Spring flowers and the open arms of Christ the Teacher welcome students to class in Fitz Hall.

Photograph by LARRY BURGESS
From anything to art
CONVERSATION PIECES
Right again on Brown Street

PARTING WORDS
Look out, outer space

COMMENTARY
McGinnis memories

PERCEPTIONS
FLIGHT DECK
Mainstream

CLASS NOTES
Familiar and new:

THE ALUMNI
Triple take

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“Get over it. Let’s go.”

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CONTRIBUTORS

JEANEEN PARSONS has worn many hats at UD. Now as the magazine’s production director, that includes managing class notes. “I’ve come full circle where I started 20 years ago as the ‘Class Notes Queen.’ The alumni are near and dear to my heart. I’ve laughed and cried with many of them as they have invited me in to their lives. Pictures of babies and brides are still my favorites — keep ’em coming.”

JESSICA BARGA learned about startups, art from trash and the importance of volunteering for some of this issue’s Back Porch and Class Notes profiles. She joined the University marketing team in June 2015 as a copywriter and has been published in outlets including the Dayton Daily News and Cincinnati Enquirer. Her favorite building at UD is Roesch Library, naturally.

While DEBBIE JUNIEWICZ has yet to venture to Malawi, the two-time University of Dayton graduate (1990 and 1995) is a firm believer in the words of Helen Keller: “Life is either a daring adventure or nothing.” She and her favorite travel companion — her daughter, Mollie — have the passport stamps and frequent flyer miles to prove it.

Cover photograph by Briana Snyder ’09

DAYMAG ON THE GO
Read the magazine anytime, anywhere, by downloading the free University of Dayton Magazine app.
How high will we fly?

Together, we dreamed big and imagined a future of soaring possibilities.

As I near the end of my first year as president, I still hear the thousands of diverse voices from conversations on campus, in alumni gatherings around the nation, in the Dayton community and through Facebook Live as we shaped our aspirational strategic vision to be globally recognized as “THE University for the Common Good.” (See stories, Page 25).

I also hear the echo of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, founder of the Society of Mary, who profoundly understood the transformative power of education. His words reverberate today as we educate socially conscious leaders: “By educating the mind and the heart, the school can form people who in turn can work at changing the very structures of society to ensure a community of justice and reconciliation.”

From our founding 167 years ago, we have unfailingly turned big dreams into bold moves, always with the common good at the center.

Our aspirational vision, then, is anchored in who we are — a Catholic, Marianist university that graduates pragmatic dreamers, compassionate community builders and creative thinkers eager to make a difference in a world all too often fractured by divisiveness.

It’s moored in our belief that, as a preeminent research university, we are called to advance technology in fields that benefit humanity.

And it’s an essential part of our DNA as community builders. As we move two decades into the future, we pledge to blur the lines between the campus and the community as we foster innovation, entrepreneurship and deep engagement in the city of Dayton and beyond and, together, work to make the world more just.

This is not my vision as your new president. It’s our vision.

Dreaming boldly stretches the imagination, but realizing those dreams can stretch us even more. Today, we are challenged to step up.

Working with faculty, staff and researchers, we are already tackling some of the bold aims in our strategic vision — moving forward on plans to create an innovation hub in the Dayton Arcade downtown and aggressively pursuing new research endeavors in fields like sustainability and human rights.

Without greater alumni engagement and support, we can’t become what I call a stronger version of ourselves — a university recognized worldwide as a partner for the common good through our teaching, research, scholarship and civic engagement.

Along with deans and faculty, I will continue to meet alumni where you are — in your communities, workplaces and homes — to listen to your ideas for new curricula, service-learning initiatives and global engagement. I will ask humbly for your support, particularly in improving affordability and access.

How high will we fly? With your support and God’s grace, we will soar.
RANKINGS OF DISTINCTION
As a proud graduate of UD in 1966, I am pleased to see that the 2017 Princeton Review guide on America’s best colleges recognizes that our students are No. 1 in playing intramural sports, No. 3 in happiness, No. 5 in love for UD, No. 8 in the best quality of life and No. 14 in involvement in community service. Princeton Review’s senior editor also mentions UD’s “outstanding academics.” Perhaps in the 2018 edition, we will also be recognized among the top 10 for our superb general education program, distinctive doctoral programs in engineering and theology, our overall commitment to the integration of the humanities and professional education, and a world-famous Marian Library and Marian Research Institute — all of these without losing this year’s achievements.

FATHER JAMES L. HEFT, S.M. ’66
PRESIDENT, INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED CATHOLIC STUDIES
LOS ANGELES

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
Thank you for writing this article about Maj. Gen. Dickman (“A Soldier’s Soldier,” Spring 2017). We need more stories about our country’s servicemen.

CARL BASCH ’74
NORTH ROYALTON, OHIO

PEACEFUL BROTHER
In the Spring 2017 issue of the University of Dayton Magazine, I noted with interest the article about Maj. Gen. Joseph T. Dickman. Then I was moved to suggest that at some point our UD alumni and supporters will be able to read about Marianist Brother Leo Murray who was a professor at the University, a member of the Catholic peace movement, Pax Christi, and an active peacemaker in Ireland where he died. Leo traveled between Dublin and the Belfast area and was a facilitator of dialogue between people of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. When I visited with Leo in Dublin at New Year’s time, 1982, he took me on a tour of the Wicklow Mountains region, and we came at last to the Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation, where he carried on some of his work. When Leo was in Dayton, earlier on and first mentioned Pax Christi to me, I was ignorant of the movement and thought he was kind of radical. He was radical all right: in the sense that he had a deep-rooted love for the peace of Christ (Pax Christi) and lived accordingly.

JERRY BETTICE ’58
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Editor’s note: Brother Leo Murray ’39 helped organize one of the first annual conferences of Pax Christi USA in 1975 at Bergamo Center in Dayton. “It is more difficult to work for peace than it is for violence,” said Murray, a professor of theology. Murray died in 1987 at age 70.

HUMANITY, FRIENDSHIP
Thank you for the article on the 1967 Flyers (“Flyers in the Finals,” Spring 2017). The center, Dan Obrovac, was my stepfather. He was not a basketball player to me, just an amazing human.

—Marnie Prigozen Lowden ’94

“He was not a basketball player to me, just an amazing human.”
As Dan struggled for life 45 years after Donoher was his coach, Donoher was by his side, and he even informed teammates of Dan’s illness. They all visited often. Both Donoher and Dan Sadlier drove four hours to be with the family when it was time to say goodbye. As much as basketball was their public legacy, their humanity and friendship are the legacy that those of us that know and knew them will pass along for generations.

MARNIE PRIGOZEN LOWDEN ’94
SPENCERVILLE, INDIANA

MEMORIES OF ’67

Michael Williams’ story, “Flyers in the Finals,” and the accompanying photos re-kindled some wonderful UD memories.

I was a freshman living in University Hall on the so-called West Campus in 1967 when the Flyers made their improbable run to the NCAA championship game. Scores of us in the all-male dorm packed the TV room in the basement, just past the pool tables, to watch May, Hooper and the rest win the first three games. But because the finals occurred on Easter break, there were only about a dozen of us left at UH on that weekend, screaming our lungs out as the Flyers incredibly pummeled North Carolina before losing to UCLA.

Fifty years later my wife, Ginny Sirianni ’70, and I still follow the team, watching nearly every game on TV and even venturing out to Pittsburgh in March for the A-10 tournament.

BILL DONELLON ’70
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

FINALS IN FREEDOM HALL

Enjoyed the article on the 1966-67 Flyers — brought back many memories. Hard to believe it’s been 50 years. We went to all the regional games culminating in the finals at Freedom Hall — was an exciting time indeed.

GENE SHARKEY ’67
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA
GINO6414@GMAIL.COM

GARDEN OF LOVE

Thank you for the article about Mary’s Garden [“Flowers for Mary,” Spring 2017]. It brought to mind some beautiful memories about the rose garden outside Alumni Hall. The beds of roses and perennials wrapped around benches and provided an oasis for me when I felt stressed or sad or lonely.

I remember a faculty member, I think it was Jack Rang, telling me that the brother who tended the garden would gather recycling from various departments to pay for materials to maintain his gardens. I would like to have met that man — the one whose labor of love gave me such peace. His garden epitomizes humble beauty, and I have a special love for the garden and the gardener. When they removed the garden to make way for a different kind of growth, I was so sad to see it go. I was also so happy that the brother who tended it so lovingly was not there to see its demise.

And now there is a new garden. I hope the brother with the gift of horticulture looks

AMONG THE 13,000

Editor’s note: We received letters from readers who were among the 13,000 students the UD Research Institute has employed in its 60-year history. Here are excerpts from two.

I was a UDRI part-time employee while working on my MBA during 1966 and part of 1967. The assignments that stand out most vividly involved an environmental chamber [set to] 120-140 degrees and 90 percent humidity. The chamber was simulating conditions that U.S. pilots were facing in Vietnam on the flight line while waiting for take-off in their fighter jets. From what I recall, some pilots were losing consciousness after as few as 15 to 20 minutes. The focus was on cooling the pilot directly by attaching small-diameter nylon tubing systematically to all areas of an undergarment that resembled long underwear with a hood, then using a small portable canister with chilled brine and a pump inside that could be connected to the garment after the subject was fully dressed in a flight suit with helmet. I recall documenting tests where our subject was in the chamber for more than 2 ½ hours and was still very alert and comfortable (just a wet face from perspiration). Our group kept miniaturizing the canister and pump and documenting the performance as units were decreased in size. This was a fun project for me and I learned a lot from it — especially to stay out of the chamber!

WAYNE KING ’67
COLUMBUS, OHIO

I worked for UDRI during the summer of 1969 in two roles: as an employee and an experimental subject. As an employee I participated in research to determine if there were sufficient common elements in speech patterns to allow for computers to respond to the human voice. As a “guinea pig” I was led into an isolation chamber, given a very high-quality headset, and positioned in front of an apparatus. After a period of silent equilibration, different tones were fed into the headset as I attempted to maneuver a wand back and forth without touching a wire; kind of like playing the Operation game, a buzzer beeped if I touched the wire with the wand. The sounds were high-, medium- and low-pitched. I found out that the experiment was designed to see what pitch level sounds were most negatively impactful on pilots. Both experiences were memorable and furthered my interest in research, such that when I graduated from UD with my master’s in biology I started a 15-year stint in basic research in the area of plant and cell physiology.

BOB TOIA ’69
CENTERVILLE, OHIO
RTOIA@WOH.RR.COM
down on it and is pleased. I hope the students who are stressed or sad or lonely feel its healing powers. I hope it thrives.

There was a sign in the Alumni Hall garden that said:
“The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the bird for mirth,
One is nearer God’s heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth.”
A fitting tribute to a garden’s beauty and power for spiritual renewal.

KIRSTEN JOAN MEANS ’86
PELHAM, ALABAMA

Editor’s note: The garden around Alumni Hall was lovingly tended by Brother Vincent Wottle, S.M. ’36, among others. Wottle was a chemistry professor and assistant to the bursar.

EMOTIONAL THERAPY
I will add my heartfelt thank you [for “Undetected. Untreated. Unvoiced.” Spring 2017]. I sustained a serious trauma (skiing accident) leading to a six-week coma. When I recovered consciousness I had excellent physical therapy for my physical deficits but none for my mental and emotional injuries. I had a severe traumatic brain injury and could not return to my work as an anesthesia nurse practitioner, which had been very important to me. In most cases, counseling is standard, but it was not offered to me and it took me several years to come to terms with the feelings of uselessness. I applaud your efforts to bring the issue to greater knowledge and importance.

PATRICIA LAIDLAW
POSTED TO UDQUICKLY

CPR SAVES
[Regarding “Inked for the Cause,” 3-16-17]: My now-12-year-old is alive thanks to bystander CPR by two amazing men, the fire department’s quick response and an AED to shock her back to life. CPR saves! Go Flyers!

EILEEN ’90
POSTED TO UDQUICKLY

CORRECTION
It turns out the fountain of youth lies in typos. In the Spring 2017 issue, we mistyped the class year of Richard Rockwell in the attribution to his quotation about the UD ROTC (Page 14). Rockwell is from the Class of 1973, not 1993.

“These are not the blameworthy individu-
als whose executions can be justified.”
—FORMER GOV. BOB TAFT, DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, WHO WITH
JOSEPH KERNAN PUBLISHED A BIPARTISAN PIECE IN THE WASHINGTON POST ON ENDING THE
DEATH PENALTY FOR MENTALLY ILL CRIMINALS

“It gets them up out of their seats so they can really participate in it. Active learning is key.”
— HUMAN RIGHTS LECTURER TONY TALBOTT, ON CNN INTERNATIONAL FOR
#MYFREEDOMDAY, DISCUSSING AN ANTI-TRAFFICKING, LIFE-SIZED BOARD GAME
FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

“Large government investments helped facilitate the transition from immigrant generation to American-born and -raised.”
—UNA CADEGAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, IN A WASHINGTON POST PERSPECTIVES
PIECE ON CATHOLIC IMMIGRATION AND SOCIAL POLICIES, THEN AND NOW

“Our research works to understand the body as a machine, one that can live a better, healthier, more independent and, yes, balanced life.”
—KIM BIGELOW, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIOENGINEERING ON THE ACADEMIC
MINUTE, WAMC

“The language can lead to the cultural reality of these kinds of behaviors.”
—COMMUNICATION LECTURER JENN FREITAG ON LOCKER ROOM TALK AND
GENDER VIOLENCE, ON “SKIN IN THE GAME” PODCAST APRIL 3

“We demand a much higher return on our investments than we would ever receive from the bank.”
—PROFESSOR ROBERT BRECHA ON HOME ENERGY UPDATES, ON WAMC’S THE
ACADEMIC MINUTE

“In today’s world, the airlines are only going to make money when they’re running at 80 percent capacity or above.”
—JANET BEDNAREK, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, IN THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION
"Even though there are over 8,000 of us, I can still find a friendly face on the way to class."
— SOPHOMORE JOSEPH MYERS FROM HIS "MY LIFE" BLOG

"It matters that women and girls see superheroes that look like them and that reflect their lives and how complicated and rich they are."
— ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH ELIZABETH MACKAY

"The thing that makes [great lawyers] is the ability to engage in a conversation with the justices."
— SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ELENA KAGAN TO 26 ALUMNI AT A UD SCHOOL OF LAW RECEPTION BEFORE THEY WERE SWORN INTO THE BAR OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

"You'll be the fiercest warrior with the best wardrobe."
— DANIEL HERDMANN TO HIS DAUGHTER, BETH HERDMANN, CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

"Give me a keen understanding, a retentive memory, and the ability to grasp things correctly and fundamentally."
— LINE FROM A CAMPUS MINISTRY PRAYER TO BEGIN GUIDED REFLECTION ON IMMIGRATION

Global madness
bit.ly/UDM_Mandarin.broadcast
A radio broadcast heard halfway around the world made headlines across the globe during March Madness. CBS This Morning March 10 aired the story of Yiqing Zhou and Xueyin Shi, UD graduate students who provide play-by-play accounts of Flyer men's basketball games in Mandarin via a stream on daytonflyers.com. This was the second season UD provided Chinese-language game coverage and the first during which students called games in the post-season. Seen and heard on nearly every CBS television and radio affiliate (watch on URL above), the story also received attention from The New York Times, SB Nation and China Daily, where Hong Xiao ’14 reported on the pair.

Sound invasion
Live on Air
A sweet little girl is helping the Martians invade Earth. In and out of the house she goes — for a sandwich and milk, and then for a hammer and lead pipe — each time leaving the screen door swinging and slamming behind her. Students in UD’s Theatre, Dance and Performance Technology Program built this miniature screen door — measuring 16 by 20 inches — for performances held in April of three 1950s radio plays. The actors doubled as Foley artists, delivering lines while providing live sound effects to mirror the action happening in the script. Audiences had their choice of experiences — listening on WUDR, watching on Flyer TV or being scared out of their seats during Ray Bradbury’s “Zero Hour” invasion of Boll Theatre.
Certified creative

Student Karly Michel plans to become a dentist; Colin Joern, an engineer. Both understand the importance of learning creative confidence and entrepreneurial thinking. During spring semester, they joined 19 of their peers in the pilot course Applied Creativity for Transformation, which was recently approved as an undergraduate certificate program. Said Brian LaDuca, director of the Institute for Applied Creativity for Transformation, “It will add to their academic pursuits with a focus on developing a personal mission, using transdisciplinary learning and humanity-centered design.” The first cohort of 10 students is expected to graduate in May 2018.

Neet seat

Zach McHale ’06 is committed to keeping the soda, spilled by that little kid sitting behind you, from soaking your coat. His invention, the Neet Seat, is a pouch that attaches to stadium and arena seats to hold coats and other items, keeping them off the floor and freeing your lap for tracking stats during Flyers games. McHale, a chemical engineering graduate, won first place and $25,000 during the University's 11th annual Flyer Pitch business plan competition this March. More than 200 teams competed in six rounds held in Dayton, China and Vietnam.

Hi, Flyer

#VisitUD

Look for the red backpack, and you'll find a fledgling Flyer. This winter, the Office of Admission and Financial Aid started handing out cinch packs to prospective students on campus tours. They hold information on academic and campus life, coupons for food and Flyer gear, plus the new #VisitUD quiz cards — “Which is the best first-year residence hall?” Hint: It’s a trick question — that can be redeemed for a Dayton T-shirt. And while the pack is functional, it’s also obvious, making it even easier for Flyers on campus to say hello and share their own UD stories.
JOIN US

THEN & NOW
Through July 31
A retrospective art show in the Roesch Library First Floor Gallery features the calligraphic art of Patti Trick Paulus ’82.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION SUMMIT
Thursday, June 22
This year’s professional development conference focuses on “Care of Hearts and Souls,” offering practical information for Catholic school educators and supporters. At River Campus. Registration: go.udayton.edu/cce/summit.

EX ORIENTE LUX
June 26 – Sept. 8
This exhibit of Marian art from Asia is open Monday through Friday in the Marian Library Gallery, seventh floor of Roesch Library.

MOVE-IN DAY
Friday, Aug. 18
Brand new Flyers meet their alumni counterparts during first-year move-in day. To volunteer to hand out water and welcomes, email dayton@alumni.udayton.edu.

More events at udayton.edu/calendar.

FLIGHT DECK

A resounding success

Four years ago, the University embarked on a bold plan — eliminate fees and hold steady the tuition a student pays from year one to year four.

This May, the first class to enroll under the University’s innovative transparent tuition plan graduated.

Results are better than expected.

The Class of 2017 posted an 8 percentage point increase in the four-year graduation rate and reduced their cumulative student loan debt by nearly $6 million, as compared to the previous year.

“While we expected good results, these outcomes are phenomenal and prove transparent pricing makes a huge difference for students and their families,” said Jason Reinoehl, vice president for strategic enrollment management.

“When we decided to overhaul the way we charged tuition, we saw it as part of our moral obligation as a Catholic institution to do what is right for our students,” he said. “Now with these results, we are proud to see how giving our families peace of mind when it comes to price sets students up for success.”

The pricing clarity has helped more students persist toward graduation and borrow less along the way. The Class of 2017’s record four-year graduation rate of 67 percent is about 8 percentage points higher than historic averages and well above the University’s previous high of 62 percent.

The University’s federally reported six-year graduation rate has been approximately 80 percent, and results from the transparent tuition program are expected to push that above 85 percent. The positive trend is universal across the student population, including all income segments and student populations.

Overall, students also have reduced their borrowing by more than 22 percent. On average, four-year graduates who take loans to finance their education will borrow less than $18,000 in student loans, or an average of $5,000 less than those before the plan.

President Eric F. Spina acknowledges that investing in a college education is a substantial commitment for families and for students.

“Higher education has a responsibility to be upfront and transparent about what those costs will be,” he said. “I’m proud the University of Dayton is leading the way in the national conversation about what we can do to help students afford a college education and succeed in earning a degree.”

May graduate Renee Brown said the tuition plan was a major factor in helping her decide to enroll at the University. She graduated with zero debt May 7.

“I have three siblings, so whatever college I chose had to make sense financially for me and my family,” said Brown, a native of Lexington, Kentucky, who received her degree in education, intervention specialist. “The University of Dayton stood out because it allowed me to plan all four years of expenses without worrying about any surprise lab fees, tuition increases or other charges I wasn’t expecting.”

Subsequent classes are also exhibiting positive trends in retention and borrowing. The Class of 2021, which begins classes Aug. 23, will be the fifth class to enroll under the transparent pricing program.

—Meagan Pant
Anchoring the Arcade

An iconic building in the heart of downtown Dayton is being reborn as a center of innovation with leadership from the University of Dayton and The Entrepreneurs Center. Both have submitted a letter of intent to become the anchor tenants of the Arcade Innovation Hub. They will work together to bring other community, higher education, research and corporate partners into the space.

Said Scott Koorndyk, president of The Entrepreneurs Center, “The Hub will be visible proof that Dayton’s long heritage of innovation is alive, healthy and growing.”

If current development plans continue, the Arcade Innovation Hub would include mixed-use space for academic, research and experiential learning programs for the University; start-up companies; venture or angel capital organizations; commercialization or entrepreneurial development partners; corporate partners; and collaborations with other higher education institutions.

University President Eric F. Spina said it will be a transdisciplinary, experiential-learning space.

“It will be a place where our students gain confidence that they can, indeed, work in community to change the world,” he said.

The University’s involvement grew from the long-range strategic vision for the next 20 years. A key element of the strategic vision includes developing deeper collaborations with greater impact to catalyze investments and entrepreneurship.

—Cilla Shindell

We had to dust the rust off some archive files to identify this photo. Taken this winter, it shows a forgotten locker room in the basement of the Montgomery County (Ohio) Fairgrounds Coliseum where Flyers once gathered for half-time pep talks. The men’s basketball team played here sporadically starting in the 1920s, tallying a winning record of 17-7 on its court. The Daytonian reported that a game by the 1925 varsity squad against Capital University “was one of the fastest and best-played of the year,” with Coach Harry Baujan switching up the regular lineup. Flyers won, 24-20. At the time considered an off-campus venue, this image from history is now part of campus; University of Dayton and Premier Health closed April 14 on the purchase of the fairgrounds property.

Rust, buckets
Perez to the rescue

If you’re in trouble, senior Gonzalo Perez wants to get you help—fast.

The mechanical engineering technology major designed and built a prototype of Code-E, an emergency response drone. He shared it with the campus community during the Stander Symposium April 5.

As a sophomore, Perez said he was inspired by the start-ups he visited in Suzhou Industrial Park during his semester studying at the University of Dayton China Institute. During the next two years, he researched, planned, designed and built the waterproof and fire-resistant cargo drone. With a planned motor upgrade, the drone will be capable of delivering 20 pounds of emergency equipment, such as medication, water or a defibrillator, to a scene to assist before emergency crews can arrive.

Funded by the Office of the Dean in the School of Engineering, the $7,000 prototype is a pilot project of Leonardo Enterprises. The business incubator to be run within the School of Engineering will provide seed money and business mentoring to students with product ideas.

Perez has pitched his invention to the University’s business plan competition twice. This year, he made it to the Flyer Pitch semifinal round.

“That’s when I realized that this idea can be a good idea,” he said.

Perez will, this summer, make refinements with hopes of presenting the completed project to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency for consideration.

And after graduation in August, Perez, a native of Argentina who has written and applied for a provisional patent for his invention, is courting investors to get Code-E off the ground and headed your way.

Half-million dollar award to develop drug-testing models

Engineering researcher Kristen Comfort won a five-year, $542,000 National Science Foundation CAREER award to support her quest to build a cellular model that acts more like a human body, allowing for a better understanding and visualization of human-drug interactions.

Her research could lead to better ways to deliver medicine straight to the source of an illness—such as a malignant tumor or infection—without the cost and ethical concerns of animal testing.

Comfort, director of the bioengineering program, has tested 3-D cultures, multicellular systems and fluid flow models individually, but she wants to use her award to tie them all together into more realistic systems.

“If we have 20 different drugs, this model can help us identify which one is able to be delivered to a target at high enough concentrations to be both effective and safe,” she said.

Comfort, who received her undergraduate degree in 2002 from UD, will employ a graduate student and two undergraduate students for the five-year term.

NSF award to boost mentoring

University of Dayton first-year doctoral student Jesse Hughes ’16 will mentor minority undergraduate students and introduce them to campus research opportunities after receiving a 2017 National Science Foundation graduate research fellowship.

Hughes, a Cincinnati native who holds a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University, will receive $138,000 in tuition and living expenses over three years.

“This award is going to create opportunities for more students to get involved in the process of research,” said Tom Williams, associate professor of biology, in whose laboratory Hughes works. It is the first NSF graduate research fellowship awarded to the department of biology, Williams said.
The bronze sculpture shook in his calloused hands as he brought it to his lips before lifting it over his head. Bishop Enemésio Lazzaris then raised his hands to calm the standing audience in Kennedy Union ballroom as they showed their gratitude.

UD created the Blessed Óscar Romero Human Rights Award in 2000 to commemorate the life and death of the martyred Salvadoran archbishop. The award honors “an individual or organization whose work has contributed significantly to the alleviation of the suffering of the human family.”

Romero offered his booming, unwavering voice to the voiceless poor of El Salvador. He spoke on issues of poverty and social injustice and dedicated his life to the service of others.

This year, the UD Human Rights Center presented the award to the Pastoral Land Commission of the Brazilian National Bishops’ Conference for its decades of dedication to the people of the countryside in Brazil. Lazzaris, president of the commission, accepted the award.

Romero’s impact is reflected in the work of the award’s recipients. There is deep international impact, such as that of Doctors Without Borders and founder Bernard Kouchner, and impact focused on the needs of particular demographics, including Radhika Coomaraswamy and her work to address issues of violence against women. Juan Méndez received the inaugural award for his work with the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights.

Pope Francis describes Romero as “a voice that continues to resonate.” Lazzaris, in his address to the audience, said Romero’s spirit lives on through those who have the courage to face the cruelest injustices in our world.

Lazzaris closed his speech by personifying the fight of all those who are inspired by Romero: “As long as we fight for justice and right, they’ll stay alive. Forever.”

—Erin Frey ’18
Teaching is like basketball

What is your philosophy of teaching?

We asked that question of Brother Dennis Bautista, S.M., associate professor of English and communication studies at St. Mary’s University in San Antonio. A graduate of Chaminade University, he received his Ph.D. from Washington State University.

I tell my students that my philosophy of teaching is like basketball. In basketball, there are players, coaches, referees and fans. My players are my students who are developing their skills and talents.

A respectful attitude, openness to feedback, disciplined work ethic and love of learning enable them to succeed in the classroom, in careers, in life.

Coaches develop a game plan. I coach students to meet their learning objectives. So they can understand the fundamentals and build on them, I present complex ideas as basic concepts. I provide feedback on their performance on projects requiring them to practice essential skills. I share professional examples as a standard of excellence.

I individually encourage underperforming or discouraged students to be patient, to try again — sometimes giving additional assignments to review fundamental concepts.

I remind students to abide by the policies of the course. Like a referee, I point out infractions, ensuring participants are treated equally and fairly, so all follow the rules. When students miss deadlines or submit assignments in the wrong format, they are penalized. Absences and tardies are recorded; when students reach the limit allowed, they are dropped from the course. At times, further review is given to a student who presents a valid reason why a penalty is to be excused.

Finally, I am their biggest fan. I teach subjects I love; what a reward it is for me to share what I enjoy with those who want to learn! When they succeed, I cheer; when they fail, I’m sad but continue to cheer them on.

Sometimes, I find myself cheering more for students to succeed than the students are cheering for themselves. I remind them that I cannot do assignments for them; they must take the initiative. I will cheer them on and give them tips on how to succeed; it is up to them to achieve success, to win.
Judy Litmer Schaefer ’65 writes, “Pat Aufderheide Bringman ’63 (right) and I took UD Magazine along to have ‘tea time’ on a ship as we were sailing on the Ionian Sea.” The Mediterranean cruise was a 50th wedding anniversary celebration for Tom and Judy Schaefer, who celebrated with friends Pat and Walt Bringman.

“I set a goal to drive through a big tree before my 30th UD reunion in June 2017. Done and done!” Greg Deinzer ’87 writes, who holds up his UD Magazine while a friend takes a picture at Redwood National Park. “I drive and think about UD,” writes Greg Deinzer ’87, who holds up his UD Magazine while a friend takes a picture at Redwood National Park.

Kristin Kuhman ’98 writes, “My UD Class of 1998 roommates and I took a trip to Cancún, Mexico, to celebrate our 40th birthdays. Our husbands (two of whom are also UD alumni) arranged it and planned it as a surprise! It was no small feat, as we live in three states and all have busy jobs, families and schedules.”

“Rudy was ready for his close-up at Ayers Rock, also known as Uluru, in central Australia in January,” writes Margaret Hoile Thomas ’73. “My husband Bob and I completed an almost monthlong bucket list trip to Australia and New Zealand.”

Joe Berry ’86 writes, “I was reading UD Magazine with the first Habitat for Humanity Global Village Team to volunteer on the island of Tobago. The team was made up of current UD students who are all members of the Habitat for Humanity chapter on campus.”

Jane Wieloch Reik ’80 writes, “I’ve always enjoyed the photos of alumni and their travels and was inspired to bring my most recent UD Magazine on a recent vacation to Cuba. I competed in the LáHabana triathlon in Havana, where I finished in second place in my age group. The photo was taken in front of our hotel, the iconic Hotel Nacional.”

Evan Ruggiero ’13, Seth Hollingsworth ’13 and Andrew Doerfler ’14 brought UD Magazine along during a recent ski trip with the Ohio Valley Ski Council to Niseko, Hokkaido, Japan. Evan writes, “We were able to capture this indescribably beautiful picture the first day on the slopes. Had to make sure we represented UD on the opposite side of the planet during our stay. Go Flyers!”

Morrie Doyle ’60 (right) writes, “On a Caribbean cruise with St. Agnes Catholic Church, Naples, Florida, John Kroll ’59 recognized me some 62 years later! We lived several rooms from each other in Founders Hall in the fall of ’55. Turns out we are fellow parishioners in a very large parish.”

Zlatko Kaurin ’11 (right) writes, “Michael Sculz ’06, Elisabeth Sculz ’06 and I took our UD Magazine with us as we stood in front of the Cathedral of St. Sava in Beograd, Serbia, last summer.”

Ben Inkrott ’13 is currently the community leader for the Raleigh/Durham University of Dayton Alumni Community. Ben writes, “Every year since graduation, along with a few of the lifelong friends I made at UD, I take a trip out West to go skiing and snowboarding. This year we were out in Lake Tahoe at Heavenly Resort.”

Natalie O’Connor ’11 writes, “Every year our company, Expensify, travels to a different country to work for a month. There are now five UD grads in a company of just over 100 people based in San Francisco. This year, we are working from Uruguay and had the opportunity to stay at the famous Casapueblo in Punta Ballena, Uruguay.” Pictured from left are David Bondy ’09, Ryan Schaffer ’09, Matt McNamera ’09, T.J. Ferriss ’13 and O’Connor.

Asia Ameigh ’16, Terry Zeman ’86 and Dwight Zeman ’86 took UD Magazine with them as they stood in front of Mozart’s home in Vienna, Austria.
Laura
@LauraUDDC27
DC alums showing up! #lowd #godaytonflyers #flyerfaithful @daymag @univofdayton

Lucy Hartzell
@r_love_LucyH
When the sun sets over Stuart hill, I remember I’m home 🌹❤️️ @univofdayton

Roesch Library
@roeschlibrary
The 6th floor is so quiet, someone once asked an employee to kick a person out because they were chewing an apple too loudly. 🍏😊

Norm Grevey
@Grevey23ud
Congrats on a great hire @DaytonMBB. So proud of former teammate Coach Anthony Grant. The future is going to be awesome. #FlyerNation

Kimberly Gauntner
@KimberlyGauntne
Maybe it is just me, but every time I get this magazine, it feels like a letter from home. @daymag @univofdayton

Laura
@LauraUDDC27
DC alums showing up! #lowd #godaytonflyers #flyerfaithful @daymag @univofdayton

Norm Grevey
@Grevey23ud
Congrats on a great hire @DaytonMBB. So proud of former teammate Coach Anthony Grant. The future is going to be awesome. #FlyerNation

Michaela Eames
@MklaEames
You might be a @UDaytonAlumni if you experience a mix of confusion and jealousy when a friend tells you they’re going to @Lowes ...

Adam Tschuor
@aktchuor
Congratulations to @DaytonPrezSpina on his inauguration today! An incredible person to work for & has a tremendous vision for @univofdayton

Kate O’Hara
@Kateohara9
#MyBestEverDecision was deciding to go to the @univofdayton. What was yours?

Carol Harper
@And_Carol_On
There’s about 2 degrees of separation between everyone at this bar #gflyers 🪡❤️️ @univofdayton

Grace Berton
@GraceBerton
I just befriended a family on a tour at @univofdayton ... and by befriended I mean I said hi and go flyers #goflyers

Lindsay Moorman
@ItsMimsyMoorman
Walking through Hong Kong airport in my UD clothes. And I’ve gotten 2 “Go Flyers” love that place and its people @univofdayton #Flyers

Chloé M. Costales
@ChloMC
Looking forward to seeing @DaytonPrezSpina continue his leadership here at UD by making our community more inclusive for all #ThisIsOurUD

Elaine Laux
@elaux94
My mother’s @univofdayton Reunion Weekend (‘87) and mine (‘16) are both this year! We registered this morning and can’t wait! @UDaytonAlumni

UD Women’s Center
@UDWomenscenter
INS student Alexis Bovell, ’18 says her SHE-ro is @TherealTaraji b/c “she’s bold, blunt & embodies what a strong woman should be.” #WHM

UD International Festival

j k r o
@juliekromar
you’re going to have to drag me away from campus people. i refuse to leave @univofdayton
Arch supports
It may have opened in 1927 as a public elementary school on the edge of Dayton, but in the years since 1982, the building known as McGinnis has become a center of college life. In that building, UD students have washed thousands of loads of laundry; before Family Weekends, they’ve flocked there to check out vacuum cleaners. They have cried together and rocked together, shared meals and culture and stories. They’ve danced, hugged and prayed in McGinnis. In 2018, they will have a new place to dance, hug and pray.

Preparations have begun for the construction of an $11.2 million four-story apartment building in place of McGinnis Center, which will be demolished. The new building will help fulfill the growing student demand for campus housing with high-quality amenities.

No need for a laundry room when each apartment will have its own washing machine.

The 24 two-bedroom, four-person apartments will be built townhouse style, similar to the Caldwell Street Apartments on campus.

But what about Sunday Mass? Sorority meetings?

The apartments at 301 Lowes Street — McGinnis Center’s address — will feature ground-floor areas for student services, meetings and worship space.

The new building will be LEED certified and ready in August 2018 for students for the fall semester.

While we are sad to see it go, we have our memories. Future students will make more memories on the old site in the new building. And you can bet the sign of peace will still take forever.

TIMELINE

1927
On land purchased by National Cash Register Co. founder Frank J. Patterson at the turn of the century, Patterson Annex Public School is constructed.

1940
It is renamed Leota Clark Public School in honor of the first principal of another Dayton school, Patterson, where she served as principal for 34 years (1891-1925).

1948
Building becomes home to Clark Occupational School.

1962
Dayton School of Practical Nursing moves in.

1974
Home to the Alternative High School, which in 1978 changes its name to the Alternative Learning Center.
“We were an outpost in the student neighborhood. I remember when we got a copier and all the students would come to use it. It was a lot of fun working there as a graduate assistant — you were immersed in whatever was happening.” —Jon Husted ’89, ’93

“Father Ken Templin, Kilwein’s playing amazing music, standing-room only to celebrate together each week! You are all Good News!” —Traci Ganim Arway ’01

“I remember squeezing every last bit of space out of that room. Just when you didn’t think another person would fit, we’d find room to squeeze in five more. And, it was all with a welcoming smile.” —Bryan McEldowney ’02

“Putting in a load of laundry and attending Mass.” —Carlos Restrepo ’96

“We once got over 100 students on their feet, learning hip-hop and Irish dance moves from Hammerstep, an innovative New York dance company founded by Garrett Coleman ’11.” —Eileen Carr, UD ArtsLIVE coordinator

“Just thinking about the sign of peace at every McGinnis Center Mass still makes me smile. So much positive energy and hugs in one room! McGinnis is also where I made some of my strongest college friendships during Metanoia meetings. That place has magic.” —Stephanie Wiezbenski DeLiberato ’09

“McGinnis was the true community center of the student neighborhood. After the memorial service for Steve Yano at the chapel, all of his friends and family went back to McGinnis. It just felt natural that McGinnis would be the place we used to cry and laugh and celebrate our friend and his life.” —Samantha Brandenburg ’05

“The UD Lifelong Learning Institute held seminars for retirees at McGinnis. It was at McGinnis in 2008 in juggling class that I first met my sweetheart, Marsha. I was 65 and she was 55. We have been inseparable ever since.” —Neil Jones, Kettering, Ohio

“My favorite part of Mass at McGinnis was that it took forever to give the sign of peace. Farewell McGinnis!” —Clare Roccaforte ’02

Edited from interviews and alumni posts to Facebook

AUG. 30, 1982
School is purchased by the University of Dayton.

DEC. 6, 1984
Building is dedicated McGinnis Center in memory of Edward McGinnis, late husband of UD trustee Marie-Louise McGinnis. The McGinnis family pledges $250,000 to renovate the school and transform it into a center of student life.

1996
Further renovations include the addition of a large-screen TV in the lounge and TVs with VCRs in meeting rooms, a conference area and office space for a housekeeper and for student staff and fellows.

2016
UD announces McGinnis Center will be demolished to make room for new student housing and activity spaces. Project is deferred for a year.

MAY 2017
McGinnis Center demolition begins. Offices are temporarily housed at Lawnview Apartments, and Sunday night Mass is celebrated in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception until the new building, 301 Lowes Street, is ready in August 2018.
Returning to ‘a special place’

Talking to a group of current students about UD, a 1987 grad said, “This is a special place.” Back on campus for the first time in quite a while, he easily recalled the address of his old house — 1302 Brown St.

The grad was Anthony Grant, speaking at an April 1 news conference at the University of Dayton Arena. Two days earlier he had been announced as head coach of the University of Dayton, only the seventh in the last 70 years.

The students to whom he was talking were his team. “This is a labor of love,” he told them. “This program is about this community, about the city of Dayton, about you guys.”

The basketball program, he said, “is a successful one, but the potential is here for so much more.”

Christina Grant, his wife, told Campus Report editor Shannon Miller, “Two weeks ago we were talking about settling down and making Oklahoma our home for a while, so our high schoolers could graduate.”

The Grants had been there for two years; he was on the coaching staff of the NBA’s Oklahoma City Thunder. Then, UD’s coach at the time, Archie Miller, resigned to go to Indiana. Dayton called Grant, who as a senior at UD was co-captain and MVP.

Don Donoher, Grant’s UD coach, said, “He was into the NBA with a great franchise and everything, and all of a sudden I got a call from him. And he said, ‘What do you think?’“

“And I said, ‘Come on!’”

“When he got the call from Dayton,” Christina Grant said, “it was like a whole different world. He has a special place in his heart for Dayton, so I figured if he spoke with the administration, it was likely going to happen.”

For the Saturday news conference, the Grants didn’t fly in until that morning. Tom Archdeacon ’72 reported in the Dayton Daily News, “Friday was prom night for the Grants’ son, Preston. ‘It’s a big deal. His mom wanted to be here when he came home,’ [Anthony] Grant said.”

The lack of selfishness that characterized Grant as a player has stayed with him. “I told Neil [Sullivan, UD athletics director] that I wanted what was best for Dayton,” Grant said. “Selfishly, I want it to be me, but as an alum, I want what’s best for this University. And if they, the members of the administration, thought that this hiring was the best thing, then I’m doing backflips down Brown Street.”

**ANTHONY GRANT ’87**

**Player**
- Sophomore: 10.7 points per game, 6.5 rebounds per game
- Junior: 7.1 points per game, 4.8 rebounds per game
- Senior: 13.0 points per game, 6.0 rebounds per game, co-MVP

**Coach**
- 1987-92 Miami High, assistant coach
- 1992-93 Miami Central High School, head coach
- 1993-94 Stetson, assistant coach
- 1994-96 Marshall, assistant coach
- 1996-2006 Florida, assistant coach
- 2006-09 VCU, head coach
- 2009-15 Alabama, head coach
- 2015-17 Oklahoma City Thunder, assistant coach
- 2017- Dayton, head coach

At VCU, Grant’s record was 76-25, with two NCAA appearances. At Alabama, 117-85, with an NCAA appearance in 2012, the Tide’s first in six years, and three NIT appearances.
Amenities. Accessibility. Air conditioning. And a very cool look.

As well as a lot of infrastructure that fans won’t see.

Over the next three years, a $72 million project will transform one of the nation’s most iconic sports venues, the University of Dayton Arena.

The 2017 phase of the project will include a new four-sided, center-hung video board, LED ribbon boards on the fascia of the Spectrum Flight Deck and suites, new 100- and 200-level seats, and updated and additional American with Disabilities Act seating. Upgrades to the audio system and broadcasting infrastructure, initial work on platforms for four new terrace suites, and upgrades to the dewatering pumps are also planned.

A new concourse and new 300- and 400-level seats will come in 2018 as well as several upgrades to the infrastructure, including new court lighting and improved Wi-Fi. The corner video boards will be moved and turned toward the 300/400 level. Restrooms, concession stands and merchandise locations will be added and upgraded.

The concourse and 300- and 400-level seats, restrooms and concession stands will be completed in 2019. New club seats will appear between the 200 and 300 levels; terrace seats, in the four corners. The exterior will see a new design with upgraded lighting; the interior will be climate-controlled.

Funding will come from philanthropy (spurred by several multimillion-dollar lead gifts), corporate sponsorships, external private and business partnerships, ticket revenue and general University support. In a message to the University community, Eric Spina, president, and Neil Sullivan, vice president and director of athletics, wrote, “We do not plan to seek any governmental funding for the project. We expect the fundraising will have little, if any, impact on our high-priority academic goals because of the difference in individual donor interests. No donors will be steered away from other funding priorities to support the Arena project.”

Game schedules will be maintained throughout the three-year renovation, during which time the 10 millionth fan to watch a Flyers men’s basketball game at the Arena will walk through the doors.

And as the renovation comes to a conclusion, it will be time for the venue that has hosted more NCAA men’s basketball tournament games (117) than any other to celebrate its 50th birthday.
Sitting on a train, traveling across the country, Chris Rolfe felt the physical and emotional symptoms of more than half a year slowly dim. His stress took a small reprieve and hid away in some corner of himself. He recalls looking out the window and simply enjoying his surroundings and the company of strangers around him. In that moment, he relished the chance of just being Chris. Just being Chris was unfamiliar territory for the Flyer soccer star turned pro. Since April 2016, Rolfe has struggled to come to terms with a debilitating concussion that effectively changed the course of his soccer career.

His journey has taken him through frustration, denial and anger, and now acceptance has slowly found its way to him. “There was this voice inside of me — probably the same one that turned me into the soccer player that I am — that said, ‘Get over it. Let’s go. What’s happened has happened and you can’t control any of that now, so let’s move forward, let’s make it better, and let’s do the best that we can do and make the most of what you’re given in the future,’” Rolfe said.

Although that future is uncertain, Rolfe’s determination is not. Since he was 7, soccer has been Rolfe’s world. A Kettering, Ohio, native, he went to Kettering Fairmont High School where, in only three years, he set the goal-scoring record.

He played at the University of Dayton from 2001 to 2004, where he set the school record for career assists (25) and was named an NSCAA All-American. In 2010 he was inducted into the Ohio Soccer Hall of Fame for his accomplishments in college.

Rolfe was drafted his senior year in the third round of the 2005 MLS SuperDraft by Chicago Fire and scored 30 goals in his first four seasons with the club. He was the team’s leading scorer in 2005, 2008 and 2012 and was the league’s runner-up rookie of the year in 2005.

In 2014 he was traded to D.C. United, where he thrived and was the team’s leading scorer and MVP in 2015.

As many of his friends say, in 2016 Rolfe was probably in the best physical shape that he’d ever been in as a professional athlete.

The team’s general manager Dave Kasper released a statement in September 2015 saying, “His ability to create and score goals has been vital to the team, and he is among a group of important veteran leaders in the locker room.”

But during a rainy, wet Chicago day, his training, physicality and leadership skills would all be tested for the unforeseeable future.

During the 32nd minute of an April 2016 match against Chicago Fire, Rolfe was putting pressure on Fire player Rodrigo Ramos near midfield.

D.C. had been favored early in the game, but the opponent seemed amped up.

As Rolfe intensified his defensive pressure, Ramos inadvertently elbowed him in the nose. It was a rough hit, Rolfe admitted, but he remained in the game, the competitor that he is, never imagining the injury could be serious.

Then, during halftime, Rolfe started noticing differences in the light patterns on the field. And even though the ground started to feel like it was moving underneath him, he stayed on the field until he was subbed out in the 72nd minute due to obvious symptoms noticed by the D.C. staff.

When he got to the locker room, he knew something was wrong.

He wasn’t able to focus — as if in a fuzzy dream world.

Looking at the light was excruciating.

His head hurt.

After speaking with medical staff, Rolfe was diagnosed with a concussion and was out for the rest of the season.

In the months since, his
symptoms have been constant companions: Headaches. Extreme light sensitivity. Unsteadiness.

He describes the effects in his left eye as “bolts of pain going through the back of my eye into my head and back into my temples.”

Days and months drag on.

“I noticed problems with everything I did,” Rolfe said, noting he had difficulty concentrating and found it hard to filter out external and peripheral stimuli and noise.

Rolfe said he initially didn’t realize the severity of his injury, having recovered from concussions in the past.

“I’m used to playing with pain,” Rolfe said. “We joke that the only day you feel great is the first day of preseason, and after that you’re hurt. So I’m used to dealing with that stuff.”

In 2006 he had two concussions five days apart, and in 2014 suffered a devastating arm injury. But this injury has been more long-lasting.

Rolfe said the symptoms were at their worst one week after the hit, after gradually increasing in severity over the first seven days. But it wasn’t until the initial symptoms began to subside in mid- to late summer 2016 that he realized he was in bad shape.

“I didn’t even realize how severe my symptoms were. There was a moment in June or July that it started to become a reality. I couldn’t do anything. I couldn’t leave the house. I would have to get a taxi, then keep my eyes closed in the backseat so I didn’t get sick when I got to where I was going,” he said.

In an emotional Washington Post article, he detailed going to the grocery store to buy an item but feeling overwhelmed by stimuli and struggling to find his product despite trips up and down the same aisle for several minutes.

As a professional athlete, Rolfe is a self-admitted overachiever and, although he was benched for the remainder of the 2016 season, he continued to work on the sidelines, going to practices, trying to work out and train. But in late September, Rolfe said he “hit a wall.”

Unlike past injuries, where training would help him get better, working out this time seemed only to exacerbate the symptoms.

“Whenever I tried to exercise, the symptoms would compound and become worse day by day,” Rolfe recalled. “If you try and strengthen your legs, you go to the gym, hit it hard and sure, your legs hurt, but you recover and get stronger. But it’s been the complete opposite with the brain and so it’s been counterintuitive to all of the rehab I’ve done for my career in the past.”

In November 2016, when D.C. United was knocked out of the playoffs, Rolfe decided he needed to get away.

He was tired of feeling bad. Tired of hurting. And tired of being stressed about recovery on an unknown timeline.

He made the decision to reset and booked himself off for a 22-day cross-country train trip — Chicago to San Francisco down to Los Angeles and back to Chicago.

There were stops in Denver; Aspen, Colorado; and Flagstaff, Arizona.

And in the last week of his trip, Rolfe began to feel normal — he didn’t think about the symptoms or the concussion and he was enjoying himself for the first time in eight months.

There were 10- to 12-mile hikes. For once, he said, he relented ed control of his surroundings and his symptoms seemed not to affect him as much.

“I had a train schedule, and I stuck to it. I let go of trying to have control of things for the most part and I just tried to enjoy being in that moment. I tried to enjoy the scenery and I enjoyed my meals with these random people who were sitting at the table with me in the dining car.

“I was not thinking about my head. Not worrying about what career was next. Not worrying if I was not going to play soccer ever again. Not worrying about what the fans thought about it or what my teammates thought.

“I was really able to get to the bare bottom of controlling my own life and letting go,” he said.

When the trip ended, the symptoms did return, but it didn’t matter as much because Rolfe had changed. And in that change, there has been personal growth and inspiration. His plans are simple: He says he wants to get his life back.

“It’s hard for me because I’m a goal setter and I like to know how to get from point A to point B. There have been plans, but I need to allow myself to be more fluid with what I do while I’m in rehab,” he said. “For me, it’s getting my life back, healing my head, returning to fitness and figuring out my soccer career.”

He notes that it’s also time for him to decide what comes next, since any athletic career has an expiration date. At 34, Rolfe acknowledges that even with a full recovery, he may only have a handful of years left in pro sports.

Although Rolfe kids when he says he doesn’t “have a lot of skills that translate to another occupation,” he has the traits that can make anyone successful.

“That’s the best thing about the competitive nature of what I’ve done and the team sport aspect of it,” he said. “I have a lot of
great takeaways from what I’ve been doing.”

His determination is unquestionable. Always trying to improve, Rolfe has created what he calls “brain games.” Each morning, he recaps the day before: every detail, times he went places, people he was with, what they talked about, what he ate.

And why?

“I’m not sure what the science would say about that, but I believe it’s been beneficial,” he said. He also practices yoga and meditation along with physical therapy sessions.

While he wishes the injury never occurred, he finds goodness in everything that happens to him by acknowledging that the event has forced him to think about himself outside the soccer field. For now, he is officially on the 2017 D.C. United roster but cannot yet practice with the team.

His new journey may lead him to non-soccer options in the near future that would likely include work in financial planning and wealth management thanks to his new UD finance degree, which he received this May after putting his studies on hold in 2005.

“It’s forced me to take a look at who I am and what my identity is because, for 27 years now, I’ve been ‘Chris the soccer player,’ and if you want to go broader, ‘Chris the athlete,’” he said.

But ever the optimist, Rolfe is excited about his future, whatever that may be.

“It’s been great in that regard because I’ve now been forced to think deeper about who I am and the kind of person I want to be and what I now want to have define me,” he said.

And with a cautious but motivated smile, he added, “Now I have a chance to kind of dictate the next moniker to go along with who I am and what I’ll be known for going forward.”

—Gita Balakrishnan

Green, rookie coach of the year

The Women’s Basketball Coaches Association named UD’s Shauna Green the NCAA Division I Rookie Coach of the Year. The Flyers finished 22-10, winning both the regular season and the tournament titles in the Atlantic 10 Conference.

This was the first time the Flyers won both titles in one season.

Players take honors, too

Saicha Grant-Allen, 6-5 center on the women’s basketball team, was the 35th overall pick in the WNBA draft, going in the third round to the Los Angeles Sparks.

On the A-10 all-tournament team, Grant-Allen was joined by Kelley Austria and Jenna Burdette, the tournament’s most outstanding player. Austria was the A-10 defensive player of the year. Jayla Scaife made the all-rookie team.

These Flyers can throw

Members of the Flyers track and field teams this year set school records in all four throwing categories.

Junior Jenni Rosse, with a shot put mark of 15.03 meters, broke the record set in 2000 by Jodi Borges. Rosse then broke her own record with a toss of 15.14 meters.

Redshirt sophomore Erin Reese set the discus record with a mark of 48.95 meters, breaking the record set by Borges in 1999. In the hammer throw, Reese broke her own school record with a throw of 63.43 meters.

Freshman Lillian Cook, in her debut collegiate meet, achieved a school record in the javelin with her mark of 41.82 meters. She later broke that record with a throw of 42.82 meters.

The Flyers as a team finished third at both the A-10 indoor track and field championships in February and the outdoor championships in May.

Cross country record

At the Stan Lyons Invitational at Butler University, UD sophomore Chris Negri finished first in the 3,000 meters, setting a men’s cross country school record at 8:22:43.

Men’s golf wins A-10 match play

The Flyers men’s golf team in February claimed the Atlantic 10 match play championship, defeating defending champion VCU. The teams split six matches with Dayton winning in a tiebreaker.

At the A-10 championships in April, the team finished third.

Four more for First Four

The First Four will be played in the University of Dayton Arena in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, the NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Committee announced April 18. That will extend UD’s streak of tipping off March Madness to 22 years.

The Arena has hosted more NCAA men’s Division I basketball tournament games (117) than any other venue. It will add to that number this coming March 14-15 when it hosts the 2018 First Four. For tickets, see NCAA.com/mbbtickets.

UD Arena, rated a top venue

Stadium Journey, a publication of Scout.com, in its Top 100 list, rated UD Arena as its 37th best stadium experience in the country. Only one college basketball arena ranked higher; that was Kansas’ Allen Fieldhouse. Top ranked: the Baltimore Orioles’ Oriole Park at Camden Yards.
Celebration, vision

The celebration started and ended with a focus on students, just as it should.

This April, during a jubilant four days, the University inaugurated its 19th president, Eric F. Spina.

After a joyous Mass celebrated by Archbishop Dennis Schnurr, it was time to tour student talents — from a cappella singing by the Audio Pilots to
community building with a Walnut Hills Neighborhood picnic. Spina and his wife, Karen, got into the fun, acting out scenes from a living scrapbook with members of the improv troupe On the Fly.

His participation was an extension of the admiration he’s shown for UD students since he joined campus July 1, 2016.

“You never cease to amaze me,” he said. “You are our inspiration and our promise to the world.”

Spina’s optimism for the future and the impact UD students, alumni, faculty and staff will make in the world guided the program for the celebration.

During panel conversations Monday, April 3, professors in math, education and engineering shared a table where they discussed how their disciplines contribute to shared
THE University for the Common Good

*This is an excerpt of President Eric F. Spina's April 4 installation address, which delivered an aspirational vision for the future as discerned through conversations with more than 3,000 members of the Flyer family. For the full text, visit go.udayton.edu/inauguration.*

We are stewards of an extraordinary legacy.

Throughout its history, the University of Dayton has quietly, yet dramatically, transformed itself by turning big dreams into bold moves — always with the common good at the center. That entrepreneurial spirit has shaped us, time and time again, allowing us to model innovation, creativity and servant-leadership in service to our students, the Catholic Church, the Dayton community and the world.

Our Marianist commitment to building community and our history of adapting to the needs of a changing world compel us to ask how we will educate students to confront the tests facing humanity.[3]

Forty-nine years ago today, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, and I still hear the echo of his words, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”[4]

Our city, country and world confront seemingly insurmountable challenges — including racism and religious intolerance, poverty and its effects on education and health, economic stagnation, environmental degradation, and violent conflict.[2]

The University’s Catholic, Marianist values and our faith in humanity directed us to ask how we will educate students to confront the tests facing humanity.[5]

As we reflect on our call to Learn. Lead. Serve., we declare proudly and clearly that we are “a University for the Common Good.” We prepare servant-leaders who contribute to solutions through community collaboration (LEARN). We perform research that addresses critical issues and supports economic growth (LEAD).[6]

We are not so naïve and self-flattering to think that University of Dayton efforts alone will “solve” the world’s ills, but we also understand that we are an influential research enterprise, a powerful economic engine, and a university dedicated to graduating servant-leaders prepared and eager to make a difference.

As we embrace the future, let us design the ideal, integrated education to prepare students for leadership roles in building socially just communities.[7]

While we are not the only university that aims to impact the public good, I call on all of us to work together to make the University of Dayton the destination for students who want to be innovators and leaders,[8] the destination for faculty and staff who relish forging partnerships and leading community-engaged teaching, learning and scholarship; and the destination for pragmatic dreamers who see the development of community as essential in our world and are willing to work hard to achieve it.

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[1] Plans call for the University to become an anchor tenant in the historic Dayton Arcade, which will be developed as a center of innovation and collaboration among entrepreneurs, higher education, research institutions, and arts and cultural organizations. Read more, Page 11.

[2] Spina called for every student will take at least one course on innovation, humanity-centered applied creativity and entrepreneurial thinking. See story, Page 8.

[3] A University of Dayton education will be affordable and accessible to all who are qualified, and in doing so will create a more diverse, welcoming and interculturally inclusive campus.

[4] Expanding energy and environmental research will reveal opportunities where sustainable energy and human rights researchers can work together to advance the common good.

[5] Faculty and staff “community geographers” will analyze neighborhood-based data and trends to help identify and prioritize the greatest issues for our common mission.

[6] A focus on autonomous systems research could spur increased investment, economic development, the country’s first interdisciplinary autonomous systems master’s program and a designation as a National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center.

[7] Plans to renovate Chaminade Hall should include creating a “community co-working space” to bring in nonprofit community organizations to work closely with each other and our students.

[8] Graduate programs will build the University’s reputation as the university for training that prepares professionals for the work of social transformation.

[9] The Class of 2037 will be inspired learners focused on a self-transcendent purpose, discerning their vocation and profession, and seeking their passion.
community solutions. Such cross-collaborations will be an intentional part of the University's vision moving forward.

The innovation theme continued through Tuesday, April 4, when a keynote address and panel discussion focused on opportunities to create distinctive futures.

“Not everyone can be an inventor, creator or discover-er,” said 44-year IBM veteran Nicholas Donofrio during his address. “But everyone can be an innovator.”

With an eye toward ingenuity, the installation ceremony incorporated elements of both tradition and whimsy. Faculty and representatives of other universities marched into UD Arena to formal brass music, and at the conclusion danced and clapped their way out to
jubilant tuba music alongside members of the Dayton Contemporary Dance Co. In between, the audience of more than 1,100 heard voices of the community, including those who shared what makes this “Our UD.”

For Dominic Sanfilippo ’16, it is “realizing that our big, complicated world is made more joyful and more just by sharing stories, taking risks and finding our voices together.”

Two former UD presidents — Brother Raymond Fitz, S.M., and Daniel Curran, both of whom remain active on campus — took the stage to embrace their newest counterpart before Spina shared his vision.

“I remember all the voices I have heard on campus, in alumni communities around the nation and in Dayton gatherings as we shaped our aspirational strategic vision to be...
‘THE University for the Common Good,’” Spina later said. (Read more on the vision, Page 27).

The Celebration of the Arts performance was that evening, followed the next day by Stander Symposium presentations. The students — through grace, wit, sweat, inquiry and resolve — shared with the community the best of their education.

It was a celebration rooted in the optimism and vision of an ambitious president, in the transdisciplinary collaborations of faculty and staff, and in the impact students will make in the world as they strive for common good through a UD education.

“I’m still clapping,” Spina said after the performance. “And can’t wait for next spring’s encore.” UD
A
midth the winding, rugged dirt roads and atop the rolling green hillside, brick and mortar buildings have taken shape.

The sturdy man-made walls are in sharp contrast to the natural beauty, with the Great African Rift Valley and Lake Malawi both in view. It won’t be long before students and teachers walk among the classroom buildings and dormitories of the Wasambo High School campus. But it’s not the physical structures that will have the greatest impact; it’s what the buildings represent — opportunity.

“People in Malawi value education above almost everything else,” said Matt Maroon ’06, founder of Determined to Develop, a Karonga-based nongovernmental organization in Malawi. “I’ve seen mothers sacrifice food in order to pay school tuition for their children. I’ve seen families sell their last goat to send their promising son to the first term of high school, not knowing at all where they will get the money for the second term, let alone the following three years.”

Maroon has found the common theme in this land-locked African nation to be one that resonates more than 8,000 miles away on the campus of the University of Dayton, where students, faculty and alumni have worked with Maroon’s organization to make the school a reality for Malawian children.

“Faith — it’s people’s faith that tomorrow will be a brighter day with hard work, persistence and an education,” said Maroon, who first visited Malawi in 2006 during a year of service with the Society of Mary. “It’s the idea that one’s current condition need not assign them a set path in life, but that they have the choice if only given the opportunity to find the road toward prosperity. And that education is the surest way to lift one’s self to a state where one can comfortably, and humbly, take care of a family.”

It’s a faith reinforced by Flyer research, volunteerism and fundraising, from students and faculty in engineering, education, arts and sciences, and business. It is a faith that will also be passed on to future UD students, who will benefit from having the school as an experiential learning base. Wasambo High School, when it opens Sept. 1, 2017, will showcase the best of the University’s transdisciplinary, liberal arts education in the Marianist spirit of partner-based community building.

“UD is taking the exact opposite approach of an ivory tower, instead realizing that its talents and treasure can make a concrete and lasting impact on education in a global context — and that’s happening on the ground in Africa,” Maroon said. “This is the Marianist approach, to be around the table with the people whom we serve, partners in development and uplifting one another along the way. It's intentional. It's grounded in reality, and it's faithful.”

A GREAT NEED
The Society of Mary, UD’s founding order, is deeply rooted in Malawi, opening Nkhata Bay Secondary School in the early 1960s and, shortly thereafter, operating Chaminade Secondary School — which still educates students today — in Karonga. The Marianist sisters this year will open their own mission in Malawi and focus on teaching.

The population statistics of Malawi underscore the need for educational institutions: Close to 47 percent of the population is 14...
As buildings are raised on the grounds of Wasambo High School, so too are the hopes of the people.

Opportunity for her children is a priority for Carolina Mwakhwawa.

“Having this connection from America is going to mean they have a better education and have a higher chance of gaining a good job in the future,” Mwakhwawa said. “I hope my children will, one day, be able to help me when I am old by building houses for our family and providing basic needs when I no longer can.”

Mack Chirwa — just 12 years old — already has his heart set on attending the boarding school, yearning to take advantage of the modern facilities.

“I’m excited for the new journeys I will be able to go on if I get selected to Wasambo, and the new people I am going to meet and make friends with,” he said. “I can’t imagine the feeling of me being selected at Wasambo High School when I get older.”

years old or younger, and another 20 percent is between 15 and 24. The median age in Malawi — a country with an estimated 976,300 people living with AIDS or HIV — is just 16 ½ years old. According to Maroon, there are significant hurdles in the Malawian education system, including access to high school and quality education.

“Only about 18 percent of eighth-grade graduates, students in our area who have finished primary school, are able to continue on to high school because of capacity,” Maroon said. “There are simply not enough schools or room at the existing schools.”

Standard Malawian curriculum has not traditionally emphasized enrichment and experiential learning.

“We want to take the Malawian model — based off the British system — and infuse it with some of the best practices internationally,” Maroon said.

UD Department of Teacher Education Chair Connie Bowman is excited about her department’s involvement at Wasambo. Faculty and students will assist in professional development for teachers in Malawi, focus-
ing on student-centered instruction and active engagement for learning, as well as curriculum development and recruitment.

“Many of our graduates are teaching in foreign countries,” Bowman said, “and we believe Malawi will be an excellent place for them to engage in teaching and infuse their training in best practices through the educational field.”

The first phase — which is currently under construction — is a boys’ high school, set up in an English boarding school style. The long-term plan includes a girls’ high school and a technical college.

Matt Maroon (far right) talks with members of the construction and planning crew.
The desired outcomes for Wasambo High School are threefold: provide a world-class education for the students; create a teacher training program that enables instructors to learn and implement best practices; and create a “living classroom” as part of the UD partnership where UD students and faculty can analyze challenges and work with Malawians to develop solutions.

The new school is located in Sangilo Village, Chilumba area in the Karonga District. This district is several hundred square miles with a population of about 60,000. Students will come from all around Malawi with an emphasis on offering positions and scholarships to local students. The impact of the school, however, extends well beyond the region.

“This is a benefit to the nation,” said Scotch Kondowe, Karonga District education manager. “In line with Malawi’s development strategies, strengthening secondary education is a top priority. To have a partnership with Determined to Develop and the University of Dayton is a welcome concept, and we are glad that outside stakeholders are taking interest in supporting government through the development of secondary education.”

While students will soon experience the immediate benefits of attending the new school, long-term benefits are expected for generations to come.

“Lack of education is a barrier to development,” said Senior Chief Wasambo, the traditional authority and custodian of all land and culture in the region. “Having the school will change lives and opportunities, from poverty to prosperity, and it will transform the community for the better long term.”

The school, not coincidentally, is named in the chief’s honor, as it was he who allocated the 120 acres of land to Maroon in 2013 to establish the campus. The cost? Anyone familiar with the story of Father Leo Meyer and the purchase of the property on which the University of Dayton now stands will find the answer remarkable. Maroon paid about $12,000 to compensate a few local farmers for the land. In 1850, Father Meyer purchased 120 acres from John Stuart for the promise of $12,000 and a medal of St. Joseph as collateral. Maroon, likewise, presented Chief Wasambo with a St. Joseph medal.

Each entering class will consist of 80 boys from more than 50 elementary schools in the area. Some students at the all-boys boarding school will pay tuition, while others will receive scholarships. Looking forward, Wasambo will have 300-plus students onsite in four years.

“The community can see that there are not enough schools in our area,” said Alick Zika Mkandawire, a community liaison officer. “The schools we do have don’t have good learning materials and don’t have enough teachers. The new school will provide these, and the community is excited for good things to come.”

THE MARIANIST WAY

Maroon’s connections with the University of Dayton have evolved and benefitted both the Malawians and UD students. Students have worked on issues of human rights in Malawi with Determined to Develop since 2010. Since 2011, the School of Engineering’s ETHOS program has worked with Malawians on projects from renewable technology to potable water. The political science department initiated the Malawi Research Practicum on Rights and Development in 2013. The practicum, now housed in the Human Rights Center, pairs UD students with Malawian university students in-country to tackle development questions that give Determined to Develop insight into how it can best serve the community.

“It’s amazing when we have our UD students here, as they can dig into an issue and, with their Malawian counterparts, help us understand where we should focus our efforts,” Maroon said. “Their research gives credibility to our mission and influences the direction we take our programming.”

UD student research has been broad in scope, ranging from assessing community access to clean water to an assessment of gender-based violence against girls. From an examination of health systems to agricultural studies, the students work hand-in-hand with their Malawian counterparts.

“UD’s partnership with Determined to Develop and the people of Sangilo Village has grown organically over the years and has really been defined by the priorities and vision of our Malawian partners,” said Jason Pierce, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “It’s heartening to see the collaborative spirit that has emerged on campus and with our partners. Folks just get it and are eager to play a role.”

Collaboration has translated to action, and there’s no better example than Wasambo High School. UD practicum students have examined local challenges in access and quality of secondary school education. ETHOS stu-
students conducted land surveys and are helping with plans and construction. Teacher education faculty and students are working on curriculum and teacher training.

“In my mind, the Wasambo project vividly illustrates the capacity of UD as a comprehensive university, one that leverages students and faculty from engineering, education, business, and arts and sciences to find localized solutions to global challenges,” said Pierce, who as former chair of the political science department initiated the Malawi practicum.

MORE THAN AN EDUCATION

There is a buzz of anticipation surrounding the opening of Wasambo. Sophie Phiri, a local mother and cook, is excited about what the school could mean to her children.

“I’m happy because, now, there is an opportunity for my children to go to a good quality school,” Phiri said. “Teachers coming from outside Malawi will be able to help my children learn things like English and other skills quicker. If my children learn fast they can get good jobs, which will help our family lots in the future.”

Moses Mulungu, a local bricklayer and father, anticipates that his children will, one day, travel beyond Malawi thanks to Wasambo High School.

“They will only be able to do this by getting a good education and learning to read road signs and other important life skills,” Mulungu said.

While the parents are hopeful, the excitement of the students who may some day call Wasambo home builds with each passing day as the campus takes shape.

Since they broke ground in September 2016, much progress has been made on the physical facilities. The garage and storehouse are complete. The foundations for the head teacher’s house, boarding master’s house and volunteer teacher’s house are also complete. Maroon said building is expected to move quickly once the water system is in place. The water tower — which will hold four plastic 5,000-liter tanks for the gravity-fed water system — has been finished, as has the drilling for the three onsite wells.

Computer and multimedia labs will be among the facilities in the classroom blocks, and space has been reserved for a small outdoor amphitheater.

“My heart is pounding with excitement and nervousness,” said James Mayni, 14, who is looking forward to improving his English through the teaching of native English speakers. “I have always wanted to go to a boarding school, and this could be my dream come true. I will keep hoping that my next chapter of my life is a good education and learning to read things like English and other skills quicker. If my children learn fast they can get good jobs, which will help our family lots in the future.”

Jed Gerlach ’15
International programs assistant, Plan International USA

“It was great to be part of Determined to Develop, a grassroots organization that was doing such great work with the resources given to them — an organization that not only helped people, but empowered them. To see that, as a student, had a great impact on me: on where I wanted to go and what I wanted to do.”

Jason Hayes ’15
International program coordinator, Operation Smile

“You can study these things in a classroom and read every textbook out there but, at the end of the day, it’s just not the same. It doesn’t have an emotional effect until you get there and you see, firsthand, what the realities are. It was huge for me. I would highly recommend fieldwork. It affirmed for me the work I wanted to do.”

Rob Greene, an ETHOS graduate student (center), said friendships have enriched his time in Malawi.

Where are they now?

In 1998, the College of Arts and Sciences talked of sowing the seeds for human rights professionals who could collaboratively transform conversations and communities around the world. Today, those alumni serve in seven countries and numerous organizations dedicated to bettering the human condition.

Here’s a look at where some alumni of the Malawi Research Practicum on Rights and Development are today thanks to a UD education that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries, including a few of those featured in the Winter 2014-15 UD Magazine.

ALYSSA BOVELL ’14
Associate director of Project Partnerships IPM (International Partners in Mission)

“The intertwined challenges that impede the social, economic and political empowerment of women inspired me to pursue a human rights-based career in development. Women’s economic agency as a force of global poverty reduction has become an issue of international importance that I’ve become passionate about. [The practicum] has led to my current position at an international nonprofit that is focused on supporting women with equal access to resources and services to transform and sustain their communities.”

JED GERLACH ’15
International programs assistant, Plan International USA

“It was great to be part of Determined to Develop, a grassroots organization that was doing such great work with the resources given to them — an organization that not only helped people, but empowered them. To see that, as a student, had a great impact on me: on where I wanted to go and what I wanted to do.”

JASON HAYES ’15
International program coordinator, Operation Smile

“You can study these things in a classroom and read every textbook out there but, at the end of the day, it’s just not the same. It doesn’t have an emotional effect until you get there and you see, firsthand, what the realities are. It was huge for me. I would highly recommend fieldwork. It affirmed for me the work I wanted to do.”

ANDREW LIGHTNER ’16
London School of Economics

“[The Malawi practicum] introduced me to wonderful people, fascinating research and exciting future opportunities. I have difficulty describing its impact, as I cannot recognize my worldview, experience at UD or current career trajectory without the practicum. I am currently studying international development and economics and aim to continue research in international and economic issues. The values and relationships Determined to Develop helped me form will continue to drive my career and non-career decisions.”

See Classroom, Page 42
"I was 10 years old when I got my first skateboard," said visual arts professor Jeffrey Courtland Jones to a visitor to his office earlier this year. "I used it 10 months. I don't know why I kept it and the others that I did. By the time I went to college, I had had more than 100. When I came home to visit, they were still there."

"What attracted me to each one was its shape and the artwork on the bottom. There was no internet then to use to follow the professional riders. The attraction was the board, not the guy endorsing it."

"The art on the boards got me into art. You fall, kick, scream, get up and try it again. Nobody gives you an opportunity. You have to make it yourself."

On a wall in Jones' University of Dayton office hang dozens of boards including the first, emblazoned with a skull and a snake.

"I produce more than 300 artworks a year," Jones said. "They don't all make it out of the studio."

"My wife is a quilt maker and an artist," Jones said, pointing to a painting by Heather Jones, his wife, on a shelf in his office and pulling out of his desk drawer her quilting-business brochures that he designed.

"The quilts are traditional; the art, not so much. She's been featured in magazines worldwide, including Martha Stewart Living magazine. She'll have an art exhibit at the Taft Museum in Cincinnati."

"Both our studios are at home — mine, in the garage; hers, in what was the formal living room. It's hectic in our house now. She's getting ready to send stuff out — to an exhibit in New Jersey, to the Taft, for her business. We do some exhibits together; one's coming up in Austin, Texas."

In Jones' office desk is a clear plastic storage box with contents ranging from Roman coins to old photographs. On the back of one photograph is printed "J.P. Bell, Main and Walnut Streets, Cincinnati, Ohio."

"There's something up here," Jones said as he pulled material out of an overhead file. "I haven't thought about this in years."

In the box are ID badges for companies such as Clinton Engineer Works. But Clinton Engineer Works did not employ the people wearing the badges. They were actually working in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, on the Manhattan Project.

"Both my grandparents worked on developing the atomic bomb. My grandmother took photos for the ID badges."

Also in the box is a black and white photo of a bomb in an airplane's bomb bay. The photo, signed by the plane's copilot, is of Bockscar, a B-29 that was built in Nebraska and delivered to the United States Army Air Forces on March 19, 1945. On Aug. 9, 1945, Bockscar dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan. The plane is now on permanent display at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton.

"I grew up in east Tennessee. During the Civil War, the area was pro-Union. I was an undergrad at Chattanooga, near where Sherman's march to the sea began. I'm interested in history."
On the wall opposite the skateboards in Jones’ office hangs a photograph of part of a painting. The shot is so tight that it includes only part of the body of an infant and the hand of the adult holding the child.

“One summer, a number of students had grants to stay here and create artwork on campus. A photography student, Christine Zuercher ’11, fascinated by the art in the Marian Library, spent the summer photographing work there.

“This is one of her test prints,” Jones said. “I fell in love with it as a connection to the student, to the University, to my place here.”

The child may be John the Baptist. It may be Christ. The hand is probably that of Mary, aunt to one, mother to the other. A photo of the photo of the painting was Jones’ contribution to an international exhibition — Fiction (With Only Daylight Between Us, v2) — that he curated.

“SOCIAL MEDIA TAKES OVER OUR LIVES,” SAID VISUAL arts professor Jeffrey Courtland Jones. “We can spend more time on it than we do talking to each other.”

He recalled one day he and his wife were sitting on a couch at home, each working on a laptop. “And,” he said, “we texted each other rather than talk.”

People using social media also, he said, “tend to collect ‘friends’ much like my 10-year-old son collects Pokémon cards. We have some ‘friends’ we never interact with, whom we really don’t know.” He noted he would see an artist’s work and “friend” him. Among his friends, the number who really weren’t friends grew.

In 2014, Jones decided that “I wanted to know the people who came across my screen daily.” He did that through a project he called Fiction (With Only Daylight Between Us) which featured 50 artists from around the world. The words in the project’s title are abridged song lyrics from the band The xx.

“Conceptually,” Jones said, “it is about ‘imaginary’ friendships that exist on social media (“Fiction”) and the physical distance of each participant (“With Only Daylight Between Us”).

The exhibit, shown locally and online, was, Jones said, “experimental and super cheap. It was also a lot of fun.”

So he decided to do it on a larger scale; the result was Fiction (With Only Daylight Between Us, v2). He asked 200 of his Facebook friends to send him something. That something was simply an 8.5-by-11-inch black-and-white JPG or PDF, he said, “of anything they wished that had some sort of relationship to their artmaking practice. I told them it could be an image of their current work, a scan of a page out of their sketchbook, or even a receipt from Starbuck’s, where they stopped to get coffee on the way to the studio.”
All 200 he asked said yes. Responses came from 16 countries.

Besides Jones, artists in the show with UD connections include full-time faculty members (R. Darden Bradshaw, Julie Jones, Kyle Phelps and Joel Whitaker), adjunct faculty (Nicholaus Arnold and Ashley Jonas), staff members (Michael Conlan and Geno Luketic), a student (Alexandra Morrissette ’17) and alumni (Maxwell Feldmann ’15, Rachel Hellman ’99, Courtney Hoelscher ’16, Amy Sacksteder ’01 and Seth Wade ’15).

How the images are displayed has varied from gallery to gallery. One arranged all the images in one large rectangle; each day, however, a different single image was moved to the opposite wall. The exhibition has been seen so far in five cities in the United States as well as cities in England, Germany and Australia. It will travel later this year to Brooklyn, New York.

Of the artists in the show who were friends-but-not-really-friends, Jones said, “Now I’ve become real friends with them and have collaborated with some; I’m currently doing projects with people in Australia and Germany.”

UD
Subtext established throughout an essay accepted summer becomes a form of progression that is subversive.

trace, an interplay of thought and difference, is never a presence but is rather a simulacrum of a presence. It dissects, displaces and exceeds it. It opens the space in this manner because it belongs to its structure. It suggests that a true narrative itself never becomes more because it is always being told and disappearing.

PHILIP BUNTIN Ohio

ANNE RUSSINOF New York

HANNAH LUXTON England

RACHEL HELLMANN Indiana
EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Rick Pfleger, a 1977 UD graduate, has been on board since the beginning of Maroon's development work in Malawi in 2008. He and his wife, Claire Tierney Pfleger ’78, met Maroon when he was a UD student living near their daughter, Lindsay Pfleger ’06.

“When Matt first decided he wanted to stay in Malawi, we wanted to help him financially,” Rick Pfleger said. “His goal was to start an orphanage for children who had lost their parents to AIDS. At the time, we thought if he got 10 to 15 orphans under roof, it would be a home run. He now has 45-plus orphans in dormitories, four nurseries and preschools, and serves more than 500,000 meals a year in the community.

“I never envisioned he would stay this long, much less have the incredible impact he has had in Chilumba. Matt has become a fixture in the community, even to the point where the village chiefs made him an honorary member of their group,” Pfleger said.

Maroon brings two or three young members of the community to Chicago annually to meet the Pflegers.

“From the very beginning, we have been amazed by the spirit and optimism of these children,” Pfleger said. “When they share their stories with us, it enthuses us even more to continue our annual support. They are incredibly sincere, hopeful and grateful.

“Determined to Develop is certainly one of the most encouraging and fulfilling projects we have ever been involved with. We could not be more proud of Matt and what he has accomplished in the Marianist spirit.”

The Pflegers’ contribution to UD’s experiential-learning mission in Malawi has helped make Wasambo a reality. The wider UD community has also contributed, including a $10,000 fundraising initiative in 2014 by the University of Dayton student chapter of Determined to Develop.

“The Pflegers’ faith in UD, Determined to Develop and the Sangilo Village is inspiring,” Pierce said. “I am profoundly grateful for their support of this project and for seeing early on the impact the partnership could have in the community and the life-altering experiential-learning opportunities it provides our students.” Pierce added that fundraising continues for future experiential learning opportunities for UD students.

While Wasambo will be life changing for the young people who attend school there, the experience of working in Malawi has also been life changing for those who have shared their time and talents with the people of the region.

“One of the most meaningful things I have learned from my time in Malawi is that no matter who you are you can probably help someone, know someone that can help, or you have the resources to learn how,” said Rob Greene, an ETHOS graduate student currently working on the Wasambo project. “Being in Malawi has also made me rethink relationships and truly value them. Of course making friends halfway around the world and then leaving is one difficult aspect, but you could sit down with someone and immediately know 100 ways that you are different, but all you need is one similarity, one point to connect. Surprisingly you’ll find that not only are you not that different, but you can probably help each other.”

Greene — who is working toward a master’s degree in civil and environmental engineering with a focus in environmental engineering — has been working as a project manager onsite and with Maroon on future construction plans.

“At times, it seems like ETHOS has only complicated my plans, but now I understand that I don’t only have an opportunity but also a degree of responsibility to act to better benefit my community and greater world community,” Greene said.

Department of Political Science Chair Grant Neeley has seen firsthand the impact the work in Malawi has had on the practicum students.

“It’s a tremendous learning experience and, in some cases, it most definitely shapes their career plans,” Neeley said. “But, regardless of their career path, this experience equips them with a greater understanding of how to work in a community setting. They gain a respect for others and their opinions and an ability to work through challenges, and that’s incredibly valuable because no matter where they go, they will be in a community.”

Even after years of UD student involvement in projects in Malawi, Pierce is impressed by the scope and impact of Wasambo High School.

“It’s a reflection of the commitment and passion of the community in Malawi, Matt, and UD,” he said. “It’s exciting to see our faculty and students engage in work that resonates so deeply with the Marianist mission.”

Pierce anticipates University of Dayton involvement with Wasambo and in Malawi well into the future.

That’s music to Maroon’s ears.

“The longer I am here in Africa, the more I realize that people have the same goals, no matter their culture or differences,” Maroon said. “We all want to push ourselves forward and we want to take care of our families. We all have the same motivations; to be happy, healthy, useful, fulfilled, valued and loved. This school will allow that impact to multiply the current work that we are doing. It will be a transformational force for families that will ripple from each person who passes through. We are transforming a society and are building another pathway to prosperity. How exciting is that?” UD
Cameron Collins ‘94 writes

“I get back to campus a couple of times a year, and each time I walk around, I remember that attending UD was the best decision I ever made.”

Wow! A set of triplets all majoring in premed at UD. Page 54. Wow! A set of triplets all majoring in premed at UD. Page 54. Wow! A set of triplets all majoring in premed at UD. Page 54.

All in the family. This alumna’s 30-year reunion coincides with her daughter’s one-year reunion. See Page 55.

This alumna is living la dolce vita in bella Roma. See Page 56.

A reason to get together again — the A-10 Tournament. See Page 51.

Does this alumnus really have nine lives? See Page 51.

This alumna is living la dolce vita in bella Roma. See Page 56.
ALUMNI IN ACTION

$25,000 FOR SELF-FEEDING DEVICE
Jonathan Dekar ’11 was recently awarded the $25,000 Raj Soin Innovation Award by the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce. Dekar’s company created Obi, a robotic device that helps people unable to feed themselves due to disability or disease.

50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION FOR EDT
The Epsilon Delta Tau fraternity invites past members to celebrate what would have been its 50th anniversary Sept. 15-17. A golf outing is scheduled at Sugar Valley Country Club in Bellbrook, Ohio, along with other social activities. For more information, contact Chad Pfoutz ’00 at chad@pfoutz.net or Ray Wabler ’74 at ray.wabler@prodigy.net.

UD’S BEST KEPT SECRET
A.J. Ferguson ’12 received the United Way of Greater Dayton’s “Best Kept Secret” award for his leadership of UpDayton and his extensive civic involvement. Ferguson joined the United Way board in 2016 and is the youngest person to serve in such a role for United Way in the region.

CONGRATULATIONS, BROTHERS
Among the Marianists celebrating jubilees this year are Brother Joseph Barrish ’50, Father George Montague ’50, Father Paul Neumann ’50 and Father Ken Sommer ’50, all celebrating 70 years of profession; Brother William Chewning ’44, 75 years of profession; and Father Paul Reich ’49, 60 years of ordination.

Discover more: alumnicommunity.udayton.edu

A Flyer with Hope

Separated by nearly 2,000 miles, two sisters — both diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer — had not seen each other in 13 years. And with limited resources, a reunion seemed impossible. A single plane ticket closed the gap between Alabama and California, and the siblings were able to spend the holidays together one last time.

“Our story really touched my heart,” said Susan Wehr Worline, a 2004 graduate with a master’s degree in educational administration. “Family is so important. I have a sister, and if I couldn’t see her at a time of crisis because of a lack of funds it would be very difficult. That’s one reason I started Flying for Hope, to give people with financial challenges the opportunity to be with their loved ones in times of crisis.”

The original impetus came from a Facebook post. Her cousin had a plane ticket he couldn’t use and offered it to Worline, who suggested he donate it to a local hospice organization. As the business director at a Chicagoland hospice, she had seen many patients with family who could not afford the travel expenses to visit during their final days.

Her suggestion made it possible for a young college student to spend several days with her grandmother before she passed away. That was 2012.

Since then, Flying for Hope has provided flights and bus or train tickets to dozens of people who would have otherwise missed the opportunity to attend a funeral, spend time at nursing facilities or hospice, or have the ability to give care and comfort to family members.

In the early days of Worline’s organization, the Chicago Tribune did an article about a man from Texas whose trip to Chicago to visit his dying mother was made possible by Flying for Hope. The attention launched the organization to new heights in support of their motto: “Giving Hope to Families in Crisis – Changing Lives One Flight at a Time.” Word of their services began to spread, and requests for help started pouring in.

Today, the nonprofit organization has more requests than it can accommodate, with more coming in daily. It keeps expenses low with an all-volunteer staff working pro bono.

“We support our mission through donations, community support, sponsors and local business partners coming together,” Worline said.

Now in its fourth year, the Spring Fever Gala (www.flying4hope.com/events) is the largest of those events. For the second year in a row, fellow UD alumnus and CBS Chicago reporter Dave Savini ’89 will serve as emcee for the event. Sponsors also make it possible to fill smaller requests that aid people in the local community who have transportation or mobility issues.

Other fundraising activities throughout the year also help grant requests, as well as the donation of frequent flyer miles or travel points. “We don’t want to turn anyone away. It is so hard knowing the situation they are in,” Worline said.

One of those individuals was Iraq War veteran Robert Dudley. He wanted to attend the funeral of his father, Robert Sr., who had served in Vietnam, and make sure he received a full military honors service. “Robert wanted to lay the American flag on his father’s coffin, pay his respects and say goodbye, but he didn’t have the money to get there. We provided a flight from Wisconsin to North Carolina, and Robert was able to ensure his father had the kind of funeral he deserved,” Worline said.

When asked if there was a particular case that has impacted her significantly, Worline offered the story of Trisha from Poughkeepsie, New York. Trisha’s dad had terminal cancer and lived in Arizona,
and she wanted to spend time with him before he died. “We got her there and she spent a little over a week with him,” Worline said. “On her plane ride home her father passed away. Trisha thanked me for the gift of time with her father, and it changed how I viewed things in my own life, allowing me to reevaluate what is important. Time is a precious gift. We just have to stop for a moment once in a while to embrace the time given to us.”

Flying for Hope works to offer that precious gift to as many people as possible.

—Jeanine Parsons

Black Alumni Reunion set for fall

The Black Alumni Reunion will take place Sept. 15-17, coinciding with the 30th anniversary of the W.S. McIntosh Leadership Award and the 70th anniversary of the formation of the Gamma Theta chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

The event will take place alongside Family Weekend, which organizers hope will create an opportunity for alumni and families to celebrate their UD experiences together.

Charles Kellom ’05 said he is excited to reconnect not only with his friends during the reunion but also with the campus.

“I'm excited to just stand on campus,” he said. “Dayton is a special place for a lot of people. I will always have fond memories, and I am excited to re-engage with my friends and tour some of the newer buildings.”

For more information, contact Daria Graham '94 at dgraham1@udayton.edu.

Hobnobbing at the high court

Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan met with 26 Dayton Law alumni and family members March 6 before they were sworn in to the Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court.

University law school Dean Andrew Strauss introduced Kagan — his friend and classmate since their undergraduate years at Princeton University — at a breakfast in the Chief Justices Room before the swearing-in. “This is a very meaningful day for our alumni who are being sworn in to the Supreme Court Bar, and it is truly an honor to have Justice Kagan here to share it with us,” he said.

During her informal conversation with alumni, Kagan described her love for the job. “I try to remember that every day in this job is a privilege,” she said. “I never want to forget the privilege and the responsibility that come with the job.”

Sutton Smith ’13, staff attorney for the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati, said he couldn't pass up the opportunity to meet Kagan, even though he has a 2-year-old and a newborn. He and his wife, Emi, traveled to Washington, D.C., for the ceremony.

“It was my first visit to the Supreme Court and a cool introduction,” he said. “I thought, I may never get another shot at this. Why not jump in when I can?”

The next UD Supreme Court swearing-in is scheduled for 2019.

—Mary McCarty

The best part of 436 Kiefaber may be what’s hidden.

Walk around back to find an entire second home — 436 1/2 Kiefaber — attached by a hallway that serves as laundry room and closet.

It makes it difficult to get a pizza delivered, said Amanda Paul ’11, who lived in the back half. She moved in during the summer after her sophomore year and didn’t move out until graduation. In that time, Paul said she had 30 housemates come and go from the landlord house that sleeps 10.

“It’s still ours,” Paul said during last summer’s Reunion Weekend as she recounted how her housemates passed it down to younger siblings.

The combined home has six bedrooms and three porches, including a deck in the middle of the yard.

“This was our headquarters,” said Brittney Dienes ’11 of the deck where they would drag the TV out for community watch parties of movies, the Super Bowl and America’s Funniest Home Videos.

It also attracted a lot of friends who always kept the house full. “You would come back from class, and no one who lived here would be here,” said Katie Huene-man ’11, a laboratory technologist at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

“It was a revolving door,” added Dienes, who works for the Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Medical Examiner's Office.

The housemates say living with 10 people wasn’t a problem. With numbers came great diversity — housemates hailing from England to California to Cleveland with majors including sport management, English, engineering and premed.

Paul, an account executive at Intersport in Chicago, said an added bonus was the home’s proximity to Baujan Field, which made for an easy trek to cheer on housemates from the soccer team, including Josie Grant ’12, Kelsey Miller ’12, Emily Kenyon Carr ’12, Kathleen Beljan Murray ’12 and Kelsey Owen ’12.

If you knocked on the front door and couldn’t find anyone, chances are they’d be lounging in the back living room with its air conditioning. Just walk around and knock. Said Paul, “There was always someone to hang out with.”

—Michelle Tedford

Suggest we take a tour of your old house.

Email us at
magazine@udayton.edu.
Full life, full heart

For Alanná Gibson '14, pursuing a passion isn’t something that’s scheduled, a box to check off once a month. It’s woven into the everyday fabric of her life.

It’s the jewelry business, La Bia Rose, she began with a friend, dedicated to creating pieces that promote body positivity, celebrate multiculturalism and give back to local women.

It’s in the way she volunteers with the Rosella French Porterfield Foundation, an organization focused on literacy that’s currently on a mission to give away thousands of free books to children, youth groups and schools.

And it’s in the way Gibson, who received a master’s in English from UD, has tutored children for Youth on a Mission Ministry for the past five years.

What does she have to say about her array of community involvement?“I’ve just been living life and helping people,” Gibson said.

But her commitment to service hasn’t gone unnoticed: On March 22, Columbus, Ohio, print and media design company RWHC awarded Gibson its 2017 Social Change and Community Philanthropy Honoree award. The accolade also came with an unexpected recognition from the Ohio House of Representatives commending Gibson for her work. Chandra Reeder ’87, RWHC’s owner, nominated Gibson for the award after a more than 10-year professional relationship; fittingly, they met when Gibson, then just 10 years old, was selling handmade dolls at a local event.

Reeder notes Gibson’s impressive family resume as well: R.E. Shurney, Gibson’s great-grandfather, worked at NASA during the mid-20th century. Among his contributions was the invention of tires used on the space buggy for the Apollo 15 mission in 1972.

“Alanná has selflessly demonstrated her commitment and dedication and used her creative energy to make an impact in the community in which she lives by taking a stand to raise awareness, fight for and create solutions to address social injustices in her community,” said Reeder, also noting Gibson’s tireless work ethic and Christ-centered focus.

For Gibson, the award was something she hadn’t anticipated: “Winning was a complete surprise. I never do anything for recognition ... I’m very much a behind-the-scenes person,” she said. “I’m not used to getting attention for the work that I do. I just felt gratitude — that someone is paying attention.”

When she’s not busy with other projects, Gibson performs with MadLab, a theater group in Columbus, and Aharen Honryu Keisen Wa No Kai, an organization dedicated to preserving the culture and dance of Okinawa, Japan.

It’s also clear that Columbus itself, the town where she grew up and now resides, is another of her passions: “I always call it my headquarters. It has a lot going on, but people are still very friendly. It’s very diverse; it’s amazing that I can do all these things here,” she said.

Doing all these things, indeed. For Gibson, it’s exactly how she wants to live and inspire others.

“I do this because it’s part of me and I love doing it. You never know how your passion will affect someone else,” she said.

—Jessica Barga

Capturing a family moment

For its I Love UD event, the Nashville Alumni Association decided to give back to its community by hosting photo shoots for the homeless.

The group partnered with Safe Haven Family Shelter and provided family portraits to its residents. Alumni provided hair and makeup assistance and gave participants the photos, along with a gift card to purchase more.

Meghan Chamberlain Ockerman ’99, one of the event’s organizers, saw the impact of the service project when the photos came in; some families had never had a family portrait taken or had lost it during moves.

“Years down the line, what’s the journey of this photo going to be?” she wondered. “It doesn’t take much to change someone’s life or to affect people in some way.”
The Flyers, separated by 1,500 miles, have never met. Yet Michael DeHaven ’91 felt such a connection to Coral Flamand ’13 that he organized a service to pray for the miracle of her recovery. On Feb. 21, 40 alumni and parishioners gathered at Saints Simon and Jude Parish in West Chester, Pennsylvania, with Father Pat Tonry, S.M. ’55, presiding.

“All who attended prayed for Coral and also re-ceived healing themselves,” said DeHaven, who encourages other alumni communities to pray for her recovery through the intercession of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, Marianist Family co-founder.

In the Summer 2016 UD Magazine, we shared the story of a young advocate for human rights who suffered a traumatic brain injury during a 2013 car crash. Flamand cannot speak, walk or feed herself. She relies on the love and constant care of her parents, Luis and Diana Flamand, and a host of care providers for her daily basic needs.

Since that article, Luis Flamand reports there has been an outpouring of support from the extended Flyer family. They have sent rosaries, offered medical referrals and shared testimonials of similar cases. Alumni have mailed post-cards, visited the home and shared greetings through email and Skype.

“Most importantly for Coral is knowing that there are many people thinking and praying for her,” Luis Flamand said via email. “[It] gives her happiness.”

He described her slow progress as her “pilgrimage” — her continuous change from a frightful initial state to a daily grace-filled and hope-filled process. She can now swallow mashed food. She has increased vocalizations. And in early May, she raised her legs for the first time, in response to commands from her father.

While the Flamands pray — as do many — for Coral’s physical recovery, they see daily the gift of her life and her progress as examples of God’s healing power.

“A miracle may be right in front of you,” Luis Flamand said, “but you have to see it.”
Alumni who live in the Raleigh/Durham community can boast about living near one of the world’s greatest technological research parks, known as Research Triangle, where multibillion-dollar companies such as Lenovo and Cisco maintain headquarters.

The area is also home to Duke University, University of North Carolina and North Carolina State. Raleigh is known as the City of Oaks, and the area has three wineries, two distilleries and 21 craft breweries. For its Christmas off Campus event, the group volunteered with Clubs in the City Urban Youth Development, where they provided lunch for at-risk youth, decorated the cafeteria and set up a new basketball rim.

We asked a few alumni in the area: What do you like best about living in Raleigh/Durham?

“Three primary things. First and foremost, the people who live in North Carolina are absolutely the nicest people you could meet. Secondly, it’s a great place to raise kids. And lastly, Raleigh is located two hours from the beach and two hours from the mountains. Great place to get outside and stay active.” —Bob Glaser ’83

“Three primary things. Its location. It’s almost exactly in the middle between the mountains in the west and the beach to the east. It’s warmer than Ohio in winter. Also, you get to see three great college basketball teams, a Class AAA baseball team and an NHL hockey team.” —Brian Rapp ’76

“Three primary things. My two favorite parts about living in the Raleigh/Durham area are the college rivalry among NC State, Duke and Carolina, and the ability to get to the beach in two hours. I grew up with constant chatter about the ‘Tobacco Road’ showdown between Duke and Carolina, and it makes for a great game watch! Also, going to school in Ohio taught me not to take this quick two-hour drive to the beach for granted.” —Danielle Glaser ’12

GOD’S BETRAYAL: THE CREDO
Daniel Hobbs ’68
A political-religious thriller, God’s Betrayal: The Credo is the third installment of his Baby Boomer Betrayal series that Daniel Hobbs, under the ghostwriter name Ben Leiter, published in March 2017. The story begins when Father Gabriel Garza questions his Jesus and Hobbs, under the ghostwriter name Ben Leiter, published in March 2017. The story begins when Father Gabriel Garza questions his Jesus and assigned to Rome for two years of graduate study, Garza stumbles through blood-soaked Vatican archives. His mysterious academic adviser works for Vatican intelligence and shares explosive religious and political files with Garza — but why? Hobbs is currently working on the fourth installment of this series, which he says “contains more explosive twists and turns, and a surprise ending.” —Gita Balakrishnan

A CASE FOR KINDNESS
Lisa Barrickman ’96
When Lisa Barrickman started to think about her 40th birthday, she was thankful for the years she had lived and wanted her celebration to be a reflection of that gratitude by practicing 40 days of intentional kindness leading up to her birthday. She left a basket of toys at a park or taped a baggie of coins to a parking meter. Once others heard about her kindness journey, they were excited, too. Many joined her, and together they scattered more than 20,000 acts of kindness. Her book, A Case for Kindness, was released June 27, 2017, and gives readers practical ways to spread kindness in the world. “The great thing about kindness is that we never know where our good deeds end,” she says. —Gita Balakrishnan

MILLENNIAL REBOOT
Kate Athmer ’09
In Millennial Reboot, sport management graduate Kate Athmer and her co-author Rob Johnson tackle prejudices and lay out the ways “old-school” and “new-school” can co-exist and move an organization forward. “A lot of our peers, including some of our best friends, are frustrated with their options and not really sure how or where to start looking for a path to advancement,” Athmer says. The book has practical advice on networking, negotiation, interviewing and attire without sugar-coating reality: Work hard. Keep learning. Recognize when you’re wrong. Respect cultural norms. Seek advice. Share your knowledge. The book was published in November 2016 by Lioncrest Publishing. —Maureen Schlangen

Now READ SEE HEAR This
Golden Flyers

JEROLD “JERRY” KINDLE ’57 (ECO) and his wife, Sylvia, live in Centerville, Ohio. He writes, “We are lifelong Daytonians and are celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary this summer. Another important event this year is the 50th reunion for the Class of 1957. I’ve been honored and privileged to be class representative for the Golden Flyers and a member of the Golden Flyers executive committee since our induction in 2007. I was glad to see so many former classmates during Reunion Weekend, especially those from the ’57 golf team, as I had the good fortune to serve as team captain that year.”

JIM PAYNE ’59 (ECA) and SUE WAGNER PAYNE ’59 (ENG) live in Naples, Fla. They write, “We met as sophomores at UD when we sat next to each other in class. We married in 1958 and, after we graduated and Jim served two years in the U.S. Army, we settled in Dayton. Jim received his MBA from Xavier University, and Sue earned her master’s degree from UD. Jim spent most of his career with L.M. Berry and Co., retiring in 1994 as executive vice president. We’ve been living in Naples since then. We’re blessed with five children, 12 grandchildren and one great-grandson.”

BOB “REBEL” HIGDON ’62 (GEN) and his wife, Merle, live in Franklin, Tenn. He writes, “We recently traveled to South America and Antarctica, and we took a transatlantic cruise in April. We plan to cruise on the Rhine River in late June. I enjoyed reminiscing through back issues of Flyer News on UD’s website. I found a brief article in an April 1961 issue about the Bluegrass Club’s ‘Arcade Charlie Award,’ named for Father Charles Hoffstetter, S.M. He became my confessor and spiritual director at the Marianist Novitiate in Mercy, N.Y., later that same year. Little did I know that Father Charles would be reassigned just in time for my tumultuous arrival. I spent several long, late evenings in his office sharing our homesickness for UD. I was glad

DAVE PFRIEM ’66

Stay busy, have fun

Retirement is anything but restful for David Pfriem, and he wouldn’t have it any other way.

The 73-year-old is putting his English degree to use as he finishes his second memoir and is in the early stages of writing a novel.

“I’ve met so many interesting people over the years, I’m going to try to weave them into a story,” he said. “The most important thing, though, is to have fun, and I’m having fun.”

That fun includes visiting with grandchildren, volunteering as a docent and working part time at a condo complex. For Pfriem, staying active is crucial: He equates staying busy with staying vibrant.

“I’ve seen people retire and waste away,” he said. “You need to keep going until you can’t, or you really won’t enjoy life.”

Pfriem’s nontraditional retirement follows a pattern, as he was also a nontraditional college student, making his vows as a Marianist brother a year prior to enrolling at the University of Dayton in 1962.

Dorm living and campus life were not the norm as he lived in community at Mount Saint John and commuted. He chronicled his life as a Marianist in his first memoir, Uncommon Bonds, published in 2009, a work he said “could prove to be an amusing read” for current students and alumni alike.

He left the order in 1967 — after teaching for a year at Cincinnati’s Purcell High School — and while it was an incredibly tough decision, he said he has no regrets.

From teaching and curriculum development to his work in the field of developmental disabilities, one thing has been a constant: the impact of the University of Dayton.

“Developing an intellectual curiosity and understanding intellectual freedom — I can’t say enough about my Marianist education,” Pfriem said.

—Debbie Juniewicz
to see many of our classmates from 1962 during Reunion Weekend as we celebrated our 55th reunion.”

JAMES “JIM” O’HORA ’62 (SOC) lives in West Chester, Pa. He writes, “Recently, I was inducted into the Hall of Fame at Vestal Central High School, my alma mater. I’m very thankful to UD for my education in faith, attitude, pride and humility, as it led me to a 32-year career in social work and administration at five nonprofit organizations. Thanks, UD — I could not have accomplished this without you.”

HAL SCHÖEN ’63 (EDS) lives in Port Charlotte, Fla. “In my recent memoir, Growing Up, I describe a scene a week prior to the 1960 NIT during one of Coach Blackburn’s typical, very intense practices. Senior captain Frank Case was on the free throw line during a scrimmage, and I was in the inside rebounding position to the right of the basket. Frank was shooting two shots, but for some reason I thought it was a one-and-one. When he missed the first shot, I jumped up quickly and snared the rebound. Knowing he had another shot and my rebound was wasted effort, Frank mimicked the voice of the young boy in the last scene of the current blockbuster western Shane when the movie’s star Alan Ladd rode off into the sunset as the boy pleaded, ‘Come ba-a-ack, Schoen!’ Most of the players had recently seen the movie, and they cracked up. Even Tom Blackburn couldn’t suppress a smile. Thanks for the priceless memory, Frank!”

RICHARD “DICK” BAKER ’64 (ECO) and MARYLIN “MISSY” MUSTERMANN BAKER ’65 (MTA) live in Cambridge, Ohio. They write, “We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 26, 2016. The golden wedding event proved the adage that you meet good people at UD. Of the Baker siblings and spouses, 12 are alumni, including Paul Sherry and Ann Baker, Kevin Weaver and Kathleen Baker Weaver, Faith Baker, Anthony Ziehler, Daniel Baker and Constance Bradt, Merrell Jones and Mary Lou Baker Jones, Elizabeth Tucker, and John “Jack” Musterman. Also in attendance were 18 other alumni and one current UD student, our granddaughter Emma Baker. Many others in our family are UD alumni, including our daughter and son-in-law, as well as Missy’s sister Kathleen Musterman Graney and brother-in-law Marc Graney. Dick is one of 10 children of Jacob Baker ’39 and Margaret Baker, who was among the first women enrolled at UD. Nine of the 10 children graduated from UD, and UD honored their mother with a Special Services Award during Homecoming Weekend in 1985.” Dick practices civil law, and Missy is retired from Ohio University as a math instructor.

1969

VINCE MELOGRANA (PMT) lives in West Chester, Pa. He writes, “I worked at WHIO-AM while attending UD. After graduation, I started my sales career, which led me to a radio executive advertising job for WCHE 1520-AM in West Chester, where I sell ads for the radio station and do several on-air broadcasts. During football season, I host a live broadcast in a sports restaurant and interview the head football coach and players from West Chester University. I also do the color commentary for the West Chester University men’s and women’s basketball games. I don’t even think about retirement. I love college basketball and still follow every Flyers game.”

PATRICIA SKALKA (JRN) lives in Chicago. The University of Wisconsin Press published her mystery novel Death in Cold Water in October 2016.


ANATOMY OF A CLASS NOTE ’71

ENG Mary says her most memorable English course was with professor Michael Means her senior year when the class focused on the writings of John Barth. The class read four of Barth’s works and wrote papers on all of the books. She said, “I had never heard of him and was not very familiar with this genre, so it was rather thought provoking.”

DELTA AIR LINES Mary started working with Delta in October 1972. Her career began in reservations, and she worked at the city ticket offices in downtown Chicago. She retired in 2005 from Chicago’s O’Hare Airport. She said the job continues to offer her tremendous travel benefits. Mary has visited 115 countries including Iran, Egypt, Tunisia and Venezuela, and hopes to visit Cuba next.

Mary Kaufmann (ENG) retired from Delta Air Lines in 2005 after a career spanning more than 30 years. She lives up the street from Wrigley Field, so in 2006, she began working for the Chicago Cubs. Mary has been there for the last 11 seasons. She writes, “For a lifelong Chicagogan and history minor, 2016 was one remarkable year. The last time the Chicago Cubs were World Series Champions was in 1908! We were able to share in the victory year when the trophy was on display at our end-of-the-season party.”

WORKING FOR THE CHICAGO CUBS Although Mary retired from Delta, she now works in security services for Wrigley Field. As luck would have it, she spent last season working Gate K at the field, which is the Cubs’ players gate. She’s been with the team for 11 seasons and also works the Cubs Conventions each January.

LIFELONG CHICAGOGAN Mary says that her Chicago roots are deep. She grew up 1 mile west of Wrigley Field in a building her grandparents purchased in 1917. She still lives in the family home.

WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS When the Chicago Cubs won the World Series in 2016, they made history, since the Cubs had not won the series in more than 100 years. Mary said, “When they finally won on Nov 2 in Cleveland, the curse was broken. I thought it was fitting they won on All Souls Day — for all the legions of Cubs fans that died waiting for this victory to happen. It was very memorable, for sure.”

TROPHY At the Cubs celebration rally, there were reports of more than 5 million fans in attendance. Mary had the opportunity to pose with the championship trophy and treasures the memory. As she recalled, “It was a special moment in an unbelievable season.”

—Gita Balakrishnan
1970

PHIL GRASSIA (EDP) lives in Ocean, N.J. He writes, “I enjoyed the University of Dayton Magazine on the beautiful beach of Anna Maria Island, Fla., with alumni from the Class of 1970: Bert Dretzke, Jack Hurray and Ann Fisher Hurray. Bert, Jack and I were housemates at 442 Lowes St. and Epsilon Sigma Phi fraternity brothers. Ann was our next-door neighbor at 440 Lowes St. We try to meet every year to tell war stories of our time at UD. Go Flyers!”

DANIEL SHILLITO (MGT) lives in San Diego. He writes, “I attended the A-to-Z Tournament in Pittsburgh with four alumni from the Class of 1970: Robert Ciuolo, William Kinzeiler, Dennis Minkler and Lidia Bastianich. Lidia is a Food Network chef, and we had dinner at her restaurant in downtown Pittsburgh. Go Flyers!”

1973

CATHY FOGARTY CIPOLLA (AMS) lives in Vero Beach, Fla. She writes, “Regina McFadden Moran ’75 and I celebrated New Year’s Eve with a copy of the University of Dayton Magazine at my home. We met and became friends at the Indian River Club in Vero Beach after realizing that we’re both UD alumnas.”

RICH HAYES (EDP) and JEAN "GIGI" CONROY HAYES (EDE) live in Rockville Centre, N.Y. They write, “Joyce Conroy Schafer ’75 joined us on a trip to Maui, Hawaii. We went to the top of a volcano at 5 a.m. in 30-degree weather, biked down 28 miles and then flew back up in a helicopter the next day. We were flying high in Maui.”

PAULA MCQUILLAN MARTINEZ (HEG) and RALPH MARTINEZ ’74 (EDS) live in Cincinnati. They write, “We concluded a trip to South Africa on Bazaruto Island, located 30 kilometers off the coast of Mozambique in the Indian Ocean. We also visited Cape Town and Kruger National Park in the Republic of South Africa, as well as Zambia and Zimbabwe. It was a great experience and we certainly will return to Africa someday.”

1974

RALPH MARTINEZ (EDS) and PAULA MCQUILLAN MARTINEZ ’73 (HEG) live in Cincinnati. They write, “We concluded a trip to South Africa on Bazaruto Island, located 30 kilometers off the coast of Mozambique in the

1975

MARTY LUKEN GOSSETT (EDP) writes, “I live in Hideaway Hills, Ohio, on a lake in the woods. I retired after 30 years of teaching physical education and health at St. Joseph Montessori School in Columbus, Ohio. I have three wonderful children and two grandchildren. Janice Janendo and Ellen Banister, UD friends forever, visited in June.”

1976

BOB BYRNE (COM) and his wife, Carrie Ann, live in White, Ga. He writes, “We celebrated our 15th wedding anniversary in June 2016 and are very happy in our new home in the Georgia mountains. I’ve been with BB&T Bank’s Sheffield financial division as vice president of sales since 2003 and am not planning to retire anytime soon. Four of our five kids are married and we enjoy every minute we get with our growing brood of five grandchildren. We also enjoy riding our Harley-Davidson motorcycles in the mountains of Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. We both remain active in the Patriot Guard Riders and Wariors Watch Riders, honoring those who gave their all for the freedoms we enjoy. I’m looking forward to getting back to see the campus again soon.”

DEIDRE KANE (BIO) lives in Cape May Court House, N.J. She writes, “I attended a high school basketball game at the Wildwood Convention Center in New Jersey with Beth Maguire Quinn ’83. Beth Madison Pasternak ’76, Tim Kane ’76, Sister Barbara Buckley ’76 and Gail Jacobsen ’76. All five of us women were varsity athletes at UD.”

PATTY SPITLER (COM) lives in Indianapolis. She writes, “In 2005, because of a severe hearing loss, I had to quit my job anchoring the
news and entertainment programs at WISH-TV in Indianapolis after 23 years with the station. However, I found a new outlet for my passion that keeps me productive: I host and produce the nationally syndicated program Pet Pals TV. It’s an independent broadcast based in Indianapolis. Pet Pals now reaches eight million pet-loving households nationwide — including WDTN in Dayton. I also host and produce a local show called Boomer TV. I love what I can do now, and it all started when I fell in love with broadcasting at WVUD radio.

1977
ROBERT LOEPP JR. (MBA) and his wife, Diane, live in Okemos, Mich. He writes, “Receiving my MBA was the entry pass toward a successful career in health care administration. I began my career as food service director for Ochsner Hospital in New Orleans and retired in 2016 as a hospital CEO in Birmingham, Ala. Hats off to MBA graduate Tom Grainger ’75, who encouraged me to obtain an MBA from UD. During my 40-year career, Diane and I have lived primarily in the South, having wonderful life experiences in New Orleans and Shreveport, La., Toledo, Ohio, and in Southlake, Texas. Diane and I have traveled to Macchu Picchu, Peru; Branson, Mo.; Grayton Beach, Fla.; and New Orleans. We have also taken a British Isles cruise to attend the Edinburgh Royal Tattoo. Life is good. Go Flyers.”

1978
SHARON DAVIS HOWARD (COM) lives in Dayton. She writes, “I was recently elected to serve on the Ohio Citizens for the Arts board of directors. The OCA is a statewide arts advocacy organization that works to increase public support and funding for the arts through advocacy, education and engagements.”

1979
DEBBI BORCHERS (BIO) lives in Fort Mitchell, Ky. She writes, “Visiting UD brings back so many wonderful memories. I’ve been visiting frequently while my second daughter attends UD, and my visits will be extended another four years since my third daughter starts her UD journey this fall. I’m supporting our family’s UD habit through my continued work at Crossroad Health Center in Cincinnati, a Christian community health center. Our lives are blessed.”

KATE KERN (ART) lives in Cincinnati. She writes, “I’m a visual artist, and my solo exhibition, Calling, was at the Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery in Cincinnati from Feb. 10 through April 2 of this year. The show featured a site-specific installation, a selection of drawings and the debut of my first stop-motion animation, titled ‘The Night Is Dark and the House Is Dark.’ I held an artist talk March 15, 2017, during the exhibition.”

1980
JANET KOHL-HOFF INKROT (MEE) and her husband, Bob, live in Cincinnati. She writes, “I recently retired and am enjoying sailing with Bob at Rocky Fork Lake. We took a family sailing trip to Abacos, Bahamas, with daughter Karen Inkrot Loeffler ’12 and son-in-law Jimmy Loeffler ’12.”

JEFF NEAL (MGT) lives in Noblesville, Ind. He writes, “I held a surprise party for my wife, Robyn Robinson Neal ’80, for her 60th birthday. Friends from her high school days and her pledge class from Kappa Chi joined more than 50 people from all over who attended.” Jeff is a Realtor and broker with F.C. Tucker Co., Inc.

1981
STEPHEN KELLETT (MEE) lives in Seattle. He writes, “After living our entire lives on the East Coast, we moved to Seattle in August 2016 for my wife’s job as general manager of a fiber optics firm. I received my doctor of physical therapy degree in 2013. I’ve been practicing as a physical therapist and recently started a new job in an orthopedic/sports medicine practice south of Seattle. Both our kids are also on the West Coast, which makes us very happy. We have plenty of room for visitors so let us know if you’re in the area.”

1982
JOY GOLD-SCHMIDT ANTONIOPOLOS (MKT) lives in Bryn Mawr, Pa. She writes, “I celebrated another 236 Kiefaber St. gathering with Class of 1982 alumna Shaun Healy Loeffler ’12, my wife, Robyn Robinson Neal ’80, for her 60th birthday. Friends from her high school days and her pledge class from Kappa Chi joined more than 50 people from all over who attended.” Jeff is a Realtor and broker with F.C. Tucker Co., Inc.

Can UDentify us?
In class and ready to learn, these students listen to a lecture on politics and gender equality. But who are they? Email us the names of these familiar faces from the 1990s and you might see your own name in print in our autumn issue. Email magazine@udayton.edu. See more archival images from digital Daytonians at ecommons.udayton.edu.

From our last issue
In the spring issue, we asked readers to identify these smiling faces captured on a sunny day, Eileen O’Keefe Meraki’s ’82 shared names of two, while Nancy Storey West ’83 named all three and identified the women as Tri-Lamb’s Jeanine Dingens Liffka, Heather Hughes and Erin McGuire. And from our winter issue, Christine Geary Medvetz ‘94 wrote in to say the the man standing on the right looked familiar; it is her husband, Marc Medvetz ’94.

IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI
1940
1943
Martha A. Bucher Overwein — Feb. 3, 2017
1944
Sylvia C. Scott Henricks — March 19, 2017
1945
Richard A. Welsh — March 12, 2017
1948
Gerard L. Haury — Jan. 11, 2017
Robert J. Huels — Jan. 12, 2017
Madeleine A. Unger Riley — Jan. 19, 2017
1949
Mary E. “Betty” Hodapp — Jan. 24, 2017
Verdina A. Fox Mardis — Jan. 1, 2017
1950
Thomas J. Amann — Jan. 19, 2017
Bernard J. “Ben” Ambrose — Feb. 4, 2017
Donald W. “Don” Foley — Jan. 14, 2017
Charles J. “Chuck” Kenny — Feb. 7, 2017
Eugene W. Kirchner — Dec. 26, 2016
Carl J. Sachs — Jan. 11, 2017
1951
Robert D. Fremgen — Feb. 27, 2017
Frederick G. “Fred” Krebs — Feb. 7, 2017
David W. Price — June 18, 2016
1952
Emery J. Csizma — Jan. 21, 2017
1953
Valentine W. “Val” Bozymski — Jan. 4, 2017
George E. Harr — Feb. 17, 2017
George F. Smolinski — March 7, 2017
Cecil D. Wamsley — March 16, 2017
1954
Donald J. “Don” Schimmoller — Dec. 20, 2016
Ronald J. “Ron” Wojcik — Feb. 28, 2017
1955
Lael M. Ely Bradshaw — May 18, 2016
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Lael M. Ely Bradshaw — May 18, 2016
Mary A. Ens Rotterman — Feb. 1, 2017
MARK IACOFANO ’84

Action!

When Mark Iacofano was a kid, he dreamed about playing major league baseball. He lettered his junior and senior year on UD’s varsity baseball team but lacked a few of the key skills that he would need to make it in the majors.

“I couldn’t hit, and I couldn’t run,” Iacofano said. “But I was determined to at least have a career in the sports industry.”

He moved behind the scenes, so to speak, and worked his way up from directing and producing small college football games to iconic games like Michigan’s The Big Chill, the Frozen Diamond Face-off, gold medal Olympic hockey games, and countless professional and college hockey, baseball, basketball and football games.

“I want to make sports shows great for the people who can’t be in the arena or stadium,” said Iacofano, who expertly stitches together camera shots, graphics, replays, promotions and player storylines to create a seamless experience for the fan sitting on the couch at home.

“I never want to disturb the flow of the game,” Iacofano said. There are pre- and post-game shows too that often last late into the night. Iacofano stays until the bitter end.

An MLB game, for example, involves upwards of 30 people who all take their cues from Iacofano, a 20-time Emmy award winner. Golden statues aside, producing and directing a February basketball game between Dayton and St. Joseph’s from UD Arena was “a surreal experience I won’t soon forget,” said Iacofano.

The self-described Flyer Fanatic hadn’t been back to the Arena in 33 years but, Iacofano said, it was worth the wait. Especially when Tony Caruso, UD’s equipment manager and Iacofano’s former baseball coach, gave him a personal courtside tour during warm-ups. A consummate professional, Iacofano remained impartial during the game but admits to celebrating later.

For a guy whose career revolves around watching sports, “it was definitely a bucket list moment for me,” he said.

–Molly Blake ’96

Clifford, Eileen O’Keefe Merakiis and Diane Bongiovanni Boes in Scottsdale, Ariz. We conquered that mountain!”

PATRICIA BALOG HODGE (EDS) lives in Hilliard, Ohio. She writes, “After 33 years of service, I’ve retired from the federal government. I plan to spend my retirement relaxing, traveling and catching up on reading.”

MIKE “SPEED” METZ (MKT) lives in northern California. He writes, “Class of 1982 alumni Rick ‘Moony’ Monnier, Dan ‘Dunk’ Schmatz, Mike ‘Bird’ Stanton and I, along with Judge Mike ‘Slim’ Sullivan ’81, traveled to UD to see our Flyers take down St. Bonaventure. This was our 10th annual trip, and we’re already looking forward to next year. Side trips to Flanagan’s, Kramer’s, Milano’s, Tim’s, and the UD campus and houses brought back many great memories and the rehashing of wonderful stories. Go Flyers.”

JON PEKNIK (COM) lives in North Ridgeville, Ohio. He writes, “Class of 1982 alumni Celia Thomas, Jim Priest, Mike Rizer, Tony Cash and I met in North Carolina last summer for a weekend of hiking, kayaking and reminiscing about our days together at UD. We came from Seattle; Boston; Charlotte, N.C.; Worcester, Mass.; Louisville, Ky.; and Cleveland and enjoyed sharing many fond memories about UD and our fellow Flyer friends.”

1983

MARA WAHL CURRAN (EDE) lives in Beavercreek, Ohio. She writes, “I enjoy reading my University of Dayton Magazine and decided to write something for my Class of 1983. My degree in education has enabled me to write two children’s books. Where’s Gerald, a Grasshopper Tale, was published in 1992. Now, Gerald the grasshopper has written about heaven, and the coloring book is available at Chick-fil-A.”

1986

SUSAN BORCHERS (MED) lives in Columbus, Ohio. She writes, “I made long-lasting friendships while attending UD and majoring in pre-med. I also had wonderful opportunities, including research and completing my honors thesis. During my medical school interview, I was told that my research on bone cements in live rats was really impressive and was one of the major reasons I was accepted. I graduated from The Ohio State University College of Medicine, completed my residency at Riverside Hospital in Columbus and my fellowship at Lahey Clinic in Boston, and have been practicing pulmonary and sleep medicine in Columbus for the past 22 years. I have triplets — Elizabeth, Steven and Michelle — all of whom are now attending UD as honors students and majoring in pre-med. They’ve all started working with their advisers on research projects and are engaged in many campus activities. They’re all in Alpha Epsilon Delta and volunteering at such organizations as hospice, Epsilon Delta Tau Pi, Christmas on Campus and the hospital nursery. They still find time to participate in tennis, dance, ultimate Frisbee, University Chorale, Chapel Choir and Audio Pilots. It’s hard for them to believe that their mom was in the same situation 30 years ago. Moving them into their dorm rooms freshman year was so amazing. Steven was on the same floor that I was on in Marycrest my freshman year. I cannot be more proud of my triplets or more thankful to the University of Dayton for giving me an amazing start to my career and to my kids’ careers, too.”

1987

PEGGY BONN BREWER (COM) lives in Cincinnati. She writes, “My daughter, Katie Brewer ’16, is now officially a member of the University of Dayton Alumni Association. Her graduation on May 8, 2016, was the best Mother’s Day present I have ever received. It’s great that Katie’s one-year reunion coincides...
with my 30-year reunion. I enjoyed seeing all of my old classmates and roommates at Reunion Weekend in June,” Peggy invites former classmates to contact her at pbrewer@fuse.net.

GREG DEINZER (PSS) lives in Huntington Beach, Calif. He writes, “I created a website, www.rosarytogether.com, in honor of the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima’s apparitions to three shepherd children near Fatima, Portugal, that emphasized the necessity of praying the rosary every day. Since I was 13, praying the rosary has been a near-daily routine for me. There were four times throughout the years that I have been the most meditative while praying. Those were the times when I had lost all hope and asked for a higher power to intervene. After reciting the rosary, I found hope. I have witnessed astonishing answers to my prayers by asking Mary, the mother of Jesus, to intercede with her son on my behalf. The main reason I created this website is to thank the Blessed Mother. I also wanted to inform and inspire others to recite the rosary and to know, as I have, the power of meditative prayer.”

TOM SHUTTY (IET) lives in Chardon, Ohio. He writes, “On a recent trip to India, I looked at the University of Dayton Magazine outside the Bom Jesus church in Old Goa. Once every 10 years, the church has the remains of Saint Francis Xavier on display, an event that took place during my visit. It was amazing to see.”

JEFFREY TRZECIAK (EDS) lives in Newark, N.J. The Newark Public Library appointed him director in February 2017. Previously, Jeffrey was university librarian at Washington University in St. Louis and has spent his 30-year career in urban library settings. Jeffrey has been a champion of civil rights and social justice, particularly in the African-American, Hispanic and LGBTQ communities. While at Washington University, he initiated the award-winning Documenting Ferguson initiative, which documented the protests that followed the death of Michael Brown. Also, Jeffrey has created enduring partnerships; cultivated diverse, high-performing staffs; acquired significant library collections; and raised millions of dollars for the libraries he’s served.

1993

KELLI BROWN (COM) and her husband, Walter Hawkins, live in Prospect, Ky., and have two children, Henry and Madeline. She writes, “I started my own publishing company, October Day Publishing, In February, my book, Estate Planning When You Have an Addicted Child, was published. I wrote the book after seeing a significant increase in the number of families who come to me for planning because of a teen or adult child who struggles with addiction issues. It appeared to me that many families were reluctant to come forward and did so only when they believed that their only option was disinheritance. I wrote the book in an effort to provide families with loved ones who struggle with addiction the opportunity to review estate planning principles that apply to their specific situation. I’m a frequent speaker on the topic and have been practicing trusts and estates law for more than 20 years. I practice law with Goldberg Simpson LLC in Louisville, Ky., where I chair the trusts and estates department.”

NICHOLAS SKOVRAVAN (MSC) lives in Pittsburgh. In November 2016, the board of directors of the American Society for Quality elected Nicholas a fellow of the society in recognition of his significant contributions to quality practices in health care and other industries. Nicholas is president of Quality Horizons, where he’s responsible for operations and quality practice. He has more than 40 years of experience and has served as a Pennsylvania state quality award examiner for three years for the Keystone Alliance for Performance Excellence. Since 1993, Nicholas has been a senior member of ASQ. As a member of the Pittsburgh section of the ASQ education committee, he’s been teaching the certified quality engineer course since 1996.

1994

CAMERON COLLINS (PHO) lives in St. Louis. He writes, “In April, Reedy Press published my book, Lost Treasures of St. Louis. More information about the book and a schedule of book signings can be found at www.distilledhistory.com. I moved to St. Louis after graduation and have had a great life here. About five years ago, I started writing a blog about St. Louis history. I added a drinking twist to it and named it Distilled History. It’s been a successful endeavor and led to the book deal. I am so proud to be a Flyer. I get back to campus a couple of times a year, and each time I walk around, I remember that attending UD was the best decision I ever made.”

1995

DARLENE POGORELEC SILKNITTER (CMT) lives in Greensboro, N.C. She writes, “Several UD Class of 1995 girls hold an annual reunion: Kate Warnka Caldwell, Idle Mawby Atencio, Laura Furman, Theresa Jewett Mystysyn, Sara Dwenger Wojciechowski, Molly Salyers Muddra, Meg Robertson Mackel, Kristin Olsen-Whisler and me. In years ending in a 5 or 0, we meet in Dayton. In other years, we pick a place around the country to see each other. Usually a

SUSAN ZECH ’93

Ready for her close-up

As president of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, Susan Zech has seen many thespians preparing for close-ups. The boutique college with campuses in New York and Los Angeles counts among its alumni Robert Redford, Grace Kelly, Lauren Bacall, Kirk Douglas, Anne Hathaway and Jessica Chastain, to name a few from its 132-year history.

“I consider it a privilege to lead an institution I so wholeheartedly believe in,” Zech said. “It’s a joy to do work that honors an important legacy and advances a mission I really care about. Actors are vital to our civilization. Art heals. Inspires. It holds a mirror up to society and helps audiences understand the human condition. What could be more thrilling?”

Zech wears many hats — strategist, problem solver, consensus builder and mentor — and credits UD’s Learn. Lead. Serve. maxim as a central philosophy that has shaped her leadership style. “It’s funny how what resonated for me then has remained important over the years. As I’ve matured in my role, I’ve discovered more about leadership being rooted in service,” she said.

The Academy attracts a global student body representing nearly 40 countries and all 50 states. Zech says this diversity enriches the learning process both professionally and socially for students.

When not commuting between the two coasts for work, Zech spends time with family and friends. “There’s no place like New York. I’ve also found it’s important to find a beach, lake or mountains from time to time to recharge.”

So, would Zech ever utter that famous line from Sunset Boulevard, “All right, Mr. DeMille, I’m ready for my close-up”? Not likely.

“I have the greatest respect for actors. They are among the most courageous souls on earth. I get to contribute in a meaningful way to the development of young actors, but my calling is not to be on stage,” Zech said.

Filmmaker Cecil DeMille, Academy Class of 1900, found many others who would.

—Jeanne Parson
pyramid photo is taken, too. We’ve traveled from as far as Kuopio, Finland; the Midwest; the South; and out West to meet in Dayton and at such destinations as Snowbird Ski Resort near Salt Lake City. Thank you, UD, for introducing us and keeping strong the ties that bind.”

1996

KEVIN EDGAR (LAW) lives in Washington, D.C. He writes, “I’ve been named chief counsel for the Committee on Financial Services of the U.S. House of Representatives. Since 2007, I have served as the committee’s lead securities and capital markets counsel.”

ASHLEY PUGLIA NORONHA (MKT) and her husband, John, live in Rome. She writes, “I’m a journalist and the host and anchor of the weekly show Voice of the Vatican on Shalom World TV. I’m the Rome correspondent for the Relevant Radio Network and host a podcast on the network. I am also a consultant for crisis communications and media training for religious leaders and organizations and have been featured on such TV news networks as CBS, FOX, EWTN and CBN as an expert on Vatican issues. I teach media training for priests at the Pontifical North American College and Pontifical Irish College and am a professor of media training at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross. I was formerly the English language official at the Pontifical Council for Social Communications at the Vatican and director of communications at the Pontifical Holy Cross Foundation. I hold a master’s degree in theology from Holy Apostles Seminary and a Licentiate of Sacred Theology in communications from Santa Croce, and am a doctoral candidate in communications and journalism. John and I married in February 2008 and have been living in Rome since. We also do tours of Rome and have created media to share our knowledge to allow sacred art to uplift hearts and minds.”

1997

FRED LUBIN (ESA) lives in Henderson, Nev. He writes, “I practice psychotherapy in Henderson and Las Vegas and write a therapy blog at pessimisticschink.blogspot.com.”

SRDJAN NIKOLIC (PSY) writes, “On Feb. 1, I started a new job as vice president of finance and administration for Rakita Exploration in Serbia. I work in the mining industry at what is potentially one of the richest copper and gold deposits in the world.”

1998

ERIN PERKINS BOHN (HST) lives in Indianapolis. She writes, “I took my 10-year-old daughter and my mom on a surprise one-day trip for my daughter’s birthday, and we saw as much of Washington, D.C., as we could in 24 hours. We had a picture of us taken standing outside the West Wing of the White House. I’m a history and government teacher, and one of my former students now works in the White House and the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. He gave us a tour of the West and East Wings, including the Oval Office. Needless to say, it was quite an experience to see all this, in addition to the Rose Garden, the Truman balcony and the wonderful Christmas decorations throughout the East Wing.”

SCOTT HARRISON (MBA) lives in Apollo Beach, Fla. He writes, “In September 2016, after 38 years in the U.S. Army, I retired and began a new phase in my life. I’m hopeful it will be as eventful as the past 38 years have been. I relocated to the Tampa, Fla., area in 2006 when I was reassigned from the joint staff at the Pentagon to Central Command. I found a home where my two youngest children could finish high school and enjoy warm-weather activities. Granted, it’s nothing like the fun I had growing up in Ohio, but we visit once a year to see family and, on occasion, visit the UD campus.”

HOLLY LOGAN (FIN) lives in Des Moines, Iowa, where she has joined the Davis Brown Law Firm.

JENNIFER HORTON PALCICH (CMM)(PSY) and her husband announce the birth of Sydney Rose (1-7-17), who joins sister Kathryn Grace (5-14-15) at home in Dallas. Jennifer writes, “It’s been an amazing couple of years. I was appointed assistant dean for student affairs for the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Texas only two days before Kathryn was born. In addition, my three housemates from UD and I got together in Marco Island, Fla., to celebrate our 40th birthdays. I didn’t think life could get any better than the four years at UD, but the past two years have been nothing short of wonderful.”

1999

AMBER SCHEIDERER HOLDT (EDU) and her husband, Ken, announce the birth of Hannah Marie (9-23-16), who joins siblings Lily (12-24-10), Isaac (12-4-12) and Kate (11-13-14) at home in Cincinnati.

JUSTIN BAYER ’01

The art of the perfect fit

For Justin Bayer, a visit to the University as a high schooler changed his life in more ways than one.

Even though the University wasn’t part of his collegiate list as a high school student, his campus visit changed everything — both academically and professionally.

“My junior year in high school, UD wasn’t even on my radar. After probably the fifth time my guidance counselor encouraged me to visit, I finally did,” he said.

It was the campus visit that propelled Bayer, then a student at Archbishop Moeller, to make the University his new home.

“That was the turning point for the rest of my life,” Bayer, a Cincinnati native now living in New Orleans, said.

The visit had such an impact on him that nine years after graduating he developed his own startup company, Welcome To College, to help make the campus visit an even better experience.

Welcome To College has created ambassador management software that helps colleges ignite meaningful connections with prospective students before, during and after the college visit experience. Students can learn about the school before they arrive and begin forming relationships with the tour guides via online interactions.

Welcome To College also provides consulting, training and analysis for clients. More than 50 universities, including the University of Dayton, use Welcome To College to enhance the college visit experience.

“It’s been the classic roller coaster ride. We’re still in the bottom of the first inning of the Welcome To College journey,” Bayer said of his future goals.

He added, “It’s all about being surrounded by people who believe in you. Without my wife’s full-time support and help from many others along the way, I couldn’t have done this.”

Despite the hard work of founding a startup, Bayer says he wouldn’t trade what he does for anything.

“I don’t think I’ve been put on the planet to do anything but what we’re doing right now,” he said.

—Jessica Barga
MARGARET PETERS WITKOWSKI (ACC) and her husband, Jeff, announce the birth of Evelyn Margaret (11-7-16), who joins sister Diane (11-28-14) and family cat Rudy at home in Pittsburgh. Margaret writes, “I am a senior accountant at Pittsburgh Glass Works. Diane attended her first UD basketball game last January, and I can’t wait for Evelyn to attend her first game. Go Flyers.”

2001

TOM SCHMITT (EDS) and his wife, Jessica, announce the birth of Andrew Michael (6-8-16), who joins sister Jane and brother Edward at home in Columbus, Ohio. Tom writes, “I’m an attorney for Metz, Bailey & McGoughlin in Westerville, Ohio, and an active member of the Westerville Sunrise Rotary and the St. Michael’s Knights of Columbus.”

2002

MARGIE DRAZEN (VCD) married Marcus Edwards Sept. 17, 2016, in St. Louis, where the couple lives. She writes, “Quite a few UD alumni attended the wedding.”

MARK PETERSON (POL) and his wife, Emily, announce the birth of Virginia Noel (12-25-16), who joins them at home in Chicago.

2003

LISA COOVER CITRO (CJS) and her husband, Ralph, announce the birth of Madeline Julia (8-6-16), who joins brothers Dominic, Vincent and Luca at home in Dayton.

BRIAN LUEDTKE (ELE) and KATIE HITZELBERGER LUEDTKE (ECE) announce the birth of Colin Raymond (2-8-17), who joins brother Edward at home in Beavercreek, Ohio. They write, “Colin arrived just in time to see the Flyers become the regular season champs of the A-10.”

JAY SCHERGER (ACC) lives in Bellevue, Ky. He has joined the firm 84.51° as client manager.

DEAN WESELI (FIN) and MELISSA OEFINGER WESELI ’04 (PSY) and their son, Austin, live in Indianapolis. The Indianapolis Business Journal honored Dean, director of wealth management for The Windsor Group, as one of its 2017 Forty Under 40 young professionals. Dean serves on the board and chairs the development committee for Easter Seals Crossroads. He’s also vice president of the Riley Cheer Guild, secretary of the finance council of St. Luke Catholic Church in Indianapolis, and a board member and treasurer for the Nora Alliance.

2004

COLLEEN ALEXANDER (CMT) married Aaron Donovan Nov. 12, 2016. She writes, “Flyers in attendance included Suzanne Dumen Ward ’89, Ellen Dalsasso Clark ’94, Carrie Dumen Johnson ’97, Emily Alexander Ansani ’98, Ruth Ann Alexander Scott ’01, Jennifer Semelka Dein ’02, Colleen Cupple Sears ’02, Chris Wood ’03, Carin Gniot Wood ’02, Holly Roetgerman Smith ’02 and Mary Johnston Neuwoeber ’04.” The couple lives in Chicago. Colleen is a senior claims consultant with Willis Towers Watson.

DAVID BIASCO (PSY) and KELLY GALVIN BIASCO ’05 (PUB) announce the birth of Parker Galvin (10-24-16), who joins siblings Bennett, 6, and Ava, 4, at home in Chicago.

LAURA SNYDER BONFIGLIO (EPT) and her husband, Colin, announce the birth of Emma Charlotte (5-16-16), who joins sister Cora at home in Nashville. Laura writes, “Emma weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 20 inches long. She is a super smiley girl and all just adores her.”

JONATHAN FAULKNER (LAW) lives in Beavercreek, Ohio, and works for Elliot Law Office. In March, he received the Ohio State Bar Foundation’s District 2 Community Service Award for Attorneys 40 and Under, presented to attorneys who contribute substantial service to local social service, civic, artistic or cultural organizations. Jonathan serves on the board of directors for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation of Southwest Ohio, has raised more than $100,000 in support of type 1 diabetes research, and mentors diabetic children — earning him the honor of Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation’s Volunteer of the Year in 2016. In addition, Jonathan chairs the Planned Giving Advisory Council for the Dayton Children’s Hospital, contributes to the Wills for Heroes program through the Dayton Bar Association, judges “We the People” contests at Northmont (Ohio) High School and coaches summer soccer camps. He writes, “If one doesn’t add to where he or she is in the moment, the world will then miss out on an opportunity that needs to be met.”

PATTERICK HELLMAN (CME) and LESLEY EVANS HELLMAN ’12 (EDL) announce the birth of Mathias “Miles” (10-2016), who joins them at home in Tipp City, Ohio.

PAULA PANAGOULEAS MILLER (FIN)(INB) and her husband, Jason, announce the birth of Amelia Georgina (3-16-16), who joins them at home in East Lansing, Mich. Paula writes, “Jason and I were married at the end of May and pregnant by the end of June. Amelia weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces. Before she was a year old, she already had visited eight states.”

MELISSA OEFINGER WESELI (PSY) and DEAN WESELI ’03 (FIN) and their son, Austin, live in Indianapolis.

2005

KELLY GALVIN BIASCO (PUB) and DAVID BIASCO ’04 (PSY) announce the birth of Parker Galvin (10-24-16), who joins siblings Bennett, 6, and Ava, 4, at home in Chicago.

CHRIS BRILL (ACC)(OPS) and ELIZABETH GLASER BRILL ’09 (ECE) announce the birth of Molly Elizabeth (2-20-17), who joins brother Daniel, 3, at home in Centerville, Ohio. Chris is a CPA and owner of a manufacturing company in Dayton.

DAN HORWITZ (MEE) and CAROLINE MILLER HORWITZ ’07 (PUB) announce the birth of Jeremy Peter (10-25-16), who joins brother Vincent Isaac (4-30-13) at home in Pittsburgh, where the family recently moved after five years in Las Vegas. Dan is a pilot for the Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

KATHERINE LESTER (FIN) lives in Chicago. Financial services firm RMB Capital has promoted her to vice president, training and development manager, wealth management. Katherine joined the firm in 2005.

KEVIN LEWIS (MKT) and his wife, Lindsay, announce the birth of Margaret Marion (12-22-16), who joins sister Elsie, 2, at home in Indianapolis. He writes, “Our future Flyer weighed 8 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 21 ½ inches long. She is one beautiful little girl.”

DEAN WESELI (FIN) and MELISSA OEFINGER WESELI ’04 (PSY) and their son, Austin, live in Indianapolis. The Indianapolis Business Journal honored Dean, director of wealth management for The Windsor Group, as one of its 2017 Forty Under 40 young professionals. Dean serves on the board and chairs the development committee for Easter Seals Crossroads. He’s also vice president of the Riley Cheer Guild, secretary of the finance council of St. Luke Catholic Church in Indianapolis, and a board member and treasurer for the Nora Alliance.

2006

ANDREW HEIDEN (FIN) (ECB) lives in Mount Washington, Ohio. The firm 84.51° has promoted him to senior analyst, responsible for customer communications strategy.

COLLEEN MCGREGOR (CMT) married TOM LUECKE ’05 (FIN) (ACC) Nov. 5, 2016, in Chicago. They write, “Not only were the Cubs enjoying their world championship that weekend, but 63 alumni joined us to celebrate our marriage. It was a grand slam. Colleen’s parents, John McGregor ’76 of Chicago and Mary McGann McGregor ’78 of Cleveland, attended, along with many members of the Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity and our family and friends from both Chicago and Cleveland. We celebrated our UD family ties, which now extend for two generations and between two great cities.” The couple lives in Chicago.

BILLY RAO (FIN) and KATIE HARRIS RAO (PUB) announce the birth of Annie (11-23-16), who joins brother Will at home in Chicago. They write, “We’re loving every minute with Annie.”
LEA RICHARDS ‘09

Que’d up

After a disappointing post-graduation stab at Wall Street, Lea Richards found herself in the situation all college graduates fear — with no plans for the future.

“I really hated it, and it wasn’t getting any better,” Richards said about her job in New York. “After a few months, I shouldn’t have been crying on my way to work every day. After six months, I walked out one day and never came back.”

Richards returned home to her native Dayton, not sure of her future. It wasn’t until Father’s Day 2011 that Richards undertook her latest endeavor — opening a barbecue business.

“We ordered pretty expensive, mediocre ribs for Father’s Day and were really disappointed,” Richards said. “I’ve always loved to cook, so my dad looked at me and said, ‘Why don’t you do this? E-commerce is taking off, so why don’t you try this?’”

Converting some of the back offices in her father’s local engineering company to kitchens, Richards began work on her new barbecue company, Pig of the Month, which ships fully cooked creations such as ribs and pulled pork to consumers all over the country. Richards soon found major success.

“Three months into our operation, someone sent our ribs to Michael Symon,” Richards said, referring to the award-winning chef frequently seen on The Food Network. “He called me two days later, wanted to feature me on Good Morning America, and it just all came together.”

Now in her sixth year of business, Richards is incredibly proud of her company and what they offer, opting to locally source all of the ingredients and materials from surrounding states — “real food,” as Richards calls it.

“We have the right team in place and have been growing very steadily over the past few years,” Richards said. “I’ve been lucky that I was able to carve out this niche without many competitors, and I’m excited for what’s next.”

—Courtney Mocklow ’17

2009

ELIZABETH GLASER BRILL (ECE) and CHRIS BRILL ’05 (ACC)(OPS) announce the birth of Molly Elizabeth (2-20-17), who joins brother Daniel, 3, at home in Centerville, Ohio. Liz is taking a break from teaching to be a stay-at-home mom.


DANIEL KERLAKIAN (INT) and CARLY PARTEE KER-LAKIAN (MKT) announce the birth of Roger James (2-2-17), who joins them at home in Cincinnati.

MATTHEW KLEingers (OPS)(ENT) and AMANDA LEWIS KLEingers (CJS)(PSY) announce the birth of Gavin James (7-13-16), who joins sister Avery, 2, at home in West Chester, Ohio.

2007

CHRISTINA GIAMMARCO-SpICER (PSY) and her husband, Richard, announce the birth of Hudson Graham (11-26-16), who joins them at home in Columbus, Ohio.

CAROLINE MILLER HORWITZ (PUB) and DAN HORWITZ ’05 (MEE) announce the birth of Jeremy Peter (10-25-16), who joins brother Vincent Isaac (4-30-13) at home in Pittsburgh, where the family recently moved after five years in Las Vegas. Caroline is a freelance writer and stay-at-home mom.

ERIN MEYER (RTV)(SPN) married MATT RUFFING (EMS) June 18, 2016, in Evansville, Ind., where the couple lives. They write, “We dated for 11 years before getting married. We were thrilled to have several UD graduates at the wedding, including many of our college roommates. Flyers in attendance included fellow 2007 grads Michele Kelley Frania, Stacie Shockey McCoy, Kevin McCoy, Danielle Sylvester, Carl Bohart, Sean Fizer, Brian Wolfe and Tecla Sweeney Wolfe.” Erin is a morning news anchor at WFIE-TV, and Matt is the head women’s basketball coach at the University of Evansville.

ANNA TUSIM RICHARD (LDR)(MKT) and her husband, Matt, announce the birth of John Charles (2-24-2016), who joins big brother, Joey, at home in northeast Ohio. They are looking forward to seeing everyone during Reunion Weekend.

LIZ COYLE WANGLER (ECE) and ADAM WANGLER (MEE) announce the birth of Andrew Joseph (8-25-16), who joins them at home in Cincinnati.

2008

RACHEL WOLERY FREEMAN (PUB) and MICHAEL FREEMAN ’10 (LAW) announce the adoption of sons Ezekial Michael and Charles Avery, who join them at home in Toledo, Ohio. They write, “We joyously adopted our boys Nov. 28, 2016. We are truly honored to be their parents. They both say, ‘Go Flyers.’”

PETE SPANEL (MEE) married LIZ TIEMEIER (SOC) Oct. 3, 2015, at Holy Cross Immaculate Church in Cincinnati. They write, “After meeting during lay Marianist formation senior year, we reconnected a couple of years later and the rest is history! Many family members and close friends who are UD alumni were in attendance.” Included in the wedding party: Andrea Spanel Schinkal ’05, Maria Spanel Grassbaugh ’07, Teresa Spanel ’14, Kate Eddingfield Hutson ’09, Sam Grassbaugh ’08, Will McCuddy ’09, Brian Nigro ’09 and Bryan Keefe’08. The couple lives in Cincinnati and are proud to tell new neighbors and friends they are UD alumni.

2010

DANIEL BELLINSKI (CPS) lives in Wyoming, Ohio, a suburb of Cincinnati. The firm 84.51® has hired him as a software developer.

JOE BONEAU (ACC)(FIN) and CAITLIN RObE Boneau ’11 (MKt) announce the birth of daughter Bailey Rose (7-13-16), who joins them at home in Dallas. The couple married Nov. 12, 2016, in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

MICHAEL FREEMAN (LAW) and RACHEL WOLERY FREEMAN ’08 (PUB) announce the adoption of sons Ezekial Michael and Charles Avery, who join them at home in Toledo, Ohio. They write, “We joyously adopted our boys Nov. 28, 2016. We are truly honored to be their parents. They both say, ‘Go Flyers.’”

LISA FINLEY HOWARD (EMS) and her husband, Tyler, announce the adoption of Amelia, who joins them at home in Shelbyville,
Ky. She writes, “We were thrilled to welcome baby Amelia home in August and to finalize her adoption in December 2016.” Lisa teaches sixth-grade science and robotics at Ramsey Middle School.

CARL KINDEL (MEE) and BETH SCHMACKERS KINDEL ’11 (MEE) announce the birth of Elijah Daniel (12-7-16), who joins them at home in Liberty Township, Ohio. Carl and Beth work at GE Aviation in Cincinnati.

MICHAEL MANCINI (CEE) married Brittany Tripp Oct. 29, 2016, in Hilliard, Ohio, where the couple lives. He writes, “Dayton alumni dominated the wedding party and attendees, as many Flyers traveled to celebrate our wedding. Alumni in the wedding party included groomsmen Michael Martin ‘11, Mark Smith ‘11 and John Williams ‘11. My brother Nicholas Mancini ‘11 officiated. I am forever grateful for the lifelong friendships I formed at UD, and I continue to remind my wife, who graduated from The Ohio State University, that the University of Dayton is ‘THE’ only college in Ohio.”

NICK MANFREDI (PSY) and CLAIRE BALL MANFREDI (MKT) announce the birth of Nora Grace (2-7-17), who joins them at home in Cincinnati.

AMANDA NEYER (PUB) married John Kladakis Dec. 3, 2016, at Holy Family Church in Cincinnati, where the couple lives. She writes, “The reception was held at the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Cincinnati. UD alumni in the wedding party included bridesmaid Jennifer Martin ‘11 and matron of honor Tracy Flagg Centers ’10.”

2011

BRENTON ANDERSON (EPP) married KRISTEN HURT (CMM) Sept. 24, 2016. They write, “We met as neighbors. Many alumni joined us for the wedding.” The couple lives in St. Paul, Minn.

MELISSA BOLSEN (EMS) married TRAVIS FISHER (MKT) in October 2016 in Evansville, Ill., where the couple lives. They write, “We were married surrounded by many UD alumni, including Sigma Nu brothers, roommates, family and friends. We were ecstatic to celebrate with our Flyer family.”

CAITLIN ROSE BONEAU (MKT) and JOE BONEAU ’10 (ACC)(FIN) announce the birth of daughter Bailey Rose (7-13-16), who joins them at home in Dallas. The couple married Nov. 12, 2016, in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

COREY BOYKO (DEN) married ANNA KORNOWSKI (ACC)(MBA) Aug. 6, 2016, in Cleveland. They write, “Alumni in the wedding included Aris Persinger Quatkenemyer ’11, Chris Kahle ’11 and Steve Wirkus ’11. Many more Flyers came as guests to help us celebrate. Go Flyers.” The couple lives in Columbus, Ohio.

TRAVIS FISHER (MKT) married MELISSA BOLSEN (EMS) in October 2016 in Evanson, Ill., where the couple lives. They write, “We were married surrounded by many UD alumni including Sigma Nu brothers, roommates, family and friends. We were ecstatic to celebrate with our Flyer family.”

KRISTEN HURT (CMM) married BRENTON ANDERSON (EPP) Sept. 24, 2016. They write, “We met as neighbors. Many alumni joined us for the wedding.” The couple lives in St. Paul, Minn.

BETH SCHMACKERS KINDEL (MEE) and CARL KINDEL ’10 (MEE) announce the birth of Elijah Daniel (12-7-16), who joins them at home in Liberty Township, Ohio. Beth and Carl work at GE Aviation in Cincinnati.

ANNA KORNOWSKI (ACC)(MBA) married COREY BOYKO (DEN) Aug. 6, 2016, in Cleveland. They write, “Alumni in the wedding included Aris Persinger Quatkenemyer ’11, Chris Kahle ’11 and Steve Wirkus ’11. Many more Flyers came as guests to help us celebrate. Go Flyers.” The couple lives in Columbus, Ohio.

JASON RICKEY (CEE) and KELLY O’CONNELL RICKEY (PSY) announce the birth of daughter Nora (7-30-16), who joins sister Emma, 2, at home in Toledo, Ohio.

JIM SAYWELL (PSY) married ALEXANDRA LOPRESTI ’12 (FIN)(ACC) in September 2016 at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Cleveland. They write, “Many UD alumni attended our wedding. We honeymooned in Hawaii, visiting the islands of Kauai and Maui. We live in Cleveland, but we will be moving to Washington, D.C., in summer 2017 for one year. Jim will be clerking for Justice Samuel Alito of the Supreme Court for the 2017-18 term. We couldn’t be more excited for the move, which is a great opportunity for Jim and his career.” Jim is an attorney with Jones Day.

2012

MELANIE AJDAHARIAN (EAS) married STEVEN STURGIS (EMS) July 23, 2016, in Indianapolis. They write, “Many UD alumni attended, including Paige Porter and Jordan Barnes from the bride’s party and best man Patrick O’Brien, as well as Michael Zimmerman and Justin Hinders from the groom’s party. Other alumni in attendance included Travis Trentman, Melinda Trentman, Adam Athmer, Amanda Athmer, Michelle Abbate, John Stover, Thomas Zimmerman, Chris Brackman, Dan Whitehead, Meghan McGarvey, Elizabeth Leavy and John Zimmerman.” The couple lives in Westfield, Ind.

PATRICK DELISIO (MKT) married ANDREA PAXSON (ACC)(ENT) July 30, 2016, at Holy Cross Immaculata in Cincinnati, where the couple lives. They write, “Several Flyer alumni were in attendance, including our priest, parents, aunts, uncles, siblings and many friends. We enjoyed a Mediterranean cruise for our honeymoon.”

KEELE GUSTIN (SOC)(WGS) lives in Tipp City, Ohio, and has been named the director of Community Action Partnership Preble County. She writes, “I’m a born networker and love to get myself engaged in the community. I’d love to be invited to any organization’s meetings to share our story or to explore ways to work together to combat poverty in Preble County. My number is 937-456-2800, or you can email Keelig@cap-dayton.org to set up a meeting.”

LESLEY EVANS HELLMAN (EDL) and PATRICK HELLMAN ’04 (CME) announce the birth of Mathias “Miles” (10-2016), who joins them at home in Tipp City, Ohio.

JIMMY LOEFFLER (MEE) and KAREN INKROT LOEFFLER (ECE) live in Mason, Ohio. They write, “We recently went on a family sailing trip to the Bahamas with Karen’s parents. Her mom, Janet Kohlhoff Inkrot ’80, recently retired and is enjoying sailing with her husband, Bob, at Rocky Fork Lake. Jimmy works at Makino Machinery and Tools. Karen opened an Anders Ruff (AR) Workshop franchise in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Cincinnati in April.”

ALEXANDRA LOPRESTI (FIN)(ACC) married JIM SAYWELL ’11 (PSY) in September 2016 at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Cleveland. They write, “Many UD alumni attended our wedding. We honeymooned in Hawaii, visiting the islands of Kauai and Maui. We live in Cleveland, but we will be moving to Washington, D.C., in summer 2017 for one year. Jim will be clerking for Justice Samuel Alito of the Supreme Court for the 2017-18 term. We couldn’t be more excited for the move, which is a great opportunity for Jim and his career.” Alexandra passed the Chartered Financial Analyst exam in August 2016 and is an investment consultant at CBIZ.

MARK MARTEN (FIN) married KAYLEIGH MAYFIELD ’13 (PSY) in October 2016 in Springfield, Ill. They write, “We met at UD in November 2011, got engaged at UD in September 2015 and got married in Kayleigh’s hometown in October. We had plenty of Flyers in attendance, both family and friends.” The couple lives in Chicago.

ANDREA PAXSON (ACC)(ENT) married PATRICK DELISIO (MKT) July 30, 2016, at Holy Cross Immaculata in Cincinnati, where the couple lives. They write, “Several Flyer alumni were in attendance, including our priest, parents, aunts, uncles, siblings and many friends. We enjoyed a Mediterranean cruise for our honeymoon.”

CHRISTOPHER RUEVE (FIN) married ANDREA MORRISON ’14 (ENT) Sept. 10, 2016. They write, “We met at UD in 2011 during Andrea’s freshman year and Christopher’s junior year. More than 50 UD alumni attended, including an appearance from Rudy Flyer.” The couple lives in Cincinnati.
STEVEN STURGIS (EMS) married MELANIE AJDAHARIAN (EAS) July 23, 2016, in Indianapolis. They write, “Many UD alumni attended, including Paige Porter and Jordan Barnes from the bride’s party and best man Patrick O’Brien, as well as Michael Zimmerman and Justin Hinders from the groom’s party. Other alumni in attendance included Travis Trentman, Melinda Trentman, Adam Athmer, Amanda Athmer, Michelle Abbate, John Stover, Thomas Zimmerman, Chris Brackman, Dan Whitehead, Meghan McGarvey, Elizabeth Leavy and John Zimmerman.” The couple lives in Westfield, Ind.

KAYLEIGH MAYFIELD (PSY) married MARK MARTEN ‘12 (FIN) in October 2016 in Springfield, Ill. They write, “We had a great showing from our UD friends and family. We just adopted a sweet, 4-month-old Australian shepherd puppy named Appa. This fall, we’re honeymoon in Europe and will be sure UD is represented well overseas. Go Flyers.” The couple lives in Columbus, Ohio.

NICHOLETTE SMITH (PSY) married JAMES SLOAT ‘14 (ELE) Oct. 15, 2016, in Indianapolis. They write, “Many Flyers were in attendance and in the wedding party. Nicholette received her master’s in psychology from UD in 2015 and works as a research coordinator at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital.” The couple lives in Cincinnati.

2013

JOHN COLLINS (MLS) married BRITTANY MARTIN ‘14 (CJS) (SOC) Aug. 27, 2016, in Noblesville, Ind. They write, “We had a great showing from our UD friends and family. We just adopted a sweet, 4-month-old Australian shepherd puppy named Appa. This fall, we’ll honeymoon in Europe and will be sure UD is represented well overseas. Go Flyers.” The couple lives in Indianapolis.

2014

DANIELA CORDINI (EPT) lives in Louisville, Ky. She writes, “Class of 2014 alumni Donald ‘D’J’ Rein, Josh Jewett, Kerry Brady, Anne Farrell, Jamie St. Clair, Kathleen Gaffney, David Huth, Matt Zarefoss, Max Lehman and I enjoyed a trip to Camelback Mountain in Scottsdale, Ariz., where we took along our University of Dayton Magazine.”

MICHAEL DELLA FLORA (ENG) married LAUREN YOUNG (CMM) Sept. 23, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio. They write, “Many UD alumni attended, including Lauren’s father, Monty Young ’89, as well as Rachel Studnicki ’13, Kiley Powell ’14, Jacob Hobbs ’14, Kevin Theisen ’14, Lindsay Powelson ’14, Andrew Fox ’14 and Mary Lindsey ’17.” The couple lives in New Albany, Ohio.

BRITTANY MARTIN (CJS) (SOC) married JOHN COLLINS ‘13 (MLS) Aug. 27, 2016, in Noblesville, Ind. They write, “We had a great showing from our UD friends and family. We just adopted a sweet, 4-month-old Australian shepherd puppy named Appa. This fall, we’ll honeymoon in Europe and will be sure to make sure UD is represented well overseas. Go Flyers.” The couple lives in Columbus, Ohio.

ANDREA MORRISON (ENT) (MKT) married CHRISTOPHER RUVE ‘12 (FIN) Sept. 10, 2016. They write, “We met at UD in 2011 during Andrea’s freshman year and Christopher’s junior year. More than 50 UD alumni attended, including an appearance from Rudy Flyer.” The couple lives in Cincinnati.

PRESTON RATHGE (MEE) married BRITTANY RHEA (MUE) Nov. 5, 2016, in Cleveland. They write, “Many UD alumni attended, including matron of honor Michelle Rhea Jones ’05, maid of honor Stephanie Vik ’14, Mark Rhea ’03 and Theresa Violante Rhea ’03. Preston works for Midmark in Versailles, Ohio, as a design engineer.” The couple lives in Troy, Ohio.

JAMES SLOAT (ELE) married NICHOLETTE SMITH ‘13 (PSY) Oct. 15, 2016, in Indianapolis. They write, “Many Flyers were in attendance and in the wedding party.” The couple lives in Cincinnati, where James is an engineer.

LAUREN YOUNG (CMM) married MICHAEL DELLA FLORA (ENG) Sept. 23, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio. They write, “Many UD alumni attended, including Lauren’s father, Monty Young ’89, as well as Rachel Studnicki ’13, Kiley Powell ’14, Jacob Hobbs ’14, Kevin Theisen ’14, Lindsay Powelson ’14, Andrew Fox ’14 and Mary Lindsey ’17.” The couple lives in New Albany, Ohio.

2015

ALEKS GROCIC (MEE) lives in Alexandria, Va. He writes, “Since graduating, I’ve had a few notable life events. I hiked the Appalachian Trail, summited to the 50 highest state points and moved to a new city to start a new career.”

ALYSA SCHERER (MEE) writes, “I just moved to Munich, Germany, to work for BMW’s Research and Innovation Center. I am working in quality assurance and helping launch new vehicles.”

2016

NATALIE MURAWSKI (GDN) lives in Chicago. Natalie has joined Matrix Partners in Chicago as a graphic designer in the firm’s multimedia creative department.

EMILY KEANE (ENG) (POL) lives in Rodnyivka, Ukraine. She writes, “I’m serving with the Peace Corps in Ukraine as a Teaching English as a Foreign Language volunteer after being sworn in as an official volunteer in December 2016. I was inspired to join the Peace Corps by former Ohio Gov. Bob Taft, adjunct professor at UD in the political science department, who is also a returned Peace Corps volunteer and an extraordinary mentor, along with a gentle nudge (or push) from my professors in the political science department. I work in a small village called Rodnyivka in central Ukraine. Along with teaching English to second- through 10th-grade students, I also run English, film and other types of clubs; work on community development projects; and co-direct a summer camp. I spend most of my days planning lessons, teaching and just chatting with the students about America – and life in general. I also enjoy playing soccer with the kids and the simplicity of life in our village. I’ll be here for two years, serving as an advocate for the kids, English teacher, friend and mentor. I’m learning new things every day and trying to improve my Ukrainian.”

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Pictures (and sculptures) always welcome.
Lasting bonds

By Myron Achbach ’58

The station wagon was a golden yellow; the purple letters on its side read “Cathedral Latin.” An impressive ride for a young man at one of Cleveland’s premier high schools in the late 1950s, early 1960s.

A student cheering Latin’s Purple and Gold would have loved to have it. But it belonged to the school’s athletic department, and I, in addition to being a teacher, was assistant athletic director. Among the people I knew at Latin were the athletic director, Pat Tonry, S.M., and Chris Conlon, S.M., both of whom became lifelong friends. Chris’s death on March 26 brought me to thinking about those years.

Roughly 35 Marianists, many of us in our 20s, lived and worked and enjoyed life together. Chris taught Latin I, II and III and comparative literature to seniors as well as being faculty moderator of the senior class. Pat taught religion to seniors in addition to his AD duties. I taught English and religion and later moved to American history.

In addition to its academic quality, Cathedral Latin was a sports powerhouse. One of its track and football stars became an All-American running back in college. We are still in touch with each other.

But much of the experience for us Marianists was in our everyday life. We ate lunch in the school cafeteria, breakfast and dinner in the three-story house we shared with each other. Besides our work, there were playful times. For example, the school had a life-size statue of the martyr St. Sebastian, complete with many arrows stuck in his body. We liked putting the statue in a shower stall and pulling the curtain and being amused by the reaction of the next person taking a shower.

The principal of the school and director of the community, Father James McKay, S.M., knew when to say “no” but tolerated our pranks. He was a model of wisdom and dignity. We learned a lot at Latin — about teaching students and relating to their parents and living in community, about friendship, about what it means to be Catholic and Marianist.

Appleford

By Mike Vehar ’06

The scene: Explaining to my parents in Cleveland my decision to leave my corporate job to join a startup company, 3-19 Coffee.

Me: I might be taking a new job with Mike (Weaver ’06). He’s starting a specialty coffee company with another partner, and they think I would be a good fit for the team.

Mom: Specialty, like Folgers?

Me: Not exactly.

Dad: But you have a great job.

Me: I have put a lot of thought into this.

[This conversation happened when my wife was seven months pregnant with our first child and I was 10 months into my engineering job and enjoying it.]

Dad: Why do you think this would be a good move? [I had also convinced them it was a good idea to do a stove project in South America, to move to Denver with no job, to spend a year in American Samoa.]

Me: If I don’t take it, I think I’d regret it the rest of my life. [I said the same thing when I started a company to get solar lighting solutions to rural Guatemalan families.]

Mom: So will you have a coffee shop?

Me: We will sell everything online at the beginning.

Mom: How will this company work?

Me: People are willing to pay a higher price for quality coffee when they know the farmers are being paid fairly. We would source great green coffees, roast them with care, then sell and ship the freshly roasted coffee.

Dad: OK.

Me: People’s willingness to pay more for better coffee allows the farmers to make...
more money, which in turn allows them to get better education and medical care for their families, reinvest in their farms, and save money for their children’s futures.

Mom: And what is the name of the company again? 3-19?
Me: Yes, 3-19 Coffee. The founders’ wives share the birthday March 19. The branding is really cool.
Dad: So that’s it?
Me: No. A portion of every sale will go toward social projects in any community taking part in our coffee from seed to cup. The first project will be an art program with Catracha Coffee in Santa Elena, Honduras. Youth there do not have opportunities to create art.
Mom: How will that help you sell coffee?
Me: Well, it won’t directly. But by funding this art program, we tell customers we are seriously committed to social good.

Mom: Is Cleveland one of your communities?
Me: I’m working with an artist here in Cleveland who does projects with kids here like those in Honduras.
Dad: Why this focus on art?
Mike: 3-19’s mission is coffee, art and community. People everywhere should have the opportunity to express themselves creatively.
Mom: An artist in Cleveland?
Me: Yes. She’s going to be one of our 3-19 Coffee featured artists!
Dad: Featured artist?
Me: We’ll partner with artists to design the art for our packaging. We commission artists and customers select which art they want on their coffee tins. And, we’ll put a video bio on our website for each artist to promote their work.
Dad: It seems like your heart is in this.
Mike: Trust me, we should be able to find people that share our beliefs and LOVE coffee, too.
Mom: Would you have to travel? What about your future daughter?
Mike: My wife and I have already been working out how we could make it work if I had to leave the country for several days. We want to be honest with our customers that we have seen, firsthand, operations on the ground.
Dad: This is a big decision, Michael.
Mike: I’m excited. I have faith that taking this risk will be worth it. I love that I will be using my Spanish and working with video production again. I’ll learn, get better. I want to bring stories from around the world to people’s living rooms and smartphones. When I used to sip a cup of coffee, it was just a sip. Now it’s a story.

See those stories at 319coffee.com.

Right again on Brown Street

By Kevin Riley ’84

I turned right on Irving Avenue from Trinity, right again on Brown Street, and finally left on Stewart Street, crossing the Great Miami River and heading past the Arena to Interstate 75.

I glanced around, hoping these sites on the thoroughfares of my life would remain indelible in my memory. I had 500 miles of driving ahead of me, but I was in no hurry.

There was Milano’s, where I’d purchased hundreds of sandwiches, including many I’d taken to fellow UD alums waiting at the end of innumerable road trips. There was Timothy’s, where ... well, I’d spent more time than necessary.

Flanagan’s, where I could still hear the sounds in my head of my roommate’s band playing from my student days. And the Arena, where I’d seen hundreds of games.

Earlier that Sunday in the Arena my son grasped the hand of UD President Eric F. Spina and was handed his diploma, becoming the third of my three children to graduate as a Flyer. He joined his siblings, his mother and me as UD alumni.

As I merged onto I-75, heading south to our home in Atlanta, I was overwhelmed by the impact of my nearly 37-year direct connection with the University and the city of Dayton. And tears welled in my eyes as I realized that relationship was over.

I’d taken the drive the other way up Stewart Street in August 1980 as my parents moved me into Stuart Hall. I’d visited campus just once and made an impulsive, poorly informed decision to attend UD. I expected to transfer after the first semester.

That was just the first of several times I’d nearly convinced myself that I’d be better off leaving Dayton, as university and city became inextricably linked for me.

But I ended up loving the place.

Upon graduation, I resisted the idea of staying even though I had a great job offer from the Dayton Daily News. After all, my friends were going off to places like San Diego. Later in life, I would wrestle several times with opportunities elsewhere.

But I stayed. And as I wrote when I finally did leave 31 years later in 2011:

“Now I realize that Dayton was the perfect place to build a life ... along with my wife, whom I met here, and my three children, I leave behind the place that will always be home.”

But we really hadn’t left it behind.

After we moved to Atlanta in 2011, my eldest daughter was already at UD. Her younger sister and brother would follow.

They had opportunities elsewhere, and I sometimes wondered if I should push them to attend another university, perhaps one closer to us. But privately I was proud of their decisions, made with pressure to go elsewhere, because I knew they recognized a good place and would be happy.

Plus, they kept me linked to the place where I passed nearly every important milestone of my adult life.

As I navigated my career, marriage and raising a family in Dayton, I was always within a couple of miles of UD; it gave me confidence as the backdrop of my life. I would use the library, occasionally be asked to speak to a class and bump into an old professor.

We moved to a home within a few blocks of UD, where we’d live for 18 years. Our babysitters were UD students, including my sister (Mary Riley Casa ’90) and my wife’s sister (Brooke Meehan Ratterman ’94).

Having children at UD gave me the excuse I needed to visit — and a powerful reason to set off around the country for NCAA basketball tournament games.

I’ll have to be more creative now, inventing business reasons to visit town, and perhaps to catch a Flyers game and have a late dinner afterward at the Pine Club.

I just can’t leave the place behind.

Kevin Riley is the editor-in-chief of The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. He was previously the editor of the Dayton Daily News. His wife, Tracy ’84, and his children, Anne ’12, Erin ’15 and Colin ’17, are all UD graduates. He can be reached at kriley@AJC.com.
Seeing yourself on Mars

There’s one reason I will never go to Mars: I get claustrophobic when trapped in the revolving door at the Hyatt.

It’s not the only reason, but it’s a good one, and it will keep me from ever experiencing space firsthand. So, instead, I get my space fix by reading about it, talking to researchers about it, laying on my back in the grass and staring at it as the fireflies dance between my eyes and the great unknown.

You’ve read more than a few stories about Mars on these pages through the years, thanks to my mild obsession and our researchers in the advanced high-temperature materials group at the UD Research Institute. They’re at it again, this time making sure the next generation of Mars rovers can operate no matter the temperature of the landing site chosen by NASA.

This spring, with cots and sleeping bags handy, UDRI scientist Chad Barklay and UES engineer Allen Tolston spent 36 hours camped next to one of two UDRI test generators that are identical to those used on Mars (except that ours run on electricity, not plutonium). The researchers slept only 2.5 hours each during the test as they heated the Multi-Mission Radiosotope Thermoelectric Generator to 428 degrees F, approximately 100 degrees hotter than the maximum temperature experienced by Curiosity, the rover currently studying Mars. The researchers, who were prepared to quickly shut down the experiment if they observed any behavior that threatened the system, held the power unit’s temperature steady for 24 hours.

The test was a success and allows NASA to choose from any of the three potential Mars 2020 landing sites including the Columbia Hills, which rise from the bed of a crater that records temperatures approximately 35 degrees warmer than the location where Curiosity now roams.

Research is a big part of our work at UD. We engage the brightest minds who solve problems that test human ingenuity. Supporting their work are students, full of ambition and prepared to accept intellectual challenges that expand our horizons. At the heart of all their work is an understanding about research’s role in furthering the common good through innovation, collaboration and discovery.

As President Eric Spina shared in his speech during his installation ceremony [see Page 27], UD has an obligation to focus on the local, to achieve success for our neighbors with an eye toward global applications. For Barklay, his collaborators and the approximately 10 students whose work has supported the Mars generator project during the past five years, their horizons stretch even farther.

Look out, outer space. I may not be coming, but they are.

—Michelle Tedford ’94
Editor, University of Dayton Magazine

Curiosity rover selfie, courtesy NASA
In UD’s cadaver lab, students studying health and sport science have the opportunity for hands-on learning. It’s just one of the things that sets apart their education and elevates the University to No. 3 in the nation* for the percent of graduates accepted into physical therapy doctoral programs.

*Data from the American Physical Therapy Association for students from schools with at least 20 applicants who entered doctoral programs in 2016.
TRANSPARENCY’S THE BEST POLICY.

To give families peace of mind when it comes to cost—and set students up for future success—UD created an innovative tuition plan with transparent pricing, fixed net-price tuition, no fees, money for textbooks and a study abroad scholarship.

DOES IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE? ABSOLUTELY.

The Class of 2017—the first to enroll under the plan—had higher retention and graduation rates, and lower student loan debt.

- 8 percentage point increase in graduation rate (a historic high)
- $6 MILLION reduction in cumulative student loan debt
- $5,000 average reduction in student loans, per person
- 22% reduction in borrowing

udayton.edu
When Anthony Grant ’87 first set foot on the floor of the University of Dayton Arena to play basketball, the building was 14 years old. He was 17. This spring, Grant, the 1986–87 co-MVP, was named Flyers head men’s basketball coach. Also this spring, the University announced the Arena will receive a $72 million transformation. When introduced as coach, Grant acknowledged the basketball program’s success but added, “The potential is here for so much more.”

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Photo courtesy of UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS