is elevating the role of marketing and communications, naming Molly Wilson to the new role of vice president for marketing and communications. The new division includes the Media Production Group, media relations, marketing and communications, including the *University of Dayton Magazine*.

The new division will develop overarching, integrated strategies for building the University’s reputation, including elevating the quality of its academics, scholarship and research and impact of programs.

“It’s an honor to help tell the stories of the inspiring people, programs and research that are making a profound impact on our society,” said Wilson, who earned a master’s in higher education administration from UD in 2008.
Community means everyone

If you know only one thing about UD, it’s that community matters.

But what does “community” mean?

“As members of a ‘community,’ our experiences are all different,” said Brett Slaughenhaupt, a junior English major. “But we can still stand in solidarity with one another.”

To reinforce that message, the Student Government Association passed the Community Means Everyone resolution Nov. 13 after months of planning and collaboration across campus.

Among the provisions of the resolution is a call for student organizations to treat all members of the University community with dignity and respect and to hold accountable any actions that do not represent UD’s Catholic, Marianist values.

The resolution, sponsored by junior Ryan Wray, SGA director of campus unity, also calls for SGA to form a council of student organization executives to advance the experiences of underrepresented students.

Organizations that do not reflect the resolution’s provisions are ineligible for SGA funding.

Slaughenhaupt, SGA chair of special programs, promoted it with the social media campaign #CommunityMeansEveryone. He asked followers to sign an image of the resolution and tweet it back. In the first 48 hours, SGA received more than 100 signatures from students and student organizations. What was unexpected, he said, were the signatures received from staff, faculty, alumni and parents.

“It shows it’s not just for the students,” he said of the resolution. “It affects change in the wider community ... it doesn’t just end with our campus.”

Child advocates, not victims

Children can be key to ending human trafficking.

Faculty member Tony Talbott and advocate Theresa Flores ’07 are teaming up with Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine to provide a free online manual for Ohio schools, youth counselors, after-school programs and anti-human trafficking organizations to develop anti-human trafficking education for students.

Aimed at middle and high school students, The Human Trafficking Prevention Education Guidance for Implementation of Youth Programs can be presented by educators or counselors in one or two hours or class periods depending on the setting, according to Talbott, who also works in the UD Human Rights Center.

Among the Dayton-area schools that have accepted the training is Chaminade Julienne, Dayton’s Marianist high school.

“Human trafficking is happening all across this country and right here in Ohio, but the signs of human trafficking can be easy to miss,” DeWine said. “By providing this manual, we hope that more schools will incorporate human trafficking education in their lesson plans to help teach students how to recognize this terrible crime.”

In school settings, the information can be seamlessly woven into classes. Math classes can analyze statistics and learn how to use them to produce accurate estimates. Social studies classes can examine laws, investigative techniques, and migration and trafficking flows. English classes can analyze survivor narratives and identify cultural forces that enable trafficking. Health classes can discuss prevention, awareness, health and safety related to trafficking, and grooming techniques used by traffickers.

Flores, who was trafficked beginning at age 15, has become an advocate for legislation, education and recovery for children who have been rescued. She told her story to UD Magazine in 2009.

Warning signs in children include truancy, running away, frequent travel, withdrawn behavior, depression, anxiety or fear; lack of control over a personal schedule, identification or travel documents; coached or rehearsed responses to questions; and a significant other who is noticeably older and/or controlling.

According to Talbott, the average age in Ohio that girls and boys are first prostituted is 11 or 12 years old.

“One think this just happens in developing nations and it’s ‘their problem,’” Talbott said. “This is our problem.”

UD human rights studies faculty and students were instrumental in advocacy that led to the enactment in 2010 of Ohio Senate Bill 235, which made human trafficking a criminal offense in Ohio.

—Shawn Robinson
Drones to the rescue

Responding to a 9-1-1 call, a drone swoops onto the scene of a car crash. Its pilot assesses the dangers and relays life-saving instructions to a bystander. In its cargo compartment, the drone delivers an automated external defibrillator, which the bystander applies to help save the crash victim’s life. And this help arrives a full three minutes before the ambulance.

Four students created that scenario and then played it out — complete with a wrecked car and flying drone — for audiences of faculty, students and community partners inside ArtStreet as part of this summer’s Collaboration Accelerator.

Students responded to the challenge from their sponsor, the Air Force Research Laboratory, to show in an emotionally impactful way that, when done correctly, the introduction of unmanned aerial systems will be a great thing for our society, said Reid Melville, an Air Force technology strategist.

“They did a fantastic job,” Melville said. “It’s not just about the operator’s experience, but about society’s response to the idea of drones.”

Daniela Lopez, a fifth-year civil engineering major, listed other items a drone could deliver in an emergency — life vest, water bottles, first aid kit, EpiPen.

The drone team was one of three teams in the second year of the Collaboration Accelerator, a paid internship program through UD’s Institute of Applied Creativity for Transformation. Through IACT, multidisciplinary student teams create innovative solutions for partner organizations. Twelve students participated.

Jeffrey Lecave, a junior mechanical engineering major, said working in a team with students whose expertise lay in video and communications gave the team creative insight into the potential of unmanned aerial systems.

“We could have [this technology] the next one to two years, if we put our minds to it,” Lecave said.

IACT staff use the Collaboration Accelerator to equip students with the imaginative and creative skills necessary to excel in the global workforce, regardless of their discipline or degree. This year’s other sponsors were Emerson’s Helix Innovation Center and the University of Dayton Research Institute, with student teams addressing questions about connectivity and additive manufacturing, respectively.

Of snow and ice

NASA has tapped the research of Umesh Haritashya, associate professor of geology, to add to its broad glacial melt toolbox.

Haritashya received a $630,000 grant from NASA to study how the heating of glacier lakes is accelerating the melting and retreat of glaciers in Asia’s Himalaya mountain range.

With a team of three geologists from other universities, Haritashya will develop and apply a set of tools to investigate the role of glacier lakes in speeding the thinning and retreat of glaciers in the Himalaya region of Nepal, Bhutan and China. The project starts Feb. 1 and is funded through 2020.

More than talking heads

This election season, news reporters turned to University of Dayton experts 128 times between July 1 and Nov. 15 for comment on candidates, issues and the voting public. Three experts — political science lecturer Dan Birdsong, assistant professor of political science Christopher Devine and marketing professor Randy Sparks — shared their insight with an audience of more than 512 million.
Flyer Pitch catches on worldwide

UD’s business plan competition has a new name, more prize money and a wider world reach.

On Oct. 7, Flyer Pitch kicked off its competitions in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, a new location this year. Rounds continued through October and November on UD’s Dayton campus and at the University of Dayton China Institute in Suzhou.

Logan Wacker, a senior entrepreneurship major, won $1,500 for top pitch during UD’s campus contest Oct. 29. His product, Career Lead, is a web platform for students to help guide their academic choices based on their career interests.

Among the pitches that moved onto the cameo round of the competition were Viba-Run, a sensing and control system for the visually impaired while training on a track, and Vonos, a noise-canceling technology developed by the U.S. Air Force Research Lab. Vonos won the $2,500 tech transfer prize sponsored by The Entrepreneurs Center in Dayton.

Now among the largest pitch competitions at the collegiate level, Flyer Pitch offers teams $150,000 in cash prizes and $150,000 in in-kind support.

The winning team from Asia will receive free travel to compete on campus in the competition finals March 25.

—Meagan Pant

Christmas in Malawi

They each carry an offering — a goat, a gourd, a drum or a bunch of bananas balanced on the head — to celebrate the birth of Jesus. These hand-carved figures, which traveled from Malawi to the University of Dayton, are part of a massive, intricate, 29-piece Nativity featuring native African woods. Baby Jesus measures 10 inches long and is carved from the tawny wood of the Mdima tree, while an 18-inch figure offering a basket of nuts is made of the reddish Blugamu wood. Matt Maroon ’06 commissioned the Nativity from the Kungoni Center of Culture and Art at the Catholic Mua Mission in Malawi. Maroon, who founded the nongovernmental organization Determined to Develop in Malawi, visited campus in October to talk with students and present the crèche to President Eric Spina, to whose presidency Maroon dedicated the artwork. The crèche, photographed as displayed on an 8-foot table, will greet guests to the president’s residence this holiday season. More crèches can be viewed as part of the annual At the Manager Marian Library exhibition at Roesch Library through Jan. 8.

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—Meagan Pant

Art of being

As senior Chaminade Scholars prepared to host a vocation workshop for their peers, we asked them to answer their own question: What does vocation really mean?

"Vocation is the intentional listening to who we're called to be and living out our truest life."

—Tom Tappel

"Our vocation is the way we are called to use our gifts to meet the needs of the world."

—Abbey Saurine

"Vocation is who we are. What we love. Whom we love. What we do. How we do things. When we do them. Who does them with us. When and why we stop doing them."

—Elizabeth Abrams

"It is the recognition that this very moment is given as gift of God and to be lived for His glory."

—Kieran Campbell
Feeding efficiency

How can a food pantry serve more clients while dealing with limited resources and volunteers? Three University of Dayton students studied operations at the Choice Food Pantry at Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley to provide solutions.

Operations and supply management majors Erin Mohney, Lauren O’Connor and Daniel Wolfe applied theories they learned in class to the real challenges facing the pantry — which serves nearly 16,000 people in the Dayton region every year, almost a third of them for the first time.

The food pantry made changes recommended by the students. They moved shelves to improve the flow and added extra shopping carts to cut down on waiting times.

The pantry also implemented color-coded tracking slips, which indicates whether someone will be shopping for fresh produce only or groceries and fresh produce.

“It’s a better process for the client because it’s quicker for them, and it’s also a clear indication to the volunteer what they’re here for,” said food pantry CEO Laura Roesch.

The project was part of an experiential learning program and competition for operations and supply seniors. The team won first place among 14 groups. They say it was a meaningful experience and a good fit for the University’s Catholic and Marianist mission.

“This gave me an opportunity to apply my operations knowledge and see what a difference it could make,” said O’Connor, who began working at Ace Hardware headquarters after graduation.

—Meagan Pant

60 years, $2 billion

The numbers are remarkable — 60 years since the founding of the UD Research Institute and more than $2 billion in universitywide sponsored research.

But what’s most significant is what those years and dollars have accomplished:

- Powering the Mars rover
- Protecting pilots
- Shielding the space shuttles
- Serving crime victims
- Regenerating cells
- Growing energy independence

“What motivates our researchers, and our organization as a whole, is the belief that the work we do here is going to improve the quality of life for everyone,” said Allan Crasto, UD Research Institute director.

Sponsored research at UD totaled $117.6 million in fiscal year 2016 — nearly 20 percent above the previous year and the highest annual total on record. UDRI researchers perform approximately 90 percent of total sponsored research at the University, with faculty sponsored research comprising the remainder.

Over six decades, UDRI has emerged as a globally recognized leader in the fields of advanced materials, structures, aerospace systems and propulsion, mechanical systems, and human factors. It has recently gained attention.
Two University of Dayton researchers are part of a team of researchers at The Helix Innovation Center that has developed an ice machine simulator designed to help achieve the U.S. Department of Energy’s target of reducing energy in ice machines by 10-15 percent by 2018.

This is the first patent application by Emerson for research performed at The Helix, the 40,000-square-foot research facility opened on UD’s property in late 2015.

The team tested its ice machine computer simulator within 5 percent accuracy of standard 500-pound capacity ice machines operating under various room air and water inlet temperatures.

Dave Myszka, co-director of the University of Dayton Design of Innovative Machines Laboratory, and Haithem Murgham, a doctoral student in the lab, created and assembled physics-based models of components within the ice machine.

“Within the simulation, we can quickly change components and evaluate the resulting performance,” Myszka said.

Ice machines continually cycle between ice formation and ice harvest modes, which presents a modeling challenge, researchers said. The model developed at The Helix simulates this cycle plus calculates changes in the system because of machine capacity and environmental conditions. “Cubers,” as they are known in the industry, produce anywhere between 50 pounds to 2 tons of ice per day for restaurants, hotels, convenience stores and hospitals.

for its excellence in sensors and alternative energies.

“We develop innovative technical solutions,” Crasto said. “More simply put, we solve problems — whether it’s by developing new materials or technologies, finding the best way to put new technologies into service, or both.”

Such innovation has attracted private and public funding, including state partnerships to develop new technologies, said John Leland, vice president for research at UD and executive director of the Research Institute.

“Our initiatives created jobs, fostered collaborations among businesses, attracted businesses to the area and fostered start-up tech companies in the Dayton region and throughout the state,” Leland said. “We were able to support the revival of Ohio industry and support the growth and vibrancy of the local community — an initiative driven by the University’s Marianist values.”

Penn State, University Park and Hershey Medical Center $49.3M
MIT $19.3M
Princeton $18.6M
SUNY Polytechnic $18.3M
University of Dayton $30.23M
National Science Foundation data, FY2014

IN GOOD COMPANY
Top 5 federally sponsored materials research programs
Julie Jung ’88, Kathy Grogan Crippen ’88 and Phil Crippen ’86 read UD Magazine in Costa Brava, Spain. In front of the castle of Begur. Julie writes, “Kathy and I were housemates at UD, but we first met in the fourth grade during recess. Here we are, celebrating the Flyers and 41 years of friendship.”

Mackenzie Hoops Pater ’09 and Jeffrey Pater ’08 were at the summit of Mount Rainier in Washington in June 2016 celebrating three years of marriage. Mackenzie told us that “the guide said only vitals and essentials should be taken to the top — of course we snuck in the UD Magazine.”

Loretta Good ’97, writes, “I read my University of Dayton Magazine in Chicago at the 87th national convention of Sigma Kappa Sorority. During a themed event, you were to represent your favorite sports team. I had on Flyer attire from my hat to my flip-flops. Go UD!”

Kathryn Gardocki Sokol ’14 writes, “My husband, Adam Sokol ’14, and I recently took a honeymoon cruise to Alaska. The glacier and mountains behind us are just one of the amazing views of scenery we got to experience on our trip. It was truly unforgettable!”

Lisa Smith ’86 writes, “We attended my son and daughter’s graduation from the Devil Pups 10-day leadership course at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. So grateful to the men and women who serve our country and defend our freedom. Go Flyers! God bless America! Oorah!” This picture includes her sister Susan DeWillie Costa ’78, second from the left.

Owen Kilbane ’69 enjoys reading the University of Dayton Magazine outside Michael Lynott’s pub while on a recent trip to Achill Island, County Mayo, Ireland. Lynott’s is known for being the smallest pub in Ireland.

Alaina Maguire Schools ’94 writes, “Karen Forziati Bressler ’94 (right) and I were reading our UD Magazine at Barefoot Landing in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on a family vacation. We fell right into step of UD days where we lived together for all four years. We had a great week and spent much time reminiscing about UD, inspiring some future Flyers among the kids!”

Kara Esler ’14 and her boyfriend, Brian Conneighton ’15, enjoyed their vacation to Prague and Vienna and brought along their UD Magazine for the memorable trip. She writes, “The trip was amazing, and both places have incredible history. I have never taken a trip like this before and I cannot wait to go back to explore some more. I got to travel and learn so much with my very best friend.”

Father Patrick McDaid, S.M. ’95, brought his UD Magazine along to help celebrate Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Altar of St. Thomas for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Tom Rock ’88 with his fiancé, Terry Cosentino, read the UD Magazine in Amsterdam in July. Tom and Terry were on a Rhine Valley riverboat cruise and visited Prague, Czech Republic, Germany and Amsterdam.

Beth Montgomery Meyer ’84 had the UD Magazine with her to share with family: “Three generations of UD Flyers at the Foltz Family Reunion on Virginia Beach.” Back row left to right: current student Adam Briscoe, Beth, Frank Masterson ’64, Jim Briscoe ’90. Front row: Jeanne Foltz Blacker ’58, Leslie Foltz Masterson ’64.

Jeff Morlan ’85 reads UD Magazine at the peak of Beartooth Pass in Wyoming, elevation 10,947 feet. “We accompanied four other couples on our annual motorcycle adventure in late June. Stops included Deadwood, South Dakota, Devil’s Tower in Wyoming, Red Lodge, Montana, and Yellowstone National Park. Let’s get Flyered Up!”
At home in Dayton

It’s never too late to reinvent your life. Just ask Karen Spina, who’s living out the advice she gives her own children: “Find your passion and follow it.”

In her early days at the University of Dayton, she’s taken a highly visible role in her husband’s presidency as they forge a path together at a dizzying pace.

The couple has crisscrossed the country, from Chicago to Los Angeles, to meet alumni. They’ve shared dinners at Marianist student communities, kayaked with the president’s emissaries on the Great Miami River, opened up the president’s residence for gatherings, joined students, faculty and alumni at the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass in the chapel, cheered on the Flyer football team and socialized at faculty receptions.

“I was ready for the next chapter in our lives. Even Eric says I’m reborn,” says Spina, who juggled a 22-year career as a software engineer with raising two children, both now at Skidmore College.

Her athletic rebirth began thanks to her children, who expressed an interest in learning the martial arts. Karen, at 42, earned her black belt in karate. At 43, she completed an IronGirl triathalon — swimming a mile, biking 20 miles and finishing with a 5K run.

Today, she runs 4 or 5 miles daily, enjoys yoga and Pilates, and, even as the days grow cooler, meets friends for water-treading workouts in a neighbor’s backyard pool. It was here that she learned about the “Scarecrow Row” display at Oakwood’s annual Family Fall Festival. She invited students to the house, cooked brunch and worked with them to create a jaunty Rudy Flyer scarecrow, complete with a pumpkin in his arm, for the exhibit.

“It was so much fun. Both of our kids are great artists, and Eric’s mother was an art teacher. I always had an artist’s closet full of supplies because I love to create,” she says.

And, at heart, she’s a teacher, too. The youngest of four children, she earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Rutgers University. In graduate school at the University of Rochester, she studied computer science but also took sign language classes. “I wanted to be a math teacher for deaf students,” she says.

Instead, she became a software engineer who eventually “fell into teaching math” at her children’s school when a teacher unexpectedly went on medical leave.

Spina, who says her family is the most important part of her life, met her husband through her brother, Ed, who taught with him in the mechanical and aerospace engineering department at Syracuse University.

“I met Eric when visiting my brother but got to know him better when my brother asked us both to be godparents for his son. One weekend we babysat together, then Eric asked my brother for permission to ask me out,” she recounts. “I knew on the first date I wanted to marry him. We planned to go to dinner, a play and a jazz club, but ended up talking for hours over dinner.

“He’s the complete package — a good person who’s kind and a wonderful listener.”

The couple found the University of Dayton to be the complete package, too.

“It’s the first place he interviewed once determining he would consider a presidency, and we said, ‘This is it.’” Spina says. “The Marianists are so warm and welcoming. The students are engaging, the community and University programs are fantastic, and the campus is gorgeous. It just felt right.”

—Teri Rizvi
In May 2016, eight undergraduate students began collecting, archiving and publicizing instances of moral courage — standing up on behalf of others in danger, regardless of the risk in doing so. The place was Ferguson, Missouri.

For months before, students had trained and researched with whom they should speak and what they should ask. It was not easy. Some activists were known only by their Twitter handles. Others did their work with little fanfare — the librarian who taught students when the schools closed, the peacekeeper who on the streets mediated between residents and officers. Jimmie Briggs, a journalist with St. Louis and Ferguson roots, helped students make the connections and develop the relationships needed to capture the testimonies.

When they arrived, the students put on headphones and held out microphones, asking 33 strangers to expose their souls and speak on issues of race and place, reality and hope. These voices add depth and texture to the headlines and protests that followed the police shooting death of Michael Brown Aug. 9, 2014.

In partnership with PROOF, a nonprofit advocating visual storytelling for human rights and peacebuilding, and led by assistant professor of human rights Joel R. Pruce, the project continues to bear witness. At a September campus forum, the students presented their work alongside stories of protest from Ayotzinapa, the college in Guerrero, Mexico, where 43 students disappeared. An exhibit of Ferguson photographs and testimony, Ferguson Voices: Disrupting the Frame, will be on display Jan. 17 – Feb. 3 in the Roesch Library first floor gallery, before traveling to other exhibit sites in Dayton, St. Louis and Ferguson. For more voices, including those of the student participants, visit www.facebook.com/moralcourageproject/.
Marty Casey  
**Founder, Show Me Arts Academy**

I told my husband, “Oh, I’m ‘bout to go over there.” He said, “No, you don’t need to go.” I said, “Yes I do need to go over there because, if this was my baby, I would want someone to come over and be there for me.” He was like, “You don’t even know her. You don’t know them. You’ll get hurt.” I said, “And that’s what’s wrong with us now.” We feel like because it’s not personal, since I don’t know the person that I can’t have compassion for the person. I said, “As long as we continue to operate in that manner and not just simply take the time out to embrace somebody in a bad situation, we’ll never figure out what’s going on.”

But we were weeks into it. **I found myself feeling empowered.**

Emily Davis  
**Community advocate, third-generation Ferguson resident**

I have learned so much in the last 20 months, like stuff ... I just didn’t understand from being white, from growing up white, from being raised white that I didn’t understand. A lot of it has to do with dialogues and conversations that took place at protests, which inspired me to do more research on my own, to look things up, to read things, whether I was comfortable with it or not comfortable with it or whatever — **there were things that I needed to listen to.** ... So those sort of relationships really inspired me.

Greg Casem  
**Veteran officer, Ferguson Police Department**

You gotta remember I’ve been here 27 years, so I’m a grandpa here. And the protesters don’t have to like me. But I **tell our officers, you treat people fairly, and they’ll treat you fairly.** [People] would tell me problems, whether in their own home or outside of their home, because they felt comfortable. I would want you to talk to me. I don’t want kids to be scared of me. Those parents that say you better watch it or he’ll take you to jail, that hurts me ‘cause I don’t want a kid to feel that he can’t approach me. I want families to approach me because there are problems that we can’t see.

Darren Seals  
**Anti-violence advocate, union autoworker**

I kind of like tell people all the time, if you wasn’t here when it happened, you kinda missed out on a great opportunity, ‘cause on TV, it looked like a warzone. **It was like 98 percent family reunion, 2 percent riot.** ... And everybody getting along. I seen enemies, I seen cats that I had beef with growin’ up, and they seen me, like bro, bro, come give me a hug. I’m like, that’s what’s up. It only lasted about two weeks, but it still felt good while it happened.

*Editor’s note: Seals was murdered Sept. 6, 2016*
A tree for Father Burns

Near the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, a honey locust tree stands in honor of Father Norbert Burns, S.M. ’45. It’s fitting — a tree may be the only thing on campus with roots quite as enduring as his.

The former religious studies professor has taught more than 27,000 students, most in his popular Christian marriage course. Burns also spent 45 years providing marriage counseling in his office until midnight.

“I believe in practicing in my class what I teach, so I greeted my students at the door as they came in and hugged them at the end of class if they let me,” Burns said from his home on Sawmill Road.

“I’ve had such a great life and have done exactly what I wanted to do,” said Burns, who the University honored with the tree planting. “The tree is a symbol of life, of the embrace of God and creation. Since I had spent my whole preaching life in oneness, it just seemed that the tree was the best symbol of all that.”

—Courtney Mocklow ’17

Cracking diversity’s code

“Every organism has to control the use of their genes, and the mechanisms to regulate them are somewhat finite,” said Tom Williams, evolutionary developmental biologist.

The associate professor of biology is using the lessons of the fruit fly to understand the evolution of “genetic switches.” This fall, he received a four-year, $839,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, which will help support a laboratory staff that includes two doctoral students and eight undergraduates.

Lessons learned from fruit flies could help speed up similar studies on the significance of switch sequences in humans, he said.

Under his previous funding, Williams developed an investigative model using color patterns on the abdomens of fruit flies to study the ways in which DNA sequences function to switch genes.

ASK A MARIANIST

Distinctive

What’s at the heart of being a Marianist?

We asked that of Father William J. Meyer, S.M., provincial assistant for religious life of the Marianist Province of the United States.

The distinctive trait at the heart of anyone or anything which is “Marianist” is probably the combination of two characteristics: zeal and mission. Look at the dynamic statue of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, founder of the Marianist Family, which graces the plaza behind UD’s Kennedy Union to notice that Blessed Father Chaminade is represented as filled with a zealous energy, a person definitely on a mission. (See statue at bit.ly/UDM_Chaminade_statue.)

From where did this concern for “zeal and mission” in the Marianist tradition emanate? In founding the Marianist Family — the first lay groups of the Sodality of Bordeaux (1800), the Marianist sisters (the Daughters of Mary Immaculate, 1816) and the Marianist brothers and priests (the Society of Mary, 1817), Blessed William Joseph took inspiration from the Rule of Saint Benedict. In what many refer to the crowning chapter of his Rule, Benedict speaks of the importance of “good zeal.” Like Saint Benedict, Blessed Father Chaminade liked the word “zeal” — a powerful word that is used in the Scriptures. And there is something about Benedict and Chaminade that is zealous. As I look at the UD statue of Chaminade, I see energy, a fire burning within, the fire of the Holy Spirit — the good zeal of God’s grace.

Marianists encourage one another and others they encounter using our saintly founder’s words: “The essential is the interior.” If we pay attention to the interior life of God’s gracefulpromptings, the direction of the Holy Spirit will help each of us do our part to bear Jesus, as Mary did, to a waiting world.

Blessed Father Chaminade believed that we could best be attentive to this presence and movement of God within by being part of a community, religious and lay, as mission-driven members of the Church. Chaminade believed that all Marianists and indeed all baptized members of the Church are in a permanent mission of responding with zeal to this grace of bringing about the Kingdom of Jesus.

Going green with daymag

Keep up with your Flyer friends and news while going green by subscribing to the digital UD Magazine. Those wishing to stop receiving the print issue can instead be emailed a reminder four times a year when the digital edition is available to be read, either online or via the magazine’s app for mobile and tablet.

To go green, email your name, address and email to magazine@udayton.edu.
Seeing red
“The new jobs don’t pay as much as the old jobs did, and the reality is that native-born folks were just not interested.”
—SOCIOLGY ASSISTANT PROFESSOR JAMIE LONGAZEL, IN THE NEW YORK TIMES; HE WROTE THE BOOK UNDOCUMENTED FEARS ABOUT IMMIGRATION STRUGGLES IN HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

“I’m important to remind ourselves that there’s a reason why we do this, and it is because we’re Catholic that we do.”
—AMY ANDERSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS, ON MUSLIM STUDENTS BEING WELCOME ON CATHOLIC CAMPUSES IN THE NOV. 4 NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER

“[Pope Francis] is interested in getting people to have a primary relationship with Jesus Christ, and he’s willing to communicate that in any way he can.”
—JANA BENNETT, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGICAL ETHICS, IN THE USA TODAY MAGAZINE ON THE POPE’S USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

“Development is not just about economic imperatives, and other quantitative things, it also entails informed knowledge.”
—HISTORY PROFESSOR JULIUS AMIN, IN THE CONVERSATION SEPT. 19, ON AMERICA’S IGNORANCE ABOUT AFRICA

“People have usually considered walls to be a bad thing. They are designed for keeping out what is different.”
—JUAN SANTAMARINA, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, IN THE U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT “BEST COUNTRIES” BLOG SEPT. 26

“The demolition of the camp is a largely empty gesture that only addresses superficial, immediate aspects of the deeper underlying issues involved.”
—CAMILO PEREZ-BUSTILLO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UD’S HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER, IN THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR ON THE CLOSING OF THE “JUNGLE” REFUGEE CAMP IN CALAIS, FRANCE

Making of the maker space

Six engineering students have founded the Makers Club, a student-run organization that provides hands-on opportunities for students to complete innovation projects conceived in and out of the classroom.

“It’s a way to bridge the gap between the classroom and the real world. You come out of school not knowing certain things, which you learn later at a job or elsewhere,” said senior mechanical engineering major Jack Makuch. “The goal of the club is to bring innovation into reality.”

Club founders, who include Cory Stuffelbeam, Rachel Nolan, Sean Conway, Ian Fisher and George Padavick, received grants from Ford Motor Co., UD’s Student Government Association and the ETHOS program to equip room 006 in Kettering Labs with a welder, metal cutting tools, a 3-D printer and all the materials needed to make the things they dream come true.

Faculty remembered

Joseph J. Kepes 9-18-16
Professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Physics

“[His] participants were fully immersed in physics, meeting six days a week, all day and into the evenings.” —John Erdei, chair of the Department of Physics, on the Summer Intensive Physics Program, founded by Kepes

Panagiotis A. “Takis” Tsonis 9-3-16
Professor of biology, TREND Center director

“The department’s current research success was built around Takis’ efforts and spirit; he was one of a very few scientists who could make research sing.” —Mark Nielsen, professor and chair of the Department of Biology
Records smashed

Women’s soccer wins A-10 championship, beating No. 1 seed 7-0


The first title, in 1996, and this year’s were won in Rhode Island. Mike Tucker, who retired at the end of this season, was head coach for all 10 titles.

The seven Flyer goals set the A-10 tournament record for goals in a single match.

“Soccer is an imperfect game,” Tucker said. “This one was as close to perfect as any Flyer game I’ve seen.”

The Flyers were not scored on in the tournament, defeating Saint Louis 2-0 in the quarterfinals and George Washington 3-0 in the semifinals. Goalkeeper Kaelyn Johns broke the A-10 tournament record for individual shutouts.

Junior Alexis Kiehl broke the tournament record for points (12) and goals scored (5). Senior Libby Leedom tied the A-10 championship single game record for points (7).

Kiehl and Leedom each had a goal and an assist in the Flyers’ NCAA tournament game in Columbus against Ohio State, but the Flyers lost 3-2, ending their season at 9-10-3 overall.

“I could see the team getting better,” said Tucker of the games leading up to the tournament, “but then something just clicked for them. The tournament was as good a three-game stretch as we’ve ever had.”

The end of any season, Tucker said, brings with it a total shift. “You’ve been going 200 miles per hour,” he said. “You’re on the field every day.”

This year, with retirement, the shift is permanent. He said he won’t miss the sleepless nights, an occupational hazard of coaching.

“I will miss,” he said, “the players, the coaches, the interactions.”

He talked of the players as a father might talk of his children.

“It’s hard,” he said. “But you just have to let them grow up. Let them make mistakes. But you give them the information hoping they don’t. The best days for me are when alums come through the door. Makes you feel you’ve been doing something pretty good.”

He also observed that coaches tend to dwell more on the agony of defeat than the joy of victory. But that 7-0 championship win will bring him joy for many years.

Klesse gift aids soccer

Bill Klesse ’68 majored in chemical engineering. His wife, Margie ’68, in chemistry. She was a Flyerette; he, a four-year starter, co-captain and two-time MVP of the Flyer men’s soccer team.

Now, their names appear next to Fitz Hall on the Margie and Bill Klesse Soccer Complex, which gives UD, according to men’s coach Dennis Currier, “one of the best practice facilities in Division I soccer.”

Women’s coach Mike Tucker compares the complex to some teams’ playing venues and envisions visiting teams seeing it and saying, “This is a practice facility?”

The men’s and women’s fields gain a new entrance to the facility, covered benches and seating, as well as wind shields with signage to increase privacy and decrease traffic noise. Other upgrades include new goals, additional storage and an area of artificial turf between the fields for specialized instruction.
New coach, fast transition

But new women’s basketball coach knows her team well

On Sept. 7, Shauna Green was beginning her second year as an assistant coach for the Northwestern University women’s basketball team. On that day in Dayton, Jim Jabir, head coach for women’s basketball at Dayton, announced, “I am resigning today from the best job I’ve ever had. ... I feel it’s now time to take care of my family and my personal health.”

On Sept. 11, it was announced in Dayton that Green, an assistant at Dayton from 2012 to 2015, would be the new head coach.

As a player at Canisius, Green became the only women’s basketball player in school history to score more than 2,000 points. She also ranked second there in career rebounds (910).

“Basketball is my passion,” said Green.

But she did not set out to be a coach. “I was a business and marketing major,” she said. “I first thought about coaching in my junior year.”

After graduation, she planned to play overseas. An injured ankle derailed that plan. Instead she took an assistant’s job at Loras College. After three years, she was Loras’ head coach. Then followed stints at Providence, Dayton and Northwestern.

On Sept. 14, she was back in Dayton to be introduced as head coach at a news conference. That night she was making an in-home visit to a recruit.

“The timing of the change was hard,” Green admitted. Rules allow teams to practice two hours per week during the month of September. While taking over those practices, Green had to pick up on recruiting because September is a contact period. She spent most of the month on the road. She was familiar with recruiting for Dayton, however, having recruited many of the current team’s players.

“I recruited or coached all but two of them,” Green said.

Having those relationships established has eased the transition. Green believes coaching “is about relationships. It used to be that, as players, you just listened to the coach. Now, the players have to know that you care about them.”

Players have to know that they must work hard. But also important, Green said, is that “we show them there is a reason for what we want them to do, a purpose to it, a reason why we do something. We need to say, ‘Here’s what we expect and why.’”

She’s been happy with the team’s mentality in practice. About early preseason practices, she said, “Only one practice did they start slow; they were not at the energy level they need.”

She did add, “It was at 6 a.m., though.”

—Thomas M. Columbus
Alone in the Rec

BY JEREMIAH BONSU ’17

In 2013, my freshman year at Dayton, I went to our gym, the RecPlex, every day. I’m talking every single day.

Classes were done? Off to the Rec.

Friday night? Rec.

Saturday morning? Rec.

I probably spent more time hooping than I spent in my dorm room. I think other kids noticed. But not like, “Oh, that kid’s really good at basketball.” Nah, it was more like, “Oh, that Jeremiah kid down the hall? He’s a weirdo. He never goes out.”

I remember spending my first Halloween on campus alone in the Rec, where the only sounds in the whole place were my bouncing basketball and my sneakers screeching on the waxed hardwood floor.

All the hours I spent there — I kept telling myself they’d be worth it. If there was one thing I had learned, it was that I should never give up. And after freshman year was over, I went back home and continued to work hard in the gym.

I was determined to get a chance to play on a D-I squad, and I was going to do anything to make that a possibility. At the beginning of my sophomore year, a few days after dropping off my résumé and cover letter at Dayton’s athletic department, I received an email from a graduate assistant that said I would get a 10-minute tryout. It didn’t sound like much, but I was intent on making the most of it.

I was sitting on the bench with a ball in my lap after practice one day when Bill Comar, Dayton’s director of basketball operations, sat down next to me.

“Hey, Bonsu, I’ve got a question for you.”

My heart skipped a beat, but I didn’t say anything.

“You know the situation we’re in with losing all these bodies. How would you like to be…”

“Yes!”

We both laughed.

“You didn’t let me finish!”

“Yes! Yes! Yes!”

I was going to be a walk-on for the Dayton Flyers.

I haven’t played a single second yet. But I know my time will come. It always has. It’s just a matter of how much effort I put into the game.

I want to be a coach. And not just any coach — I want to lead a top-tier D-I program. Trust me, I’m going to be putting in the work to achieve this dream. I don’t know any other way.

See The Players’ Tribune at bit.ly/UDM_Bonsu for the original, longer version of Bonsu’s essay.
Hard knocks

Susan Davies has seen up-close the impact of concussions on children — on a student’s ability to learn and on educators unequipped to address the brain’s measured healing. The UD associate professor is now educating others to create a community of care that helps students return to learn.
Since the school year began, 14 students had visited Kim LaScola’s office at Hudson Middle School near Akron, Ohio, with concussions — heads banged in football games or knocked around during classroom horseplay. And it was just October.

As the school nurse and a registered nurse at Akron Children’s Hospital, LaScola understands the protocol for recognizing traumatic brain injury and developing post-injury progress plans for her students. She says her word alone, however, often isn’t enough to convince teachers that recovering students might require additional academic assistance when they return to the classroom.

“If we respond appropriately and we set those appropriate academic and environmental adjustments in place as soon as students return to school, they can recover quite quickly. On the other hand, if students come back to an educational environment that is not understanding their unique needs, it can really do some physical damage and prolong their recovery.”

Davies uses what she calls the broken-leg analogy to make her point even more clear.

“You’re not going to put someone with a broken leg back in PE class, so likewise, if you have a child who’s coming back to school — and they can come back to school if they have symptoms — but they’re still experiencing headaches or light sensitivity and things like that, you shouldn’t be making them do a half day of standardized testing and then go to a pep rally,” Davies said.

School-based professionals with education and health care backgrounds, like LaScola, understand this. So did most of the 40-plus educators, psychologists, Ohio State Support Team members, physical trainers, injury prevention coordinators and others assembled at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources complex to hear Davies’ presentation. It was up to them, however, to bring that information back to their schools, their communities and their Ohio Department of Education regions to develop a team-based model to ensure their students could safely and effectively return to the classroom.

Community of Care

Damien was an eighth-grade boy who was in a car accident that resulted in a broken leg, numerous cuts and abrasions, and a concussion. His family, teachers and medical providers tended to focus first and foremost on his visible injuries. However, Damien was also struggling with concussion symptoms that made the transition back to school particularly difficult. The night before he returned to school, it took Damien several hours to fall asleep. He had a terrible headache and was filled with anxiety about what to say to people and how to catch up on all the schoolwork he had missed.

“Damien” isn’t a real student, and his full story is one of the case studies Davies presents at training sessions and uses for analysis in her book, Managing Concussions in Schools: A Guide to Recognition, Response, and Leadership. Readers and participants are asked to discuss the warning signs students exhibit that indicate the need for educational adjustments and the issues school staff should recognize and respond to in such cases.

All of the examples presented could easily be composites of scenarios school staff face on
a regular basis, including Davies during her career as a school psychologist.

“During my first year, I had a couple of cases where the students were presenting with unusual profiles, unusual patterns of strengths and weaknesses,” she said. “After delving a little deeper into their medical histories and some other things I’d learned in my own training, I’d learned they’d had previous traumatic brain injuries that weren’t revisited in their educational evaluations that happened before I came on the scene.”

Teachers kept flagging those children for potential learning disabilities or cognitive delays, but they weren’t qualifying for special educational services, Davies said. After all, the children had recovered physically. They seemed just fine.

A more detailed parent interview revealed past incidences of traumatic brain injury that hadn’t been reported to the school system.

“One of the girls I evaluated had been hit by a car when she was 2,” Davies said. “Everyone was very excited when she recovered, but when she started school, some of the repercussions only became evident when she needed to sustain attention for longer periods of time and engage in more complex social situations. She actually presented as a typical student who had a traumatic brain injury, but because it had happened in preschool, it really wasn’t on our school’s radar.”

When Davies began pursuing a doctorate in school psychology, she said she “made it her mission” to use her dissertation research to help teams of school professionals better understand brain injuries and how they could present in different ways. There were emotional, social and behavioral issues that often manifested, in addition to academic difficulties.

Immediate identification and treatment for the concussion is the first step. That’s taking place more often thanks to increased awareness of the danger of brain injury and the need for a quick response although nearly 33 percent of concussions in athletes go unreported, according to a paper in the Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine.

What follows is just as critical, which is why Davies developed a concussion team model to ensure students’ return to educational settings happen as safely as possible without long-term damage.

One person is designated as the concussion team leader, or central communicator. This person could be a school nurse, school psychologist, counselor or administrator. He or she is responsible for receiving the injury reports and managing the documented return-to-learn process everyone else will follow.

The student (or parent, for a younger

‘My strategy with schools for concussion cases is helping them understand that if they have the right sort of supports and adjustments to the workload and academic environments in place, those kids can get better in a few days or weeks.’

—Susan Davies
child) should clearly communicate her symptoms, educational struggles and concerns, and the parent should help the child adhere to the plan while submitting any medical notes or instructions to the school. Academic team members should follow guidelines for recommended academic adjustments to excuse a student from a test or allow a student to opt out of activities that require extensive computer or tablet use, for example, as light sensitivity often follows traumatic brain injury.

School psychologists, counselors and speech language pathologists can work as consultants for more complicated cases and help create the plans that include explanations for certain academic adjustments. The medical team members provide the diagnosis and management of the injuries, while a school nurse can monitor in-school symptoms and help evaluate whether or not a student should stay in school or receive academic adjustments.

Athletic team members would manage the student’s return to the practice and playing field.

For the plan to unfold successfully, all team members have to maintain consistent communication, using the concussion team leader as a focal point.

“My strategy with schools for concussion cases is helping them understand that if they have the right supports and adjustments to the workload and academic environments in place, those kids can get better in a few days or weeks,” Davies said. “Occasionally you’ll have kids who’ll have persisting problems beyond a couple of months, but that’s not as common.”

**HIDDEN TRAUMA**

Although managing traumatic brain injury in school settings has been Davies’ area of research for more than 10 years, she’s seen an uptick in interest during the last five with the national attention on sports-related concussions, particularly among football and soccer players. Laws requiring return-to-play protocols exist in all 50 states for student athletes, and school-based and recreational coaches receive concussion recognition and management training. Parents also receive that protocol when signing up their children for sports.

While athletic personnel play an important role in Davies’ concussion team model, she says traumatic brain injury is more likely to occur in more routine settings. General recreational activities, playground injuries and bicycle accidents are leading causes of concussion, especially among younger children. Abuse at home is also a culprit.

“You can’t forget about these kids who’ve fallen, been in fights or been in car accidents,” she said. “Concussions aren’t just a sports thing.”

LaScola, the Hudson Middle School nurse, has even seen students who sustained concussions from plain old “horsing around” and bumping heads, hitting their heads on walls or crashing into bleachers during a game in physical education class.

This is why Davies wants all school staff and educational personnel to be aware of the importance of recognizing and responding to concussions — young children are at high risk. The underdevelopment of the younger brain and a physical stature that makes young children’s heads and brains proportionally larger than the rest of their bodies make them more susceptible to brain injury compared to adults, Davies said. Developing motor skills and mobility also contribute to that risk.

But making the link between a child’s fall from the monkey bars and their lack of attention in a kindergarten class doesn’t often happen in a school setting, to that child’s detriment.

“In comparison to students who sustain severe brain injuries, students who sustain concussions aren’t necessarily going to be experiencing prolonged, severe academic and behavioral issues,” Davies said. “They’re not likely going to qualify for special education, but schools need to know what to do with them, too.”

Ideally, the student would be getting enough rest and sleep following the injury, and limit physical and cognitive activity during that period. While students usually get physical rest, Davies stresses the importance of resting the brain, a step more likely to be neglected in the process. Schoolwork and technology access should be limited. Students who stay home from school should avoid extensive computer; video game, television and smartphone use. Such activities can prolong the healing process and even exacerbate symptoms, she said.

Easier said than done, said some of the attendees in Columbus.

“It’s a constant fight,” said LaScola, noting that tablets and other handheld devices are frequently a requirement in the classroom. Resistance often comes from students and other members who should be key parts of the team model.

Returning to school should be a gradual process, going from partial day attendance to full-day attendance with some academic adjustments (limited tests and homework), full-day attendance with no academic limitations and only physical limitations, and finally, full school participation, including extracurriculars.

“If you do the right things, concussion symptoms will get better,” Davies said. “If you don’t, students can have protracted recovery and, should they sustain a second concussion before the first has resolved, that’s really when we see the potential for more permanent impairment.”

**SPREADING THE WORD**

The attendees at the Ohio Department of Health workshop didn’t doubt the value of Davies’ presentation and the team model approach to helping their students return successfully to academic and extracurricular activity. Assembling the team, however, was more of a struggle.

“This isn’t a priority for a lot of teachers,” said Megan Trowbridge, a state support team member specializing in assistive technology. She attended with Erin Oleen, another state support team specialist in accommodations, modifications and alternate assessment. They serve Region 14, a mostly rural area of Southern Ohio between Columbus and Cincinnati. (Ohio’s schools are divided into 16 regions.)
Trowbridge and Oleen said they share information with schools in their regions but still have trouble emphasizing the importance of the team model for helping students recover from brain injury. For their area, the distance between schools and medical centers hamper the communication process, and a lack of resources also presents hurdles.

Because it’s impossible for Davies to make site visits to all interested communities, she hopes to train as many State Support Team members as possible so they can then lead the training sessions for their regions. She’s also created online trainings through the Ohio Department of Health project, and a University of Dayton graduate student, Maria Tedesco, is completing her graduate research on the effectiveness of online training programs.

Tedesco is studying the efficacy of an online training that Davies developed, which integrates information from existing programs, including the Centers for Disease Control’s Heads Up program and Columbus’ Nationwide Children’s Hospital’s Concussion Clinic Resources for Education, and piloted the training in nine Ohio schools. She gathered background information about participants’ role in their schools and past concussion training and experience. The assessment included questions related to concussion knowledge, recognition and response, and Tedesco is completing data collection to determine the training’s effectiveness.

Another of Davies’ graduate assistants, Allie Hundley, is completing trainings in low-income settings. She received a grant from the Ohio Injury Prevention Program to conduct sessions with parents of preschoolers in Head Start programs to recognize and respond to head injuries. All parents receive bike helmets and are taught to properly fit them.

“Preschoolers are mobile, but their gross motor skills aren’t fully developed yet,” Hundley said, mentioning why she targeted children ages 3-5. “They’re also at that exploratory stage where they want to move around a lot.”

All of which create a perfect brew for accidents leading to brain injury.

Hundley scheduled four training sessions during the fall and hopes to run more during the spring semester before she graduates. Hundley is in her third and final year of the education specialist program at UD and hopes to go into the field of school psychology.

Davies’ model can be applied to any educational setting, even as different challenges emerge with older students in high school and college.

They’re old enough to describe their symptoms and learn to advocate for themselves, she said, but actually doing so is a different story. In her first year at UD, Davies encountered a student who experienced multiple concussions in high school and an accident while at college. Although he looked fine and seemed fine, he was experiencing some “pretty serious” ramifications from those head injuries, Davies said. He slept a lot, reported constant headaches and had weak academic performance.

“Really nothing was sinking in,” she said.

The young man’s mother was his advocate, calling to wake him up and explaining his situation to professors, but Davies worked to get him a graduate student “coach” who could help him learn to self-advocate.

“I can’t imagine being an 18- or 19-year-old college student and getting a brain injury, because one of the effects of a brain injury is impaired self-awareness and impaired judgment,” Davies said. “When you are still just a couple of years fresh out of your parents’ house and you’re living away from home and you have a roommate, how can you take care of that?”

She’s also taught one of her graduate students to conduct trainings for resident assistants at UD and workers at RecPlex to develop skills in concussion recognition and response, and help the broader campus community — including disabilities services offices and students in general — gain greater understanding of brain injury.

“I do a lot of training of the trainers, because they’re the ones who have the credibility in their school buildings,” Davies says. “Those parents and teachers and their school don’t know me, but if I can train their trusted school psychologist or their school nurse to go in and help set up a concussion management team, it’s kind of an efficient way of outreach.”

The 40-plus attendees at Davies’ October training were a start. So were the parents who picked up a helmet from one of Hundley’s sessions and the educators who completed one of Tedesco’s online training modules. Each one is contributing to the community of care, becoming part of the team to help students return to learn.
RUDY
The Making of an Icon
In the early 1980s, at a nearly sold-out UD Arena, a barnstormer crouched in one of the seating sections, trying to hide his big head among the crowd. Attached by a long rope tied to the Arena roof rafters, he leapt up and soared across the basketball court, cape flowing behind while fans laughed and pointed at the silly, but daring, mascot who brings them so much joy.

For more than 35 years, Rudy Flyer has captured the hearts of fans. The friendly, muscular mascot leads cheers at games, gives high-fives to fans and takes photos with children and alumni — all while fostering and supporting the University’s commitment to Flyer community.

But Rudy didn’t fly out of thin air. The beloved mascot was born at a basketball game Dec. 1, 1980, after years of spirit-filled, sometimes four-legged predecessors. The history of Rudy is a story that involves those who helped conceive him, as well as the Flyer Faithful who have cheered beside and supported him along the way.

The making of this modern Flyer icon began in France in 1880 with the opera *La Mascotte*, composed by Edmond Audran. According to the International University Sports Federation, the popularity of the opera hastened the translation of the word and concept into English by 1881.

The term was often applied to live animals that U.S. sports teams brought to games to intimidate opponents and entertain fans. The University of Dayton had its own livestock, such as a chicken who once appeared at a soccer game. In 1956, the *Flyer News* interviewed Pedro the Donkey, which the writer described as having “large, dreamy, brown eyes” and a red and blue blanket with the letter “D.” “I hope to be on the Flyers’ team for many years to come,” Pedro was quoted as saying.

But Pedro’s days — and those of live animal mascots everywhere — were numbered after the popular embrace of the Muppets, those plush, sarcastic creations of puppeteer Jim Henson.

According to the federation, teams in the late 1960s started creating Muppet-like mascots that were friendly with fans and good at helping teams with marketing and public relations efforts.

Up until the early 1970s, the University of Dayton didn’t have an official mascot. In 1972, Gene Schill, the director of athletic public relations and promotions, sent a letter to world-renowned cartoonist Milton Caniff.

In his letter, Schill wrote, “To the best of our knowledge, UD is the only college or uni-

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By Ryan Wilker ’16

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Above, Milton Caniff’s initial concept for the University’s D-Bird. Right, the mascot (in a slightly altered version) on a 1972 basketball program cover.
University in the country with the nickname of ‘Flyers,’ and it has been a source of irritation to the Department of Athletics that we have not had an official mascot or logo for use on decals, tee shirts, letterheads, etc.”

Ohio born and Dayton raised, Caniff had become famous for creating the comic strips Terry and the Pirates and Steve Canyon. When asked to draw UD’s mascot, Caniff inked the D-Bird — part bird, part plane to help represent the Flyers nickname while also paying tribute to Orville and Wilbur Wright, the inventors of powered flight.

Caniff described the D-Bird to Schill in a letter, now housed at the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum at Ohio State University.

“The drawing shows a winged-goggled-beaked-helmeted creature, carrying on its head a flashing, beacon-like device and brandishing four menacing legs each wearing a different kind of shoe (football, basketball, track and baseball),” Caniff wrote. “The blue helmet bears the U. of D. major letter in red. The bird’s bill and legs are also in the school’s traditional red color.

“The wings represent the Wright Flyer aircraft which gave the teams their nickname of Flyers. The shoes symbolize the major sports in which the University participates while the aggressive attitude of the bird diving out of the sun on its prey reflects the competitive spirit of the various athletic teams.

“Topping it all is the flashing light reminding the viewer that learning is the main issue of any university function. The participants in sports are there for an education. As an antenna, the symbol indicates that these athletes are in touch … they are with it!”

Dayton Daily News sports writer Hal McCoy called it “a weird little creature” when it debuted on a football program in fall 1972. But the D-Bird had huge wings attached to his back and two stubby legs, giving it a form with no hope of translating into a human-inhabited costume.

By the late 1970s, UD was ready to try again, and this time it wanted a walking, cheering mascot.

First, UD identified the person who would inhabit the costume. Ric Cengeri ’81 was an enthusiastic management major with a passion for basketball. He was discovered at the 1979-80 AIAW Women’s Basketball National Championship, hosted at the Arena. While waiting for the Flyers to take the court, Cengeri cheered on William Penn, later helping rally the William Penn fans to push their team to win in the overtime consolation game.

UD’s band director and cheerleading adviser took note and invited Cengeri to try out for the cheerleading squad.

“I was terrible,” Cengeri recalled. “I had all kinds of spirit, but I couldn’t do the lifts.”

The team kept Cengeri from potentially dropping fellow cheerleaders by having him entertain fans with mannequins and other skits.

Around this time, the band director approached Athletic Director Tom Frericks ’53 about getting a mascot costume, said Rory Falato ’77.

“Tom Frericks was intent on building up the basketball program,” said Falato, director of athletic and arena promotions at the time.

“He understood the benefits not just for the athletic department but the University as a whole.”

Frericks knew a competitive basketball team would attract students, and Rudy became part of refining the Flyer sports brand.

“We started selling Flyer merchandise at games,” Falato said. “There were blue crying towels and kids’ dribble-pass-and-shoot contests at halftime. Get people involved. Fill the seats. Make it family friendly. It’s not just a game, it’s an event.”

The athletic department hired south-
"It was the best," said Cengeri, now a producer and announcer with Vermont Public Radio. "I'm a massive sports fan. I love the UD Flyers. To be able to attend every home game and some away games — to be right there on the floor — it was fantastic."

While Rudy rallied support for the Flyers, the fans began supporting their mascot and transforming him into a cherished icon, said Joe Yokajty '85, who became the mascot in 1982.

"During my second year as the mascot, Rudy started getting fan mail from some of the kids attending the UD games," Yokajty said. "It was awesome."

Yokajty made sure to reward the fans with some antics he knew they'd love, including the night when he got to fly. Yokajty said he was hidden in one of the seating sections, then jumped out and flew across the basketball court with the cape on his back.

"I am still amazed that President Brother Raymond Fitz gave the ROTC permission to tie me to a long rope attached to the ceiling rafters. I think it was because we were both engineers," said Yokajty, now an engineer based in Rochester, New York.

west Ohio artist D.W. Biggs to draw the first Rudy, who resembled a 1920s barn-stormer, a term used to describe stunt pilots performing tricks with their planes. UD sent the watercolor and ink image to Stagecraft, a Cincinnati mascot design company, where owner Randy Kent brought the drawing to life.

Kent said he started by first sculpting the head, then adding a giant mustache below the bulging nose and topping it with a leather pilot cap. Next came the body, arms and feet, all covered with a flight jacket, pants, gloves and high-top boots.

Just after the costume arrived on campus, it suffered a wardrobe malfunction. The mascot's goggles came loose and needed to be reattached. So the costume was sent back to Stagecraft, and Kent said he glued the goggles back on and brought it up to Dayton so that it could be used for the game that night, Dec. 1, 1980, against San Francisco.

Cengeri said he put the mascot head on, immediately smelled the glue fumes and became lightheaded. But he performed his role as the mascot for the night.

The following day, the head was placed in the ticket office. Cengeri said that the fumes from the glue were so bad the ticketing employees evacuated the office.

The fumes did not discourage Cengeri, and at the Jan. 24, 1981, basketball game against Marquette, the mascot finally got his name. The athletic department had run a promotion, with fans ranging in age from 4 years to Golden Flyers submitting entries of their favorite names. It was Falato's idea.

"I had the bright idea to have a name-the-mascot contest with a group of randomly chosen fans who would vote on the name," he said. He received more than 600 entries, including Pontius Pilot and Freddie Flyer.

"It came down to Barney Barnstormer and Rudy. The name Rudy reminded me more of a WWI German Flying Ace. But, that's what they picked," Falato said.

Falato took to the Arena floor and made the announcement — and it sounded as if all the fans in the Arena were booing, he said.

"We stuck with it," Falato said. "Here we are almost 40 years later, and he's still around. I'm very proud of that, but I will tell you I've never had a name contest again."

Cengeri said it took fans several years to embrace the name, but they warmed to the mascot quickly, making the man in the costume proud.

"It was the best," said Cengeri, now a producer and announcer with Vermont Public Radio. "I'm a massive sports fan. I love the UD Flyers. To be able to attend every home game and some away games — to be right there on the floor — it was fantastic."
Future Flyers

With ancestors like Pedro the Donkey and the D-Bird, who knows what Rudy Flyer’s future lineage will look like? We do — thanks to some farsighted illustrators. We picked three points in time and asked them to draw a Flyers mascot for the future. Here’s what it will look like when:

... the Flyers play in the NCAA Tournament on Mars

... a passing meteor bestows superpowers on Rudy

... Rudy’s granddaughter, Rudy III, takes the court
Chuck Noll ’53 succeeded in more than football

His life’s work

Chuck Noll had a childhood dream. When he was 17, he saw it destroyed. Then he came to Dayton.

Noll’s Dayton years are part of the story told by Michael MacCambridge in his book Chuck Noll: His Life’s Work. MacCambridge’s journey to writing the book about the coach who moved the Pittsburgh Steelers franchise from laughingstock to Super Bowl legend took some time. In researching his award-winning America’s Game: The Epic Story of How Pro Football Captured a Nation, he had interviewed Dan Rooney, Steelers executive and son of the franchise’s founder, Art Rooney.

A few months after the book was published in 2004, “I received a handwritten note from Rooney saying that it was a good book but didn’t have enough about the Steelers,” said MacCambridge while visiting the University of Dayton in October for a book signing.

In doing another book some years later, MacCambridge again interviewed Rooney, who was nearing 80 and had added to his achievements being the first U.S. ambassador to Ireland to visit all of the island’s 32 counties. After a while, he heard back from Rooney, by then Steelers chairman emeritus, his son Art II now heading the franchise.

Rooney wanted him to do a book on Chuck Noll.

“I was interested,” MacCambridge said, “but I told him it can’t be just about Noll being a good football coach.”

“You look into it,” Rooney said. “You’ll see.”

So MacCambridge talked to men who played with and for Noll. He talked to Noll’s family. He saw.

Three years, 300 interviews and a lot of writing later, the book on Noll has been published by the University of Pittsburgh
Chuck Noll ‘53 had a childhood dream of playing football for the best college team in the country, Notre Dame. He tried out as a walk-on. An epileptic, he had a seizure. That was the end of his Notre Dame career. “The university,” writes Noll biographer Michael MacCambridge, “thought it best if Chuck went home. Coach [Frank] Leahy didn’t want to take the risk.” The following excerpt from MacCambridge’s 2016 book, Chuck Noll: His Life’s Work (reprinted by permission of the University of Pittsburgh Press), describes what happened after Noll returned to his home on the east side of Cleveland.

There were no heart-to-heart discussions at the breakfast table the next morning. Instead, Chuck got up, showered and dressed, and did what he’d done most days the previous four years: he walked up to Woodland Avenue to grab the streetcar heading out to Benedictine [High School].

The semester had just begun, and the school was in the early stages of earnest fall activity. Chuck went straight to the athletic department and found who he was looking for — Ab Strosnider [Noll’s line coach at Benedictine and a 1927 Dayton grad].

With his eyes fixed on his shoes, Chuck told Strosnider what had happened. They talked for a few moments, and Strosnider asked him what his plan was now. Chuck didn’t have one.

But very soon, Strosnider did. He told Chuck to give him a few hours.

Strosnider had played, with distinction, at the University of Dayton, about 215 miles downstate, in southwestern Ohio. Soon, he got on the phone with Joe Gavin, the head football coach at Dayton and also, as it happened, a college roommate of Frank Leahy.

It made perfect sense. Leahy and Gavin were still close friends, and at times Leahy would call Gavin on the phone and have him try a new wrinkle with his team that Leahy couldn’t seem to try — because of all the attention on Notre Dame — with his own team. Surely Gavin would take on Chuck Noll.

Gavin called Leahy to find out the story on the Noll kid. There wasn’t much information: Leahy knew the kid had a seizure, and Notre Dame didn’t become Notre Dame by taking on problems. Whatever Leahy said wasn’t enough to convince Gavin to take
After a few more moments on the phone, Gavin relented. Strosnider signed off with a relieved affirmation — “You’ll see” — and then a quick goodbye.

He put the phone back in its cradle and eased back into the chair. The next call was to Chuck, to tell him that he should keep his bags packed; he would be enrolling at the University of Dayton.

So, on Sept. 18, 1949, Chuck Noll went to Terminal Tower and got on a train, bound for Dayton. He was met at the station by Dan Ferrazza ['51] who drove him to campus so he could watch practice. One of the other freshmen recognized him. It was Len Kestner, who was on the Catholic Universe Bulletin’s All-Catholic team with Chuck in ’48.

“Hey, Chuck!,” said Kestner. “What are you doing here? I thought you were at Notre Dame.”

“It’s a long story,” Chuck said.

By 1949, the hometown of Orville and Wilbur Wright was a small-time city with big-time aspirations. National Cash Register, founded in 1884 and thriving in the postwar economy, was right across the street from the campus, and there were several General Motors subsidiaries — Delco and Frigidaire plants among them — that were paying well for manual labor. Against this growing industrial metropolis, the University of Dayton stood out as a redoubt of Catholic learning. …

It lacked the bustle of Cleveland or the mystique of Notre Dame, but it was welcoming, approachable and Catholic. It didn’t take long before Chuck felt at home.

Before they’d even met him, some of his teammates saw Chuck one afternoon, a solitary figure out on the practice field, relentlessly ramming out at a blocking sled.

Later that day, [Pat] Maloney ['53] became the first to make his acquaintance. They sat together in the narrow corridor outside the athletic office and struck up a conversation. “We must have talked for about 20-25 minutes before Gavin got there,” said Maloney. “I remember afterwards that I said, ‘Boy, what a nice guy; I really like this guy. I’m glad I came to UD because it is going to be good.’”

Out on the practice field, Chuck’s credentials were clear. “Right away, you knew he was a player,” Jim Currin ['53] said. “There was no question he could play the game, and he knew it. He was smarter than all the rest of us, had blocking techniques we didn’t have yet. You could just tell.”

The freshman team was designated cannon fodder. “We just got the shit kicked out of us by the varsity,” said Maloney. “That
Eventually, though, by the end of that first season, something changed. In 1949, many of Dayton's starters were nearing their mid-20s, Second World War veterans who attended on the GI Bill. At first, Gavin thought the older, hardened athletes would be the key to Dayton's rise. But there was something missing in the GI Bill vets—a degree of abandon characteristic of the best players. Gavin found it hard to convince someone who'd survived the Battle of the Bulge to whip themselves into an emotional fervor for the sake of beating St. Bonaventure.

By the end of the season, as the freshmen grew physically and in confidence, the tide turned in their scrimmaging against the varsity. “Some of them were married, so football wasn’t a big thing,” said Currin. “So when we came in, we were all recruits, ready to go, and we would have a scrimmage, and by the end of that year we would just knock the snot out of them.”

As sophomores, Chuck and the Dayton football Class of 1953 moved en masse up to the varsity. ... On the field that sophomore year, Chuck found a new influence. He was Ralph McGehee, an All-American under Leahy at Notre Dame, who was rehabbing an injured knee on his way to trying out for the pros. If Russ Alexander [who coached Noll on a youth team in Cleveland] had taught Chuck the principles of leverage, and Strosnider helped him with the nuances of using his arms to shed and control opponents, McGehee gave Chuck a master class in the initial explosion off the line of scrimmage.

McGehee “had the most powerful lunge out of the three-point stance that I had ever seen or have seen since,” said Currin. “And he watched Chuck, because Chuck had a good lunge from three-point stance, and worked with Chuck. Between the two of them, they would break those sliding machines.” The facility Chuck had exhibited in the classroom — hear or read something once and he retained much of it — translated to the football field as well, and by his sophomore year, Chuck was already coaching his teammates.

By the time he returned for training camp in the late summer of 1951, Chuck might have felt he was coming home to his second family. The connections between those Dayton players ran deeper than mere teammates. They lived together, studied together (those that studied), went out together, and drank together. ... They had spent much of the previous two years giving each other nicknames. ... Chuck's nickname was definitely bestowed during the spring intrasquad game in 1951. ... Before one play, Chuck made a line audible that would send him wide to block the end and have Currin moving inside to catch the linebacker coming through the vacated hole. The call was made but the play broke down from the start, Chuck not getting a good shot on the end and Currin missing the linebacker entirely.

Walking back to the huddle, both Chuck and Currin were adamant that the other man had failed. “That's your fault!” Chuck said. “You called it!” said Currin. “He was too far over!” Then, perturbed, he added, “You think you're always right — you think you're the Pope!” Teammate Joe Molloy ['54], walking back to the huddle with them, overheard and echoed the sentiment, “Yeah, you're the Pope!” ... The nickname poked fun at Chuck's certitude, but there was also a sense in which it was a descriptive of the authority of his opinions. “If there was ever a discussion, whatever his conclusion was, end of discussion,” said Don Donoher ['54]. “Chuck's was the last word, so it just became; he is infallible.”

In the locker room [after the 1951 season-ending 34-13 win over Marshall], Gavin gathered his players and announced that they had received an invitation from the Salad Bowl, played in Glendale, Arizona. There were real questions within the administration over the cost. ... Dayton finally accepted.

It would be the greatest moment in Dayton's major-college football history. They took a chartered train from Dayton, with 11 newspapermen and two train cars full of boosters along for the ride. ... The game itself, played on Jan. 1, 1952, drew a crowd estimated at 17,000. ... Dayton fell, 26-21.

In [1952] on Thanksgiving, they went down to Chattanooga for their last game and were blown out, 40-7, to end a disappointing 6-5 season.
Brown loved; Cleveland drafted him in the 20th round. ... The standard contract for rookies was $5,000. Among the teaching opportunities that had been offered Chuck, one was at Holy Name High School in Cleveland, for a pay of $2,700.

Of course, the odds were stacked against Chuck making the team. NFL rosters had 33 players. From one year to the next, there might be 28 or 29 holdovers, even more on a perennial contender like the Browns. But Brown had been told about Chuck's technical skills.

“Well, you're big enough,” said Brown to Chuck when he visited that spring. “Let’s see if you’re brave enough.”

The summer of 1953, Chuck, Currin, Maloney and [Tom] Carroll ['53], along with basketball player Chris Harris ['55], wound up renting space in the attic of an apartment on Grafton Avenue, behind the Dayton Art Institute, within easy walking distance of McKinley Park. They each paid the owner $5 a week for a mattress in the attic. ...

They’d found work ... laying tar and working nearly dawn to dusk every weekday. It was hot, dirty work, and only the money and the friendship made it worthwhile. ...

When they returned to the apartment, most of them would collapse. Not Chuck. Each day, he would change into his Dayton athletic shorts, grab his stopwatch and implore Maloney or Carroll to join him at McKinley Park a few blocks away.

“Chuck, I'm tired — you go,” Carroll would protest.

“You don't have to do anything!” Chuck said. “Just come along and sit down and time me.”

There, in the gathering dusk, Chuck would run 40-yard sprints, and then have Carroll time the intervals — first 60 seconds, then 50 seconds, then 40 seconds, down to 10-second breaks. Chuck would run until he collapsed from exhaustion. Carroll, stopwatch in hand, would sit with his back against a tree and time his friend.

The sight of the other tired young men sprawled in the stifling heat of their threadbare apartment while Chuck changed into sweatpants and tennis shoes became one of the recurring motifs of that summer.

“Pius [the name of the pope at the time], slow down, man,” said Chris Harris one hot evening.

“Gotta do it,” Chuck replied. “Gotta make this team.”

Noll in his final NFL season. He retired after going 7-9 in 1991, completing a 23-year tenure as head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

As they took off their sweaty football gear in the Chattanooga locker room, they each knew, to a man, it was probably the last time they'd play the sport. Though Chuck was named all-Ohio, he was undersized for a lineman and was already focused on looking for teaching jobs after graduation. ... Only Currin, who'd earned national attention with his receptions, was given a chance. For everyone else, it seemed, the ride was over.

So when a man called the dorm one day in January 1953 to inform Chuck he'd been drafted, he at first assumed it was the Army and was perplexed; he'd already been declared 4-F due to his epilepsy.

“No, the Browns — the Cleveland Browns,” said the reporter. ... The Browns kept close tabs on Ohio schools, and Gavin had recommended Noll as the sort of brainy football player that Paul
As Rudy got older, he not only got more adventurous but also more hip.

“Back in 1983, Michael Jackson first performed his Moonwalk on a TV program celebrating the history of Motown,” Yokajty said. “Rudy immediately taught himself the legendary move and incorporated it into his own dance routine during a Flyer basketball halftime. I swear most of the women in the Arena screamed.

“Rudy’s head might have been even bigger that day.”

The head was big, yes. And hot, with Yokajty losing up to 10 pounds while working football games. And, well, funny-looking. “At one point Rudy’s face became a bit worn,” Yokajty said. “I overheard folks saying Rudy looked a bit like Mr. Potato Head. That was somewhat embarrassing for Rudy, until the costume was sent away for restoration that summer.”

Fans continued to think that Rudy looked like Mr. Potato Head throughout the 1990s. In 1997, the University decided Rudy needed to grow up.

According to a Dayton Daily News article by Bucky Albers, Rudy received a new blue pilot suit, red satin scarf, black boots, a black leather cap and goggles.

“The floppy-footed World War I biplane pilot who has frolicked at UD Arena for the past 17 years has been replaced by a character who looks more like Chuck Yeager,” Albers wrote in the article, referring to the famed test pilot who in 1947 became the first person to break the sound barrier.

**More changes took place in the mid-2000s, Jay Nigro ’06 explained. After he became Rudy in August 2004, the mascot upgraded his blue jumpsuit by adding muscles and a bomber jacket. Rudy started wearing the basketball team’s jerseys and even the same shirt as Red Scare when rival Xavier came to town.

“They pretty much let me go where I wanted to go,” said Nigro, who now owns Liftoff Entertainment in Dayton. “It was a lot of fun interacting with fans,” he added, noting that he would walk to where his professors were sitting. They had no idea who was in the costume.

“It was something I’ll definitely remember about my college experience. Everyone loves Rudy,” he said.

Four years ago, Rudy beefed up his image again — taller, bigger and more muscular, said Adrienne Green ’08, director of marketing at UD Arena. He donned a new muscle suit and got a new bomber jacket, though he does dress for the occasion.

“We get all kinds of requests, even on campus,” Green said about Rudy’s appearances at weddings, alumni events, Christmas and birthday parties, and fundraisers.

Rudy Flyer donned a red satin scarf for a special occasion in 2011. “Guests were entertained by Rudy Flyer, who made a surprise appearance during the reception,” wrote Paula Veihdeffer Markley ’07 for her wedding announcement in UD Magazine.

Becky Dunn Kaster ’07 and Chris Kastner ’07 couldn’t have Rudy at their wedding, so they had the next best thing — a custom cake topper with boy and girl Rudy standing beside a Lowes Street sign.

“Rudy to us means family,” said Becky Kastner, “whether it’s our family members who also went to Dayton, our close-knit friends from UD who are now like family or the alumni community as a whole. Even though we graduated almost 10 years ago, the Flyer spirit remains with us and is something that we are both proud of.”

For some, Rudy even becomes part of the family. Collin Brown ’11 and Alison Roell Brown ’11 named their dog Rudy.

“We are both big UD sports fans and like to see Rudy motivating the crowd,” said Collin Brown.

Fernando del Monte ’08 and Molly Bytnar del Monte ’07 also named their furry yellow pup Rudy. “The main reason we named our dog Rudy was to remind ourselves of where we met,” Fernando del Monte said. “Our time at UD was so incredible.”

When the Arena marketing crew discusses how to schedule Rudy, they capitalize on his fan appeal to make a good time even better — including delivering free food during game breaks. “People like to get a pizza, especially if it’s from Rudy,” Green said.

**Two to four students per school**

year have the opportunity to be Rudy, and their ideal height is between 5-foot-7 and 6-foot-3. If someone is not in that height range, the suit becomes disproportional, and Rudy loses his powerful image, Green said.

“I have a lot of respect for our students who do Rudy,” Green said. “It’s hot in there, and you can’t see anything. But it’s fun, and people get excited to see you.”

The love for Rudy — and Rudy’s evolution — continues. This year, Rudy will be able to be in two places at the same time; the athletic department had the costume “cloned.”

Such adaptation calls for a formal portrait. As of fall 2016, fans can purchase Rudy’s likeness on T-shirts, key chains and cut-outs.

Although Rudy has undergone many changes throughout the years, one thing remains the same: his readiness to cheer on his beloved Flyers with an army of Flyer Faithful beside him.

Michelle Tedford contributed reporting to this story.
Rachel Paul Malkowski ’92 writes

“Our time at UD was truly magical and very rich with experience.”

He created Obi to help someone you love. See Page 59.

You beat out the rest, Class of 2007. Thanks for sending in the most notes!

What does William Shakespeare have to say about UD Magazine?
The Bard speaks on Page 54.

A running inspiration Page 53

Three bucket list achievers Page 52

CLASS NOTES begin on Page 49.

THIS ISSUE

17 alumni whose first names begin with “J”

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5 alumni who won an award

4 Flyer Floridians

3 alumni who went on a cruise

2 alumni couples who married in UD’s chapel

1 alumnus who has run 1,000 marathons
Scholarship elevates beyond dreams

Their last takeout meal together, Destry Fallen ’86 and Mona Guerrier Fallen ’91 sat in the parking lot between O’Reilly and Founders halls and ate food from the Hickory in their car.

They looked at the campus where they met, reminiscing on all the memories they had created in that space decades earlier. By then, Mona’s cancer was terminal, but she was at peace.

“We talked about UD and how fortunate we were. People had sacrificed for us, and we were blessed to have gone there. We always wanted to give back,” Destry, Mona’s husband, said.

Mona, like Destry, was a first-generation college student. She went on to earn her law degree and became an assistant United States attorney in Dayton.

“She would preach education to anyone that would listen. Mona was a proponent of education up until the very end,” Destry said.

After she died in 2013, Destry decided to honor his wife by establishing the Mona Guerrier Fallen Endowed Scholarship for the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

“We were in their shoes,” Destry said of multicultural students. “That was Mona and me 30 years ago. So, this was the right thing to do, to give back.”

Taylor Ruffin is appreciative of that, as she was a two-time recipient of the scholarship beginning in 2014.

Ruffin emphasized that Mona’s scholarship meant far more than just monetary help. For Ruffin, meeting Mona’s family gave her a personal connection to the scholarship.

“He was so emotional and adamant on wanting to help,” Ruffin said of Destry. “I realized then that someone actually cared and he was elevating me to go beyond my dreams.”

Destry hopes that the scholarship will continue to help students who are in the most financial need. So far, nine students have benefited from the scholarship.

“Everyone does have a story. We’re all sent here for a specific purpose. Those kids motivate and energize me. I know Mona is smiling.”

—Gita Balakrishnan

Keep on keeping on

In April 2005, Dave Kunicki, a 1999 radio-television graduate, was at a professional crossroad. Kunicki had tried his hand at improv comedy and was holding a stable job in health care, but for him, something was missing.

And since big things usually happen at crossroads, so it happened that Kunicki ran into an old grammar school friend, Tim Wambach, and the course of many peoples’ lives changed forever.

At the age of 12, Wambach was diagnosed with spastic quadriplegia, the most severe form of spastic cerebral palsy. His condition left him with virtually no control of movement of his arms or legs.

To help raise awareness of people living with severe disabilities, Wambach had decided to run 1,200 miles from Orlando, Florida, to Chicago in 30 days. Kunicki knew that he

Dave Kunicki ’05, (left), with members of the Keep On Keeping On Foundation.

Wambach shared the story of his friendship with Mike Berkson, a 12-year-old boy at the time, who was living with spastic quadriplegia, the most severe form of spastic cerebral palsy. His condition left him with virtually no control of movement of his arms or legs.

See Keeping, Page 48
New board leader named

The University of Dayton named Chicago business executive David Yeager ’75 chair of the board of trustees.

Yeager is the chairman of the board of directors and chief executive officer of Hub Group Inc., one of North America’s largest transportation management companies.

In 2015, Yeager chaired the University of Dayton’s presidential search committee. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Memorial Hospital-Chicago and is a lifetime trustee of Fenwick High School in Oak Park, Illinois. He received an MBA from the University of Chicago in 1987 and a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from UD.

“The best leaders model the behavior they value,” said UD President Eric Spina. “Dave Yeager brings a thoughtful, deliberate style that I admire. He’s a strong listener who led the presidential search in a manner that met with respect from Marianists, faculty, staff, students and alumni.”

Yeager expressed optimism for the University’s future: “I’m honored to serve as chair during this important presidential transition. Dr. Spina is a collaborative, visionary leader, and the board looks forward to working with him to shape the University of Dayton’s future.”

—Cilla Shindell

Community awards

During the Alumni Leadership Conference in September, alumni relations recognized five alumni communities who best demonstrated the mission of the department.

■ The Program of the Year Award was presented to the Detroit Alumni Community for its Wine Tasting Scholarship Fundraiser. The event blended the Marianist heritage with an appreciation of Bordeaux wines.

■ The Innovative Program of the Year Award was presented to the Cincinnati Alumni Community for their Center of Science & Industry service event. The Cincinnati community brought COSI to St. Frances de Sales School for a full day of interactive science experiments.

■ The High Flyer Award was presented to both Dayton and Nashville. Boston worked for more than a year to re-establish a strong community. Alumni are now actively holding events with a turnout of more than 60 at the Rhode Island—UD basketball pregame.

Nashville’s new community leader, Jen Pollard ’85, set out to fill her leadership team with enthusiastic alumni. Nashville hosted events that creatively engaged the community.

■ The Community of the Year Award was presented to the Columbus Alumni Community for their consistent commitment to Learn. Lead. Serve. Columbus hosted a variety of events including a cooking class, yoga class at a brewery, a kickball league and a trip to Dayton for a basketball game.

I had them at “new.”

“We knew it was new, so we put it down,” said Haleigh Lamb ’15 of the five housemates’ preference to live at 411 Lowes St. starting in August 2013.

The yellow two-story had been built in 2012 to replace the 12-foot-wide, two-bedroom blue frame house with the same address built in 1905. The housemates were only the second occupants of the yellow house, built as one of four new green-certified homes on Lowes that year.

“New” meant a dishwasher, washer, dryer, three bathrooms, five bedrooms and a closet the size of a bedroom that a friend asked to move into.

Visitors entered at the living room with its tile floor and flowed into the kitchen, spacious and handicap accessible. It was the entertainment floor — complete with karaoke machine and comfy chair donated by friend JeffMessing ’15.

“People called our house ‘Grand Central Station,’” said Lamb, now a sixth-grade science teacher.

Ashley Zawistowski ’15 and Lamb reunited on the porch last summer to talk about the home they shared their junior and senior years.

Said Zawistowski, “When I first walked in, I said, ‘This is the nicest place I’m ever going to live.’” Lamb agreed: “I live in 750 square feet in Nashville.”

The women made 411 Lowes a special interest house focusing on faith, justice and the community. They hosted dinners, including a barbeque that brought the entire street together. For a service project, they had to move to a larger venue — RecPlex; the women organized volunteers who measured and packaged beans, rice and other foods for 20,000 children in Haiti.

But even a new home isn’t without its quirks. The electricity would often cut out — a dark shower one day, a whole-house outage the next. Such adversity can bring friends together, they said — and help make new ones. Said Zawistowski, an eighth-grade science teacher in Greenville, South Carolina, “We got to know Gary the electrician very well.”

—Michelle Tedford

Suggest we take a tour of your old house.
Email us at magazine@udayton.edu.
had to be involved in some way. “I said, ‘Tim, that’s the craziest thing I’ve ever heard and I’m going to join you on that trip,’” Kunicki said.

Kunicki provided logistical support to Wambach — from helping him traverse highways and mountainous regions to booking hotels and setting up media attention.

When the pair returned to Chicago and realized the momentum they had generated from the run was tangible, the Keep On Keeping On Foundation (www.teamkoko.org) was born. The name has significance since Wambach had used the phrase as a sign-off in his letters as a youth minister.

“It wasn’t until Tim experienced what life was for Mike that he understood what keep on keeping on meant. And, basically no matter what adversities you face, you must keep moving forward. You must keep on keeping on,” Kunicki said.

The foundation reached nonprofit status in 2007 and has since helped more than 100 families with medical equipment purchases, buying wheelchairs, creating campaigns to help make homes more handicapped accessible, paying for therapy sessions, buying specialized hospital beds and assisting with outstanding medical bills.

Kunicki quit his full-time position in health care and is now the executive director of the organization running its daily activities and developing strategic initiatives. The inspiration he felt being part of the organization pushed him to earn his MBA in nonprofit management.

In September, Team KOKO made a pit stop on UD’s campus as the foundation set out to recreate the original 2005 run and raise funds to help support their goals. Along with Kunicki, alumni Devon Vocke ’98 and Andrew Miller ’01 also serve on the foundation’s board of trustees.

Said Kunicki, “Our mission is to help those with severe physical disabilities but also to inspire everybody in the community to make a difference. No matter what life throws at us, whether we are able-bodied or in a wheelchair, to understand that we all have our handicaps, some are just more visible than others. Our message is, despite that, we must always work for the greater good.”

—Gita Balakrishnan
To peer into the future, you need a lens that is wide and long.

Enter the vision of thousands of alumni, plus that of students, faculty, staff, parents and University trustees who have participated since September to help guide UD as it plans for its next quarter century.

The visioning process is the construct of President Eric Spina and a committee headed by Provost Paul Benson and Master of Public Administration Director Michelle Pautz. They are asking audiences to define the University’s core values that must remain at the center of who we are and to answer this question: What are our areas of strength today, and what should we be known for nationally and internationally in 20 to 25 years?

“Then it’s about moving forward together as a community toward these aspirations that we’re setting,” Spina said.

Spina and vice presidents Jen Howe and Molly Wilson have met with alumni in Los Angeles, New York and Washington, D.C. In San Diego, they gathered with alumni on the patio of Richard Shanks ’79 and his wife, Janet, as the sun set over the Pacific Ocean. In Chicago, alumni filled seats at the University Club of Chicago and raised hands to offer their insights.

Jan Vargo ’84, at the Dayton vision session, said our way forward must include a focus on our Catholic values. “That, to me, would be No. 1,” she said.

Jessica Davis ’14 added her own questions for UD to ponder during the Oct. 15 Dayton event, which was streamed on Facebook Live: “Would love to have sustainability infuse the identity of UD,” she commented online. “What are some ways the field can infuse not only campus operations but also every student’s study?”

Audiences have discussed affordability, diversity, additional degree programs and research partnerships. They extolled the value of Flyer Enterprises, ETHOS, the Dayton Civic Scholars and the River Stewards and asked that they be models for wider experiential learning opportunities. Father Ted Cassidy, S.M. ’60, said our faith should inform how students learn about and respond to the systems that infuse our society.

All participant comments — including those from the Oct. 6 faculty and staff visioning day and sessions with students, advisory councils and the board of trustees — are being recorded and shared with the strategic visioning committee. In late winter and early spring, committee members will discuss and test ideas, with Spina sharing broad results during his presidential installation in April.

Spina said important outcomes of the collective visioning process will be clear priorities for investment, inspiration for a fundraising campaign, and an enhanced focus on national and international reputation.

“We have a history of boldly adapting for the times while honoring our heritage,” he said. “I’m confident that, together, we will create a compelling, lasting vision that will guide the University of Dayton to a future filled with the possibilities we can only imagine today.”

To learn about future alumni vision sessions and participate in the question of the week, visit www.udayton.edu/VisionUD.
Memoir, using skills in ways they may not have thought about before. The book, which has five other contributors, came together when the co-authors found on Dooley’s company website: www.dashentertainmentllc.com.

What out-of-this-world experience do you remember having while at UD?

“My senior year the men’s basketball team made it to the [NCAA Tournament] and the whole campus was agog. I don’t remember which game it was, but I stepped out on the porch for a moment. It was eerily quiet. I saw no one walking home, no one sitting out, nothing. And at that moment something happened in the game and I could hear the roars coming from every direction. College sports is about a shared experience, an ownership of our community. And at that moment I was definitely one with my community.” —Mary DeBauche ’90

“The student community at UD is extraordinary. I attribute that to the fact that it’s a Marianist school and students go there for the faith as much as the classes offered. I was proud to be part of that community.” —Jason Gavula ’94

“My senior year we had second row tickets in the student section for the Xavier game — that was the most alive that I have ever seen the Arena. We beat Xavier when they were ranked. That same year the team won the first NCAA Tournament game for UD since 1990. I remember watching with all of my friends and being so happy to be a Flyer. Watching the Flyers at UD Arena is really special because the entire community comes together united in support of our team.” —Brad Evans ’09

Houston Alumni

By the Numbers

Graduation Classes

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<th>Academic Area</th>
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A WAY TO FORGIVENESS

Erin Dooley ’00

In spring 2015, Erin Dooley walked 550 miles across Spain on the Camino de Santiago, a centuries-old religious pilgrimage, to learn and understand true forgiveness. Camera in hand, the filmmaker chronicled her journey and asked others on the walk about their thoughts on forgiveness. Her 45-minute documentary called A Way to Forgiveness was completed in September. Dooley said, “I had read The Pilgrimage by Paulo Coelho while at UD and became interested in the Camino. Ultimately, when I started freelancing and had six weeks to take off, I did.” The film can be found on Dooley’s company website: www.dashentertainmentllc.com.

MEMOIR YOUR WAY

Joanne M. Lozar Glenn ’75

Memoirs are no longer only for writers. Joanne M. Lozar Glenn co-wrote Memoir Your Way: Tell Your Story Through Writing, Recipes, Quilts, Graphic Novels, and More to help more people tell their stories. The book, which has five other contributors, came together when the co-authors began sharing ideas about how people were recording pieces of their personal history in nontraditional forms. Published in September, the book aims to help other women quickly and easily create their personal history in nontraditional forms.  Published in September, the book, which has five other contributors, came together when the co-authors began sharing ideas about how people were recording pieces of their personal history in nontraditional forms. Published in September, the book, which has five other contributors, came together when the co-authors began sharing ideas about how people were recording pieces of their personal history in nontraditional forms. Published in September, the book, which has five other contributors, came together when the co-authors began sharing ideas about how people were recording pieces of their personal history in nontraditional forms. Published in September, the book, which has five other contributors, came together when the co-authors began sharing ideas about how people were recording pieces of their personal history in nontraditional forms.

Glenn said, “By extending the written memoir form to cookbooks, scrapbooks, quilts and other forms of storytelling, we found we had created a first-of-its-kind guide to memoir that includes rather than excludes would-be memoirists who are not writers.” The book is available at Amazon.com or Barnesandnoble.com.

UNWRITTEN

Unwritten is an eight-episode podcast that developed when several UD alumni, along with others, wanted to create a script that revolved around current social issues. Produced by the Dayton Writers Movement, the podcast aired in September and reached listeners in 32 countries in its opening month. “Unwritten” tackles themes of sexual violence, mental health and LGBTQ issues. “Our goal is to attract podcast listeners who haven’t heard a story addressing such real-world issues; alongside them, we also want listeners who care about these issues but haven’t yet broken into the audio drama world,” said Chris Burnside ’09, University English professor and DWM’s executive producer. Others who participated in the project include Anna Adami ’16, Joey Ferber ’16, Jenna Gomez ’15, CC Hutten ’15, Grace Poppe ’16, Tavis Taylor ’15 and current student Avery Hutto. Listen to the podcast at www.unwrittenpodcast.com.

—Gita Balakrishnan
Golden Flyers

JIM KENNEDY ’56 (ART) lives in Barrington, Ill. He writes, “I enjoy my blended family of 19 children. I also paint from my home studio, teach watercolor art at the local Kaleidoscope School of Fine Art and volunteer as an art instructor in the community. My twin granddaughters, Jennifer Baily and Ellen Baily, are juniors at UD. We are standing in front of my former home at 1229 Alberta St., which is now part of UD housing.”

TOM STAUDENHEIMER ’58 (ACC) and his wife, Donna, live in Louisville, Ky. He writes, “We celebrated 53 years of marriage in October. We have to living children, one deceased son, 25 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. In February 2014, I retired from my job as a staff accountant at Kindred Healthcare. Previously, I was employed by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kentucky. I’m an active lector and sing in our ensemble choir at my parish, St. Gabriel, and serve as lector and Eucharistic minister at the Cathedral of the Assumption’s daily noon Mass.” Tom invites former classmates to contact him at creeker510@gmail.com.

JERRY HOPFENGARDNER ’59 (EDS) lives in Greenville, N.C. He writes, “Dwight York and I were roommates in the New York Mets organization and retired in 1994 after working for Clairol for 30 years as manager of packaging and processing. We have had this wonderful friendship.”

RICHARD DAVIS ’62 (MED) lives in Fort Myers, Fla. He writes, “As a young man growing up in Dayton, I was influenced by my uncle, an internist specializing in pulmonary medicine. So, after graduation from UD, I went to Saint Louis University School of Medicine. At Indiana University School of Medicine, I trained in internal medicine and cardiology. I was influenced by many great doctors and realized the importance of my teachers and mentors. I was a cardiology fellow and served two years in the U.S. Air Force. I have been grateful to so many for my career, including my own doctors; my wife of 54 years, who has always supported my endeavors; my three daughters, grandchildren, son-in-law, colleagues and staff; and all my patients. I have always believed that the ability to be a quality doctor starts with caring about your patients. The practice of medicine is an amazing and unequalled profession.”

CLINTON HODDER ’62 (MGT) lives in Prince George, Va. He writes, “Congratulations to the Class of 2016. As a graduate and 30-year veteran of the U.S. Army, I know how hard it is to say goodbye, but you will always be connected to the finest university in the world. I know in my heart I will always be a UD Flyer, and you will, too. UD and its wonderful professors and ROTC instructors sent me into the real world with the confidence that I would succeed in my career. After 55 years and a Hall of Fame military career, I still volunteer many hours teaching young men and women how to be good soldiers, citizens and responsible parents. My generation suffered the anti-military wrath caused by the unpopular Vietnam War. Father Raymond Roesch, S.M., and Father John Kelly, S.M., were an inspiration to me, and I visited them every time I visited UD in my early military career. They were great supporters of students commissioned as second lieutenants in a great ROTC program. I am 77 and consider myself one of the luckiest people on the planet. I had a great education, career, family and am a citizen of the greatest country in the history of this world. Keep up the great legacy of UD. Go Flyers.”

JOE “JUNIE” DE LEO ’64 (BUS) and his wife, Sandra, live in Stamford, Conn. He writes, “2016 was an exciting year. In April, Sandra, my high school sweetheart, and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. In May, the city of Stamford honored us with a proclamation marking our anniversary and years of service to Little League. I just completed my 49th year of coaching Little League, and we spent our anniversary at the Stamford North Little League opening day. In August, I was awarded the eighth annual Nick Corbo Community Service Award, given to someone who serves the youth of Stamford. At UD, I made the baseball varsity team as a freshman and pitched for four years. I’ve been a member of the Varsity D Club since 1964. Going to UD was the turning point of my life; everything good happened after that. I played professional baseball in the New York Mets organization and retired in 1994 after working for Clairolfi for 30 years as manager of packaging and processing. We have three children — Michael, Kelley, and JD and his wife, Sara — and two grandchildren, Zakary and Arianna.”
KAREN GUSZKOWSKI ’66 (PSY) and her husband, Tom, live in Milwaukee. In November 2015, they received a Vatican II Award for Service to the Missions from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Karen and Tom, members of Old St. Mary’s Parish, helped found a mission with St. Paul the Apostle parish in Mukono, Uganda. Together, the parishes have completed such projects in Africa as putting a roof on the church, helping young widows become self-sufficient, and building a high school, nursery school and rectory. Karen writes, “On our first trip, Tom and I didn’t know what would happen, but there was no turning back. It’s a reciprocal relationship, a sharing, and our lives have been enriched ever since.”

REUNION WEEKEND June 9-11, 2017 reunion.udayton.edu

1967
TIM KEARNEY (ACC) and PAT GILMORE KEARNEY (ACC) live in Port Clinton, Ohio. They write, “We are on a bucket list cruise from Rome to the Holy Land with stops in Malta, Turkey and Greece and would recommend it to everyone. We also hope to see all of our ’67 classmates at our 50th reunion June 9-11 in Dayton. We have been blessed many times over and meeting each other at UD 50 years ago was one of them.”

1968
TOM MIKOS ’68 (IMT) JENNY GALLOWAY MIKOS ’88 (ERS) live in Dayton. They write, “We visited the botanical gardens in Rio de Janeiro in January 2016.”

1969
CINDY KRYDA (MET) lives in Okatie, S.C. She writes, “I visited the Charles Bridge in Prague, one of the cities I visited before going on a Danube River cruise in May. This trip was at the top of my bucket list. Now, on to No. 2, the Galapagos, which I will visit with my daughter, Nicole, in August.”

JOE SZIMHART (FAE-FA) and his wife, Becky, live in Birdsboro, Pa. He writes, “The International Cultic Studies Association gave me a lifetime achievement award at its 2016 annual conference in Dallas in July. It was presented with gratitude for my contribution to the field of cultic studies. Becky and I are downsizing and plan to move to California in 2017, but we don’t have plans to retire yet. We have three adult daughters and two granddaughters. I have an art studio at Goggleworks Art Center in Reading, Pa., and my art can be seen at www.jszihart.com.”

1970
BOB GUTMANN (MGT) lives in Dayton. He writes, “I traveled to Alaska on a 2 ½ week cruise and land trip with Nancy Gutmann, Ron Thaman ’71 and Joy Thaman. We enjoyed amazing sites, scenery, people and places on our trip exploring the 49th state.”

MARY LEE GRACE MALOY (SOC) lives in Pittsburgh. She writes, “Five Class of 1970 alumni joined me to attend the South Catholic High School 50th reunion in Pittsburgh: Bob Maloy, Jay Campbell, Jim Corbett, Charles Saltzer and Rich D’Alessandro.”

NAN MCNAMARA (HST) lives in Sun City, Fla. She writes, “I almost died in spring 2016 following abdominal issues and infections. I was hospitalized five times during a 10-month period. I’m back at the pickleball and volleyball courts, though. In my age-restricted community, there’s always someone who’s had it worse and survived.”

1971
LARRY ROCHELLE (ENG) lives in Redmond, Wash. He writes, “My book, Jelly Balls, the 19th installment in my Palmer Morel mystery series, is now available on Amazon Kindle.”

REUNION WEEKEND June 9-11, 2017 reunion.udayton.edu

1972
JEFFERSON INGRAM (EDS) lives in Sugarcreek Township, Ohio. He writes, “I am a professor in the University of Dayton’s Department of Political Science. I teach a course in civil liberties and one called American Judicial Process. I also teach courses for the Criminal Justice Studies Program that include Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure. My writings include books on criminal procedure and in criminal evidence, and I am now working on a 12th edition of Criminal Evidence.”

1973
GALEN GASSON (ELE) lives in Versailles, Ohio. He writes, “I am an official SKYWARN weather spotter for the National Weather Service in Wilmington, Ohio.”

MEG HIGGINS HAYCRAFT (SOC) and her husband, Dan, live in St. Helena, Calif. She writes, “Three years ago we moved from Chicago to California, where we’re surrounded by mountains and vineyards in Napa Valley. I’m
a licensed clinical social worker and just accepted a position with the U.S. Department of Defense as director of psychological health for the 63rd Regional Support Command with the U.S. Army Reserves. I cover eight states and three Pacific Islands, and I travel monthly to visit any of the 44,000 U.S. Army reservists whom I serve. I act as a consultant and referral guide for military members in need of behavioral health care or treatment."

1977

MARK BOBAL (CRJ) lives in Cleveland. He writes, "My daughter Barbara ’18 and I enjoyed some time together across the big pond, sightseeing in London before she went to Ireland for a five-week summer school session with UD."

1974

STEVE MUELLER (PSY) and CINDY MUELLER (ACC) live in Dayton. They write, “With our son Greg Mueller ’06, daughter-in-law Shannon Stewart Mueller ’07 and grandson Phillip, we traveled to Sheep Mountain, Alaska, to celebrate the wedding of fellow Flyer Heather Stewart ’07.”

1976

CHRIS MEEHAN (ELE) lives in Melbourne, Fla. He writes, “Pope Francis called all the deacons of the world to Rome for a Jubilee for Deacons to participate in the Year of Mercy. The event began May 25 and culminated in a papal Mass on May 29. I vested for Mass in the Pope Paul VI auditorium, where Pope Francis holds his general audiences. It was a truly joyful occasion to process into St. Peter’s Square with about 2,000 of my brother deacons to assist at Mass with our Holy Father.”

WILLIAM “BILL” WAXMAN (MBA) and his wife, Betsy, live in Vandalia, Ohio. He writes, “I retired in May from Edison State Community College in Piqua, Ohio, where I was an associate professor of business and program coordinator for the business management, human resources and real estate programs. Betsy and I have been married 41 years and have three adult children and four granddaughters who live in Kentucky, Ohio and Oregon. We look forward to traveling and visiting with our grandchildren, as well as volunteering in the Dayton area.”

DAN KREMER ’82

Down on the farm

Like many farmers, Dan Kremer wakes long before the sun rises. But before heading outside to tend to his 140-acre farm in Yorkshire, Ohio, he takes advantage of that first hour to quietly reflect.

“It’s really precious time for me,” Kremer said. After that, however, the energetic father of six kids, who range in age from 8 to 23, harvests grain, milks cows, collects eggs and more. His farm, E.A.T. Food for Life, sells milk, cream, butter, cheese, yogurt and eggs as well as grass-fed beef and chicken, pizza crust, flour, bread and even cookies — all non-GMO and organic. Kremer delivers food directly to customers, but E.A.T. also operates a farmhouse site off Wayne Avenue in Dayton. The small, intimate setting allows Kremer to connect personally with families picking up their order.

“We just want to help families eat healthier,” Kremer said. “Food should be flavorful, locally grown and nourishing.”

He should know. Kremer is also a hemophiliac, meaning his blood doesn’t clot normally, so health has always been a priority. It’s part of the reason he ditched a successful corporate career and returned to his family’s farm in 1997.

“It was definitely a calling,” Kremer said. “But it’s where my roots are and where I spent many hours working with my father.” Farm life meant Kremer also had to call on lessons he learned studying mechanical engineering at UD.

“It wasn’t a cakewalk for me, so I developed tremendous discipline and hard work studying for Dr. [Howard] Smith’s classes,” Kremer said.

Hard work indeed. With a herd of 75 cattle, 10 dairy cows and 500 layers, there’s no shortage of labor. It’s why when Sunday rolls around, Kremer takes a much-needed rest.

“God designed it that way,” Kremer said.

—Molly Blake ’96

1980

D. JEFFREY “JEFF” IRELAND (LAW) lives in Oakwood, Ohio. He received America’s Top 100 Attorneys lifetime achievement award for his work in competition and business litigation, as well as advertising, antitrust, employment, class actions, securities, trade secrets and intellectual property law. Jeff has tried business litigation cases throughout the United States for more than 35 years and is a partner at Faruki Ireland & Cox in Dayton.
Former WVUD-FM radio broadcaster turned voice-over talent Peter K. O’Connell (RTV ’86) has moved from the 53rd largest broadcast market (Buffalo, N.Y.) to the 24th largest broadcast market (Raleigh, N.C.) — a move made largely to be closer to family. In August 2016, O’Connell, his wife Andrea and their three children moved to Cary, N.C.

Peter owns the voice-over company audio’connell Voice-Over Talent, producing audio for commercial and narrations for clients around the world.

and more media-centric market. And Peter notes that “the weather is a bit more forgiving here than in Buffalo from December to March.”

AUDIO’CONNELL VOICE-OVER TALENT

Peter started his company right after graduation, doing spots for local companies. When Peter works with students who want to be-

WVUD-FM Peter started working at the 50,000-watt station WVUD in 1982 after the station’s program director heard him on the University’s low-power station, WDCR. He started at “Hitradio 100” doing afternoon drive news before becoming the evening disc jockey.

RTV A radio-television major, O’Connell credits a former general manager for WVUD, professor and voice talent Jack Rang, with teaching him commercial performance at UD. As he recalls, “Jack had an awesome voice.” Most of his early training came via imitation of others, listening to local and network broadcasts to analyze how they did it. Since then, he has had professional training from industry veterans in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

24TH LARGEST BROADCAST MARKET Peter’s move opens up his work to a larger
IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI

1936  
Father Lawrence A. Mann, S.M. — Sept. 1, 2016

1940  

1943  
Louis A. Thacker — July 18, 2016

1944  
Bernard E. Doering — July 9, 2016

1948  
Winifred Coates Davidson — July 26, 2016

1949  
Mary P. Donisi — June 11, 2016

1950  

1951  
Werner J. Losh — Feb. 19, 2016

1952  
Thomas E. “Tom” Zimmerman — July 17, 2016

1954  
John C. Anderson — Sept. 22, 2015

1956  
George A. Bussinger — Aug. 6, 2016

1957  
Charles D. “Chuck” Conner — July 24, 2016

1958  
Robert W. Dresher — July 8, 2016

1960  

1961  

1962  
James R. Huffman — Aug. 29, 2016

1963  

1964  

1965  

1966  
Judith A. Koeck Consedine — May 13, 2016

1967  
Robert E. Beacum — July 15, 2016

1968  
Rose J. Guidera — June 27, 2016

1969  
Marion G. Barga — April 6, 2016

1970  
Asta M. Dysas McNally — Aug. 27, 2016

1971  

1972  

1973  

1974  

1975  
Gregory Chernushin — July 9, 2016

1976  
Terence J. “Terry” McGlynn — July 18, 2016

1979  
Lynn A. Carlisle — July 9, 2016

1980  

1981  

1982  
Alexandra K. “Alex” Pursel — June 20, 2016

1984  

1985  
Mary F. Quinn — July 13, 2016

1986  

1987  
Mary Mohr Gecowets — July 23, 2016

1988  
Mary Mohr Gecowets — July 23, 2016

1989  
Keith A. Kautzwater — Aug. 16, 2016

1993  
Eric C. Humphrey — June 19, 2016

1999  
Bonni J. Bonvillain Valeska — June 20, 2016

CANDICE MORTARA ‘98

River lessons

Floating down the river, Candice Mortara experiences peace and calm.

Her love for the water and her exposure to the Fitz Center during her time at UD inspired the philosophy major to work to establish the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway.

A nonprofit, the organization works with communities along the Fox and Lower Wisconsin rivers to celebrate and preserve the river’s heritage, which had once brought industry to the area due to its massive hydraulic power.

Mortara, who also received a master’s from UD in 2006, helped organize the grassroots initiative in 2009 and currently serves on its board of directors. Her interest was twofold: to be thankful for the river’s role in incentivizing industry to come to the area and to recognize the river’s recreational potential.

“It’s a place to get out and be surrounded by nature. It flows right through the middle of these cities and allows for an escape that’s right in peoples’ backyard,” she said.

Now, the parkway works with more than 70 partners to enhance programs and build capacity for historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, tourism and education.

Mortara recalled being the most inspired when she saw a woman, paralyzed from the waist down, kayaking down the river — a feat she could only accomplish because the parkway had built boat launches.

“I think it’s wonderful. The river has a way of bringing us together and equalizing our abilities,” Mortara said.

Mortara and her husband also started a commercial business, Fox River Tours, to further attract the public to the waters.

“I think that we’re all so caught up in technology and to responding to demands and people immediately,” she said. “There’s something that gets you back to the core of who you are when surrounded by trees and water. It’s exceptionally important to take the time and to recognize the importance of preserving these resources.”

— Gita Balakrishnan

was also there. He was an intern with my office, Plan International USA, and we wouldn’t let him leave, so now he is a full-time and much-loved staff member. What a tremendous group of students and alumni! What a bond we all had, even if the current students had to sit politely while my roommate and I discussed the ‘good old days.’ I wouldn’t trade those times for anything. To be able to meet and host this current group was a tremendous privilege that we won’t soon forget.”

1991

ERIC SAGUN (ECO) lives in Columbus, Ohio. He writes, “I served as Ohio Convention Committee director of events for the Republican National Convention in Cleveland.

During the convention, I attended a tailgate-themed event for the Ohio delegation with Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted ‘89.”

1992

RACHEL PAUL MALKOWSKI (PTY) lives in Austin, Texas. She writes, “As fellow photography majors studying under Sean Wilkinson, Lori Roberson Crouch ‘92 and I became fast friends as freshmen, when we lived on separate floors in Marycrest. We became roommates our sophomore year and formed a lasting friendship. Lori and I saw each other a few times in the years shortly after graduation, but as life became full with children, careers and moves, the visits eventually stopped. Thanks to social
UD was truly magical and very rich if the conversation and friendship even though we hadn’t seen each other and a hike. The best part was that, between Fort Worth and Austin to trips. We each drove halfway joined him on one of his business trips. Dave has been traveling to Fort Worth, Texas, for work, and Lori and her husband, fellow Flyer Couchot, live in Mason, Ohio. Lori and her husband, fellow Flyer Dave Couchot, live in Mason, Ohio. Dave has been traveling to Fort Worth, Texas, for work, and Lori joined him on one of his business trips. We each drove halfway between Fort Worth and Austin to meet at a state park for a reunion and a hike. The best part was that, even though we hadn’t seen each other in such a long time, it was as if the conversation and friendship never skipped a beat. Our time at UD was truly magical and very rich with experience.

ASHLEY SOLOMON ’05

Paying it forward

Ashley Solomon vividly recalls then-President Dan Curran entering her house at 107 Evanston while holding her crying roommates in her arms as they mourned the loss of a close friend. He sat there silently supporting Solomon and her friends, witnessing their pain.

Solomon said, “I think about that night and what that meant when I consider how important a person’s presence can be. It’s powerful just to sit and listen and bear witness, even without saying anything at all.”

While at UD, Solomon continued to bear witness to others by writing in newsletters for the Women’s Center. It was through this opportunity that she found a passion for hearing stories and helping others.

Solomon went on to pursue both her master’s and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology. During her pre-doctoral residency in Philadelphia, she was able to work at a hospital treating patients with eating disorders. And during a fellowship, she focused on developing programs and doing research on eating disorders.

After serving as the director of eating disorder treatment at the Insight Behavioral Health Center in Chicago, she wanted to return home to Cincinnati and make a difference locally. Two years ago, in 2014, Solomon opened the Eating Recovery Center of Ohio and is currently the executive director.

In her work, she remembers the way Curran comforted her roommates and attempts to make her patients feel the same way. Her mission is to not only give her patients support and guidance but, as she said, to “restore them nutritionally, physically and psychologically.”

Solomon said, “UD teaches us that we are blessed with so many gifts and opportunities, and it is our responsibility to give back and support each other.”

ERIN REILLY (MKT) lives in Murphy, Texas. She writes, “While at UD, I was a tour guide and president of Campus Connection, in addition to being active in Christmas on Campus, theater and the School of Business Administration. I am now in the Dallas area and on the Dallas-Fort Worth alumni leadership team in charge of communications. I work at Hewlett Packard Enterprise as a leader for knowledge management. I am proud to say, as of this year, we are a Flyer family. My son is in the Class of 2020 and works with the UD men’s basketball team as a freshman student manager. Go Flyers.”

HEATHER POOLE (PSY) lives in Cincinnati with her children, Elise, James and Tom. She writes, “In mid-September, I began my role as executive staff assistant to the office of enterprise risk management at the University of Cincinnati. I’ve spent the past four years with the division of plastic and burn surgery at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. In addition, I have joined and perform with the Young Professionals Choral Collective in Cincinnati.”

1997

ERIN REILLY (MKT) lives in Murphy, Texas. She writes, “While at UD, I was a tour guide and president of Campus Connection, in addition to being active in Christmas on Campus, theater and the School of Business Administration. I am now in the Dallas area and on the Dallas-Fort Worth alumni leadership team in charge of communications. I work at Hewlett Packard Enterprise as a leader for knowledge management. I am proud to say, as of this year, we are a Flyer family. My son is in the Class of 2020 and works with the UD men’s basketball team as a freshman student manager. Go Flyers.”
2007

COLLEEN BEMENT (PSS) lives in Cleveland. She writes, "I am the vice president of business development for PayBridge, a national payroll provider headquartered in Cleveland. I've been featured twice in the Cleveland edition of Smart Business Magazine, giving insights on human resources solutions for the Affordable Care Act and the FLSA overtime rule change." Colleen invites former classmates to contact her at CBement@PayBridge.com.

JIM ELFERS (PAM) lives in Cincinnati. He writes, "I just returned from Ecuador with a group of Moeller High School students who were participating in a language and cultural immersion. The fact that Moeller is a Marianist high school and a big feeder to UD is an added bonus."

BRANDON GROSS (ACC) and MEGAN GROSS '10 (SOC) live in Dayton. They write, "We enjoyed reading our University of Dayton Magazine at the most magical place on earth, aside from UD — Disney World."


MIKE MELZAK (MEE) and JENNY LOWE MELZAK (DEN) announce the birth of Samuel Joseph (6-20-16), who joins family dog Petey at home in Cincinnati. They write, "Samuel already is a big Flyer fan and loves Rudy. Mike is an engineer at General Electric, and Jenny is a dentist in the Clifton neighborhood."

COLLEEN MAXWELL NOROUQUIT (EPT) and her husband, Brad, announce the birth of Jack Maxwell (12-7-15), who joins them at home in O Fallon, Mo. They write, "Jack was named after his grandfather. Go Flyers."

JONATHAN RADWAN (CIS) and KELLY FOSTER RADWAN ’09 (EMS) announce the birth of Jonathan Thaddeus Jr. (5-4-16), who joins sister Jovie at home in Avon Lake, Ohio.

2008

ABBY BUDIN DIPPEL (ECE) and her husband, Bob, announce the birth of identical twins John Patrick and Victor Robert (6-16-16), who join them at home in Aurora, Ohio. Abby

From our last issue

Five readers wrote in to identify Linda Chedd ‘71 as the woman at the 1971 Phi Kappa Mu party in the Autumn 2016 UDentify photo. Jackie Krebs Evino ’72 remembers her fondly. “Linda Chedd Schaftlein was from Louisville, Kentucky. She was my big sister in Kappa Chi sorority. I am sorry to say that Linda is deceased (9-3-06). I was one of the bridesmaids in her wedding and will always remember how many laughs and good times we had, both at UD and at all the UD–U of L basketball parties as well as the Kentucky Derby parties.” Roger Horner ’71 suggests that the men in the photo are Mike Dawson and George Kraus, while John P. Powers ’71 identifies them as Alexander Hannigan and Michael Dawson. “Shout-out to all Phi Kappa Mu brothers and friends,” John writes.

2004

KEVIN DINEEN (MKT) and JENNA BUENING DINEEN ‘03 (MKT) announce the birth of Maddox (5-27-16), who joins them at home in Newtown, Ohio. They write, “Maddox says, ‘Go Flyers.’”

TIMOTHY PAFF (CPE) lives in Cincinnati. He has been hired as a senior capability associate with consulting firm 84.51°.

PATRICK RICE (CIS) and EMILY O’CONNOR RICE ’06 (PUB) announce the birth of Eamon Patrick (8-24-16), who joins sister Elin (4-9-15) at home in Lynnwood, Wash.

KATIE BAILEY SHADLE (ECE) and her husband, Jonathan, announce the birth of Britton Kate (7-21-16), who joins brother Ford, 1, at home in Springboro, Ohio. Katie writes, “Britton was given her grandmother’s maiden name. She weighed 7 pounds and was 20 ½ inches long.”

2005

ZACH CULL (ELE) and his wife, Meredith, announce the birth of Ruby (7-27-16), who joins brother Calvin (8-2-13) at home in Louisville, Ky.

Zach writes, “Ruby and Calvin are grandchildren to Jim Cull ’68 and niece and nephew to Emily Cull Pajek ’08 and Zoe Marcum ’18.”

JESSICA FEGHALI HARDING (EMS) and her husband, Warren, announce the birth of Matthew (3-13-16), who joins brother Quinn at home in Cincinnati.

RYAN KRAMB (CME) and TIFFANY CLOWER KRAMB (ECE) live in Monroe, Ohio. Ryan is a researcher at LyondellBasell Industries. They write, “Ryan was the 2016 recipient of the LyondellBasell Rising Star award, given to an individual employed for three years or less who has shown outstanding performance in his or her position. Ryan was awarded for his contributions to the specialty polypropylene business in the area of product and application development. We have three sons.”

CHERYL MCLAUGHLIN STAATS (SOC)(SPN) and her husband, Ben, announce the birth of Meredith Ann (6-15-16), who joins them at home in Upper Arlington, Ohio. She writes, “Meredith weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 20 ½ inches long. I work as a senior research at the Kirwan Institute, which is located at The Ohio State University.”

2006

PETE KELLER (ACA)(ENT) and ASHLEY LEUENBERGER KELLER (ACA) announce the birth of Amelia Jo (5-5-16), who joins them at home in Franklin, Ohio. They write, “We are loving every minute with our newest Flyer. Pete is CFO for Integrated Protection Services in Cincinnati. Ashley is the athletics business manager for UD athletics. Go Flyers.”

EMILY O’CONNOR RICE (PUB) and PATRICK RICE ’04 (CIS) announce the birth of Eamon Patrick (8-24-16), who joins sister Elin (4-9-15) at home in Lynnwood, Wash.
is a fourth-grade teacher in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

2009

ADAM KESSELELM (RTV-CMM) married DANA RACCO (ERL) June 18, 2016. They write, “We met during our sophomore year and have been together ever since. Many Flyers attended the wedding, and the DJ called us to the floor to the tune ‘Party in the USA’; a DaytonDaytona favorite.” The couple lives in Strongsville, Ohio.

MARYJO PIRAGES (ENG)(POL) married Nathan Reynolds April 30, 2016, in Rockford, Ill., where the couple lives. She writes, “UD alumni in the wedding included Kelsey Faulkner, Laura Simons Kamcza, Andrea Lutter, John Pirages, Katie Leech Theby, Sara Stuckey, Michelle Winterrig Griffin and Allison Swan Woods.”

KIMBERLY FLUEGEMANN JEROME ’11 (CEE) announced the birth of Liam Michael (7-4-16), who joins them at home in Englewood, Ohio. They write, “Liam is already a member of the Flyer Faithful.”

ANNIE SUGAR KESSLER (PUB) lives in Columbus, Ohio. She writes, “I earned a master’s degree in integrated marketing communications from Northwestern University. I have recently been employed by L Brands at Bath & Body Works as the senior analyst of brand and digital marketing. I still get together with my Chi Omega sisters and look forward to attending UD reunions. I treasure my UD relationships and experiences.”

KEVIN LACYE (LAW) lives in Fairfax, Va. He writes, “After spending four years as a Commonwealth of Virginia magistrate, I have accepted a position with the adjudications division of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Washington, D.C.”

JONATHAN DEKAR ’11

Robotic inspiration

During Jonathan Dekar’s freshman year, a woman approached the School of Engineering with a question: Could something be done to improve mealtimes for her daughter, whose disability limited her motion and required a caregiver’s assistance?

This wasn’t the engineering major’s first exposure to this problem. Through his grandfather’s diagnosis with a degenerative disease, he had witnessed the challenges that independent eating posed for some individuals.

“It was a basic human need gone unfulfilled — you have to eat to stay alive,” Dekar said. “This wasn’t just another engineering project, getting food from point A to point B. I wanted it to be emotionally empowering and inspiring.”

Through four years of technical coursework, prototyping and researching the market, Obi was born.

Obi is a tabletop device with an automated spoon, robotic arm and a four-course compartmentalized plate that moves with practiced precision.

After graduation, Dekar shifted his full attention into making this product, learning additional skills in finance management and regulatory compliance.

“An engineering education is a ‘license to learn,’ and with an engineering mindset you can learn to do just about anything. It’s a toolkit,” he said.

Formally launched in July 2016, Obi has already garnered accolades, becoming a finalist in the 2016 International Design Excellence Awards. Obi won a 2016 R&D magazine invention excellence award.

The engineering entrepreneur feels confident in the mission his company has undertaken — to continually improve the quality of life through exciting and usable consumer robotics.

Dekar said he feels others should never let fear of failure dissuade them from trying something difficult. He said, “Failure is an option, fear is not. College allows you to broaden your mind and explore, and when you find what drives you, you become the work you do.” —Madalyn Bebanc 18

2010

GRACE STRZELCYK BILLS (POL) and BRENT BILLS ’11 (CME) announce the birth of Brynn Terry (7-8-16), who joins them at home in Naperville, Ill. They write, “We’re already working on teaching Brynn to say ‘Go Flyers.’”

MEGAN GROSS (SOC) and BRANDON GROSS ’07 (ACC) live in Dayton. They write, “We enjoyed reading our University of Dayton Magazine at the most magical place on earth, aside from UD — Disney World.”

MICHAEL JEROME (MEE) and
in the wedding included Trent Muhlenkamp ‘13, Anna Hedley ‘14, Abigail de la Rosa ‘13, Brad Lefeld ‘12, Alex Winner ‘14, Michelle Griffin Winner ‘05, Peter Moreland ‘07, Alfred Lefeld ’82, Wesley Kahlig ’13, Victoria Winner Moreland ’07, Caleb Muhlenkamp ’15, Jonathan Winner ’05 and Joseph Thomas ‘13. UD runs deep in our families. We were ecstatic with how the renovated chapel looked, and it made us feel as if we were getting married someplace truly special. We honeymooned in Hawaii.” The couple lives in Dayton.

**MATTHEW HENRY (GEN) married LAUREN SCOTT (EMS) June 18, 2016, in Dayton.** They write, “Several alumni were in the wedding party and many more came as guests to celebrate. We’ve been together since junior year.” The couple lives in Dayton.

**STEPHANIE LEFELD (SPN)(VAR) married MARIO DE LA ROSA (FIN) (MKT) May 14, 2016, at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. They write, “Alumni in the wedding included Trent Muhlenkamp ’13, Anna Hedley ‘14, Abigail de la Rosa ’13, Brad Lefeld ’12, Alex Winner ‘14, Michelle Griffin Winner ’05, Peter Moreland ’07, Alfred Lefeld ’82, Wesley Kahlig ’13, Victoria Winner Moreland ’07, Caleb Muhlenkamp ’15, Jonathan Winner ’05 and Joseph Thomas ‘13. UD runs deep in our families. We were ecstatic with how the renovated chapel looked, and it made us feel as if we were getting married someplace truly special. We honeymooned in Hawaii.” The couple lives in Vandalia, Ohio.

**KERRY MARTENS (ECE) married ANDY SCLATER (CMM) July 30, 2016, in Cleveland. They write, “We met at UD and have siblings who are current students: Joe Sclater ’16, Connor Martens ’17 and Abigail Sclater ’19. We also have parents who are alumni: Andy’s parents, Karen Fridl Sclater ’82 and Jim Sclater ’83, and Kerry’s dad, Dave Martens ’80. Andy proposed outside the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception during Family Weekend in September 2015, UD will always be a huge part of our lives. We were very blessed to have a huge Flyer turnout at our wedding.” The couple lives in Dayton.

**ERIC SCHLUETER (OPS) married ABBY SPAETH (ELE) April 16, 2016, at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. They write, “We met at Kennedy Union and paid tribute to our alma mater while riding a trolley around campus before and after the wedding. The campus was gorgeous with all the tulips.” The couple lives in Hamilton, Ohio.

**LAUREN SCOTT (EMS) married MATTHEW HENRY (GEN) June 18, 2016, in Dayton. They write, “Several alumni were in the wedding party and many more came as guests to celebrate. We’ve been together since junior year.” The couple lives in Vandalia, Ohio.

**ABBY SPAETH (ELE) married ERIC SCHLUETER (OPS) April 16, 2016, at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. They write, “We met at Kennedy Union and paid tribute to our alma mater while riding a trolley around campus before and after the wedding. The campus was gorgeous with all the tulips.” The couple lives in Hamilton, Ohio.

**OLIVIA ULLERY (ENG)(WGS) lives in Toledo, Ohio. She has been named head rowing coach at Notre Dame Academy in Toledo.**

**DANIEL WINLAND (MEE) married ALYSSA DEPAOLA (MEE) Aug. 6, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio, where the couple lives. They write, “We both work for Honda in Marysville, Ohio. Eight alumni were in the wedding party, as well as current student Kristina DePaola ’18.”

**2015**

**NATALIE ERDY (MUS) lives in Columbus, Ohio. She writes, “I had fun camping in Indiana with Josh Parker ’17, Abby Klemm ’15, Abigail Sander ’15, Becky Welch ’14, Adam Hayslett ’14, David Middleton ’14 and David Buckholdt ’15.”

**GABRIELLE MATTES (TSL) lives in Palatine, Ill. He writes, “I’ve been teaching English to high school students in Toledo, Spain, for the past year. My mom, Mary Gonella Mattes ’81, visited for Holy Week to see one of the most traditional and cultural Easter celebrations around the world. We couldn’t help but sit on a bench with our University of Dayton Magazine in hand in Gaudí’s Grotto and think we were back on a porch at UD.”**

**2016**

**ELIZABETH CLARKE (REL) lives in Pearland, Texas. She writes, “While I was still a student during the summer of 2015, I traveled with Campus Ministry as a participant on one of their crosscultural immersion trips to Tikal, Guatemala. We immersed ourselves in the culture of Guatemala, staying with host families while learning Spanish at a local language school. The language study on this trip was intensive, involving one-on-one study, for approximately five hours a day. Weekend excursions included trips to natural spas, volcanoes and the beach. This experience offered a great combination of immersion and education, while students reflected on the differences between culture, religion and politics of Guatemala and the United States.”

**JONATHAN PURICELLI (POL) lives in Webster Groves, Mo. He has been selected as a Coro Fellow, an intensive, full-time public affairs program administered by FOCUS St. Louis.”**
Feels like winning

By Brandon Paluch, S.M. ’06

Four-year-old Chloe came from Nairobi, Kenya, to St. Louis for the ceremony. She had come with her family to witness her uncle, Brother Michael Chiuri, S.M., profess his perpetual vows, as I also was doing. Some of our fellow Marianists had come from Hawaii; they placed beautiful leis around the necks of Mike and me. Chloe was impressed.

After the vows, Chloe and her family continued their journey to our community in Los Angeles. After her initial exploration of the house, she found some Play-Doh in my room (a sentimental gift from a UD grad) that she wanted to play with, so she asked if she could. Like a good Marianist, I thought of Mary, so I said, “Yes.”

Seeing she had something, Mike asked, “Did you ask if you could play with that?”

“Yes!” Chloe exclaimed, as she continued playing.

“Who did you ask?”

“The other one!”

“Who?”

“The other one!”

“The other who?”

“The other winner!”

Chloe assumed that the Hawaiian leis around our necks were signs of victory.

Sometimes it feels like that, like winning. It was that way when I first stepped foot on this campus and knew it was home, unaware that for me that feeling was a vocational call in seed form, the gentle, persistent voices of Jesus and Mary. Perhaps coming to UD has been that way for you, too — a gift beyond price, an undeserved victory to be welcomed into this community of love where friendships are forged, gifts are realized, and passions are enflamed and equipped for transformation in our world.

And how God has blessed me not only to study at UD and be inspired by the Marianists I met but also by students, friends and colleagues.

We thank God for calling each of us, not from a distance and in general, but intimately, personally and specifically. God calls most to marriage and the beauty of family life. I stand in awe before the selfless sacrifices of parents and am so grateful for those saying yes to a faith-filled marriage. I thank God for the labor and love of committed single people who witness to the Gospel with a radical trust and generosity. I give thanks, too, because God is still calling people to Marianist religious life as sisters, brothers and priests.

Some, like me, may have just stumbled onto this campus thinking about nothing more than going to college. Others have experienced an enticing, perhaps unsettling, stirring of God in their heart. Still others may be waiting for your invitation or encouragement in order to have the courage to take the next step.

I think it’s safe to say we are all winners.

The unsung heroes of college life

By Emily Keane ’16

Two floors up, hidden in the halls of St. Joe’s, you can hear minds racing. They’re thinking, analyzing, writing. You can hear pencils tapping and witness eyes glued to the broken clock above the door. Students hurriedly finish last paragraphs while professors passionately discuss the election season or Thomas Hobbes or the role of a member of Congress. There are young minds starving to learn. As the nearby chapel bells clang, the chaotic rustle of books collected and crescendo of voices begin. Here, in a 132-year-old building, minds are expanding, opinions developing, lives changing.

There is a familiar repetitiveness in the everyday; but amidst lectures and grading
and casual conversations, there is passion. Heated debates. Eyes being opened for the first time. The spirit of learning floats through the halls and beckons students to grab it and hold on tight. Professors are here, eager and willing to teach beyond borders. Genuine and kind in nature, they are ready to challenge those students thirsting for knowledge. They take them under their wings and transform their lives.

There are some self-interested professors across the country just trying to elevate their careers. Students exist to buy their books and keep their paychecks coming. Others don’t even bother to learn their students’ names, let alone meet with them. They’re there to get ahead and do their scholarly work. Teaching, rather than the primary role, is a necessary evil, a rung on their ladder to get to the top. Students become collateral damage in a professor’s self-promotion.

But “educate” means “leads forth.” Professors are meant to teach, engage and guide students. At the very least, they should recognize faces. But the best teachers don’t just stop there. The truly great teachers walk with their students, stretching their intellect and pushing their limits. They learn with their students and find joy in the journey.

This is what the great men and women do in the freezing rooms of St. Joseph Hall. The material can be dense and the lectures boring, but these professors gave me passion and purpose when I had none. My teachers, ardent about their work, honest and knowledgeable, and incredibly qualified, challenged and shaped me throughout my undergraduate career. They not only mentored me but cared deeply. Their heartfelt sincerity permeates everything they do, and it’s these great teachers that constantly kept me going.

To anyone still in college, be it bright-eyed beginners, bleary learners unsure of why they’re here, exhausted students who feel like giving up or seniors finishing up their college career, here is my advice to you: become friends with your professors. I wish someone had told me this as a freshman. Find a mentor who will challenge you and truly care. Amidst the parties and clubs and the unceasing, exhausting balancing-act that is college, it’s hard to focus on academics when you have 23,056 other things on your plate.

But this is why you’re here. Your mentors are invaluable to your learning experience. They can inspire and motivate you, help advance your career, and most of all, they can teach you. They’ll show you the intricacies of a specific subject or help you find your passion. They’ll slip in things you never thought you’d learn and along the way, they’ll teach you about life. The scholars that annoy you with pop quizzes and papers due on a Sunday are worth getting to know. Because they’ll change the way you learn, the way you think and maybe even your life.

A special thanks to my greatest teacher, Dan Birdsong of the political science department, who is a truly passionate, admirable and inspirational professor, adviser, mentor and friend. Though I was often an unwanted guest, he always answered my questions and taught me so much during those office-hour chats. He helped me become a better student and helped me understand myself. He expanded my worldview and taught me much more than how to analyze an election or the complexities of the presidency. He challenged me, motivated me, and taught me about politics and life. I will always be grateful for the lessons and advice. I only hope that the impact on future students will be as bright and magnificent as his bowties.

Thank you to all the wonderful professors who taught me knowledge, supported me, helped me understand the world and encouraged me. You all shaped and formed me through your classes, conversations and constant support. I believe that teaching is a thankless job but an essential and noble profession. The reason we can achieve anything is because of our teachers who first guide us. Thanks to the giants who paved the way and showed me what I might become.

Emily Keane is now applying lessons learned in St. Joe’s as a secondary education English teacher in the Peace Corps in Ukraine where she will be working for the next two years.

Walking through Warsaw

By Charles Wolan ’53

In 2003 when I visited Poland, as I walked around the city of Warsaw, I would see on almost every corner a small shrine of flowers and burning candles. These were reminders of the people that have been shot and killed on that corner. One might have a marker reading, “At this place 21 people were shot by Nazis,” and as you approached another, the marker might read, “120 people were shot at this place,” and so on.

One morning as I was walking through Warsaw, I was very interested in knowing more about the Warsaw Ghetto. As I came upon a taxi, I asked the driver in German if the Ghetto was within walking distance from where we were. He said he thought it was too far to walk. So I asked him if he could drive me there. He obliged, and we were off to the Ghetto.

When we arrived there, I was surprised to see all the memorials and the beautiful parks. As I was walking around the Ghetto, it began to rain. There I was, stranded without an umbrella or raincoat. When I ran for shelter, a man approached me who happened to speak English. He was a Jew visiting the Ghetto where he once had friends and relatives confined in 1943. As I was about to leave, the man took off his raincoat and gave it to me.

“Please take this raincoat,” he said. “This is the least I can do for you since I recall what you Americans did to free us Jewish people during those depressing years here in the Ghetto and in Europe.”

As we parted, I held back tears. We said goodbye, never to see each other again. To this day, I keep the raincoat as a reminder that Jesus was also a Jew.

Who was this man?
Stories that teach

Less than a week after I heard associate professor Susan Davies speak to educators about traumatic brain injuries in children, teachers from my 1-year-old son’s child care center called me at my office.

Kyle had fallen while toddling across the mobile infant playground and hit his head on concrete. He seemed fine, they said, but they were calling as part of their automatic notification process following such injuries.

They called again 10 minutes later. Emergency medical technicians were on the way and a parent needed to come immediately. Kyle now seemed “lethargic” and appeared sleepy, potential signs of a loss of consciousness.

I panicked. Then I started thinking of what I learned from Davies’ books and training session about concussion recognition response, preparing to put her tips into action to help our son heal. (See story, Page 26.)

As an editor in the Division of Marketing and Communications, I have the opportunity to meet thoughtful, intelligent faculty like Davies who recognize and identify issues they see in their fields of work and take action. It’s research for the common good, information shared that helps everyday citizens advocate for themselves and others.

I was reminded of this when, one year after its original publication in the University of Dayton Magazine, a reader thanked us for publishing an article on the importance of physical therapy for breast cancer survivors.

“Last year, shortly after I had surgery for Stage II breast cancer, I had terrible cording and elbow pain after surgery,” she wrote. “Not a single MD taking care of me mentioned this risk at all. Your article helped me figure out that I needed to seek a lymphedema specialist. Thank you.”

The writer’s son, a UD grad, had sent her the Autumn 2015 article featuring associate professor of physical therapy Mary Fisher and her work helping breast cancer survivors manage elbow and shoulder pain common after surgery. By sharing our faculty’s research in these pages, we not only showcase the high-level work taking place at the University, we present their practical, real-world solutions to a broader audience outside the lab or classroom.

That includes the letter writer, who’s getting the treatment she needs for her post-cancer condition. And me, who knew what to do when my son got hurt that day in late October.

The doctors at Dayton Children’s Hospital checked Kyle for signs of concussion and cleared him with little more than a nasty bruise on his forehead — no need to assemble a concussion team at his child care center. But I took comfort in knowing that if I did, I have access to the best minds working to solve such challenges. And you do, too.

Shannon Shelton Miller
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Sustainable footprint

A record-setting gift from George Hanley ’77 and Amanda Hanley founded UD’s Hanley Sustainability Institute in 2014. Along with its partners across campus and in the community, HSI has forged a path toward sustainability. Here are a few of its steps in the last two years.

Learn more: bit.ly/UDM_HSI_2years
Our community is strongest when we stand together. Because when we each contribute our time, talents and gifts, it adds up in a big way. How?

**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP**

In 2015 and 2016, 50 alumni and friends supported the scholarship. Their gifts ranged from $5 to $1,018.

Buy a UD license plate? Proceeds are donated to this fund -- $XXX in fact.

The scholarship also receives $40,000 annually from a corporation that believes in the power of a UD education.

**THE RESULT? A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF UD STUDENTS.**

In 2015-16, 19 students received $66,250 in scholarships.

In 2016-17, 20 students received $77,375 in scholarships.

Ready to make a difference? Visit givenow.udayton.edu.
Chaminade Hall (center), built in 1905, was barely as old as some of the players on the field in this 1922 photo of football practice. The 6-3 season began with a 59-0 rout of Cedarville, of which The Daytonian wrote, “The battle proved to the student body that they had a real team to yell for.” Thirty years later, when student Chuck Noll stepped with his squad onto what would become known as Baujan Field, fans were still yelling. Read more about the Super Bowl-winning coach’s Dayton days on Page 39.