A BROTHER’S LOVE

Chuck Hagel became a household name in America this month when President Obama nominated the Nebraska Republican as the next U.S. Secretary of Defense.

However, it had not been for his younger and lesser-known brother Tom, a law professor at the University of Dayton, the former senator might have never come back from Vietnam.

In 1968, as the conflict in Southeast Asia escalated, 19-year-old Tom followed in his slightly older brother Chuck’s footsteps by enlisting in the army.

In what the UD law professor described as a fluke, the Nebraska-born brothers were assigned to the same 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry squad and deployed to fight in the precarious Mekong Delta of Vietnam. It was in this swampy and turbulent southwestern region of Vietnam that the brothers would save one another’s lives and earn a combined five Purple Hearts and two Bronze Stars.

According to Tom, the Hagel brothers got their first real taste of the war in March 1968 on what was a routine patrol through the jungle. Both brothers were guarding the rear of the column when the patrol’s point man triggered a Viet Cong booby trap, detonating a large, Chinese-made landmine.

The ensuing blast and subsequent Viet Cong machine gun fire killed several of the soldiers in their platoon and pinned the unit down.

“The explosion knocked me and Chuck down,” Tom Hagel said. “His chest had been hit by shrapnel and it was bleeding profusely, but I stopped the bleeding. A lot of us were shot and killed trying to cross the stream back, but I made it out with Chuck.”

One month later Chuck returned the favor when the brothers’ armored personnel carrier was hit with an improvised explosive device. Tom said the explosion knocked him unconscious and Chuck was able to pull him from the APC just before it exploded.

After the war, the brothers returned to Nebraska and, in the absence of a common enemy, they turned on each other over dissenting views of the war. Tom said he maintains that the U.S. effort in Vietnam was “a terrible waste of human life,” while his brother said the cause was noble with a tragic result.

Myra MacPherson is a highly regarded journalist and author who has frequently interviewed the Hagels over the past three decades. In an interview with Flyer News, the former Vice President for Environmental Health and Safety, the university’s fire marshal, said the weight on the floor, including two additional appliances belonging to the students, most likely caused it to collapse.

Oldfield said a structural engineering firm confirmed the finding.

Separately, the official incident report from the Dayton Fire Department states the cause of the fire was an electrical failure involving the fixed wiring in the floor. According to the report, there was a short circuit arc from defective, worn insulation, which ignited the framing of the house.

The report states the “fire burnt for considerable time before alarmed,” and once alarmed, there was a “16 minute delay from alarm [until DFD] was called.” According to the report, crews entering the first floor of the house felt the “floor sink several inches.” The report states the floor sinking “caused a gas line to break causing fire at furnace.”

Oldfield said the university then hired an electrical firm, which disagreed with the fire department’s findings.

“It was the perfect storm,” said former resident Mike Groff, a senior finance and entrepreneurship major, “it was an old house, there were electrical malfunctions, and a faulty furnace. Apparently, the supporting beam of the house snapped, which created a clear answer as to why the incident occurred.”

“There continue to be conflicting opinions about what caused this accidental fire,” Rizvi said in an email. “As of yet, there is no agreement as to the exact cause of the fire. The University continues to assess the situation and will address any identified issues.”

According to Robin Oldfield, director of environmental health and safety and risk management, the university hired Law Science Technologies, Inc., to investigate the Oct. 27 fire, which occurred shortly after midnight. She said the firm determined the floor sunk several inches, breaking a gas line. Oldfield said the weight on the floor, including two additional appliances belonging to the students, most likely caused it to collapse.
STAFF REPORT

Following a November incident at a gas station in rural Ohio, the University of Dayton chapter of Sigma Chi will appear before the University Hearing Board on Friday, Jan. 18.

The board will determine the temporarily suspended chapter’s responsibility for any charges, according to Kevin Cane, director of Greek Life and Leadership Programs.

Breaks in the academic calendar, including Thanksgiving and Christmas, prevented the board and other parties from hearing the case sooner, Cane said.

Eighty UD students were cited in a Madison County Sheriff’s Office incident report after anonymous calls were made to the sheriff regarding a group of people causing a disturbance the gas station around 5 p.m., Nov. 17, in Madison County, Ohio.

Flyer News will continue to cover this story as more information becomes available.

Meredith Whelchel, assistant news editor, contributed reporting.

STAFF REPORT

Prosecution will not occur in a 17-year-old case of sexual battery reported last month to university police since it falls outside the crime’s former statute of limitations, according to the Department of Public Safety.

The incident, alleged to have occurred in Stuart Complex some time in 1995, involved a female and male, both of whom were students at the time of the alleged incident, according to Randy Groesbeck, a university police major and director of security and administration for Public Safety.

On Dec. 3, 2012, the female reported to university police that she was intoxicated at the time of the incident and could not remember if she consented to sex with the accused male, according to Groesbeck.

William Garbe, managing editor, contributed reporting.

Sigma Chi hearing set for today

Female reports 1995 sexual battery

With 17 years past, incident falls outside old statute of limitations
Three UD students present research at Harvard

CHRISTOPHER BENDEL
Staff Writer

A Dayton-based manufacturing company headed by a former University of Dayton student will launch its first product line, a patio decking system, in early 2013.

Founded in 2008 by Patrick Bertke, John Van Leeuwen and former UD student Michael Weaver, UDECX is a modular and portable, easy-to-install decking system.

Weaver, who graduated from UD in 2006 with bachelor degrees in finance and operations management, is now UDECX’s chief marketing officer. He said the company got started in 2008 with UD’s Business Plan Competition.

“We started it by entering it into the UD competition and ever since the company has gained momentum,” Weaver said. “We have now partnered with 30 area organizations right here in Dayton. It’s really opened up the door for young entrepreneurs to start companies with large companies leaving.”

Weaver said the product opens the door for people to purchase a patio decking system to install themselves.

“The product is portable, modular and easy to install,” Weaver said. “Once you install the system, it’s not permanent because its structure allows the consumer to re-configure the product to their liking.”

Jay Janney, an associate professor and the J. Robert Berry Endowed Faculty Fellow for Engineering and Entrepreneurship, said UDECX was a finalist in the second and fifth year of the UD’s Business Plan Competition and won $5,000 the second time they entered.

“Once the product was demonstrated at the competition, every single judge said ‘Wow, this is quick,’” Janney said. “It came in third, and I don’t know why it didn’t win first.”

Janney said UD is the only university in the country that has three separate undergraduate-run, private investment funds which are run by the entrepreneurship department.

Janney, who served as the coordinator of the business plan competition for the first five years, said the first place business receives $25,000 while the top three businesses pitch their ideas to the UD Connor Foundation Seed Fund and Flyer Angels for additional investment.

After pitching their product, Janney said UDECX received a $50,000 loan from the Connor Foundation Seed Fund. UDECX also received funding from DDC with the help from the business plan competition, Janney said.

Janney said although there are many decking companies, UDECX created a product that increased deck installation that is portable and easy to use.

“UDECX has a product that, once the ground is prepared, can go up in under two hours,” Janney said. “As a contractor building homes, that probably saves several hundred in installation costs per home. That is the problem they solve, and solve very well.”

Weaver said UDECX plans to release additional products to improve outdoor living space. But until then he said his time at UD was very enjoyable and gained a heavy amount of experience in both finance and operations management programs.

“Moving has changed a little bit since I moved on from UD,” Weaver said. “But I have had great professors and great training in both the finance and operations management programs.”

Janney said for young entrepreneurs wanting to start a business like UDECX, they should first address a problem in a specific market, just as UDECX had done, as well as work as a team.

“I believe the product has a good chance to become very successful,” Janney said. “Next spring I’ll likely buy one of their products for my backyard.”

Weaver also said the system is 100 square feet and will sell for a retail price $1,499.
University professor dead at 93, left behind UD legacy

Sigma Alpha Epsilon to colonize on campus

Former University of Dayton communication professor emeritus Florence Wolff, who taught listening, voice and diction, speech and interpersonal communication from 1969 to 1989, passed away Jan. 4 in Littleton, Colo., at 93 years old.

Her former communication department colleagues Larry Lain and Teri Thompson said they fondly remember Wolff for her high classroom expectations, no-nonsense personality and dedication to helping students who showed interest in improving.

“You didn’t dare do less than your best with her, and you didn’t want to do less than your best because that’s what she expected and she knew you were capable of it,” Lain said. “There was no messing around about it.”

Wolff received numerous awards and recognition throughout her lifetime. Her co-authored college text “Perceptive Listening” earned the International Listening Association Research Award in 1985, and she received the University’s Alumni Award in Teaching the following year.

She was also a member of the International Listening Association’s Hall of Fame and a national finalist in the Carnegie Foundation’s Professor of the Year competition.

After Wolff was named Ohio’s Professor of the Year in 1986, her husband surprised her with a customized license plate reading “PROF 1,” Lain said.

“She drove that around with great pride because being a great teacher was what she wanted to be,” he said.

Wolff left a legacy of rewarding exceptional communications students at UD with the Dr. Florence I. Wolff Achievement Award and the Florence I. Wolff Scholarship.

This year, the communications department will raise funds for the scholarship by auctioning off a hand-stitched quilt that Wolff often worked on during office hours. The fundraiser’s details are yet to be determined.

Thompson said as the quilt was just recently discovered in a closet in St. Joseph’s.

Thompson said Wolff’s legacy speaks especially to her success as a woman, considering she was one of few at the time who was published or held a Ph.D. In fact, working alongside men began early in Wolff’s career as the first woman to teach at the all-boys Central District Catholic High School in Pittsburgh.

“She radiated authority and confidence,” Lain said.

Wolff’s strictly enforced rules such as taking off test points for poor penmanship and sitting up straight in class bothered many students, Lain said, but taught valuable lessons to those who took them seriously.

“Thompson said Wolff prevented note taking in her listening classes because “she wanted them to listen.”

Thompson said she believes Wolff’s lessons on listening are still relevant today, and has remained mindful of them even though 23 years have passed since her years as colleagues.

“Florence probably had more of an impact on students than any other faculty member who has ever been a part of this department,” Thompson said.

“She was such a powerful personality that you could not help but be affected by her.”

Wolff’s publications and research from her studies in listening earned her many invitations to speak at professional conferences and training sessions nationwide, Thompson said.

According to the Associated Press, she conducted over 2,000 workshops, seminars and lectures on listening communication in total.

Wolff lectured for and directed Wolff Training Systems, and her audiences included CEOs, military officers and college presidents, among others.

Lain said regardless of her audience’s rank or power, she made them sit with proper posture and pay close attention with their eyes forward.

“She didn’t treat them any differently than a room full of sophomores,” he said.

Wolff earned a bachelor’s degree from Temple University, a master’s degree from Duquesne University and a doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh before teaching at the high school and collegiate level.

Wolff’s family requested in place of flowers, contributions be made to the Florence I. Wolff Scholarship at the University of Dayton.

Former University of Dayton local fraternity Chi Sigma Alpha will partner with Sigma Alpha Epsilon in order to revive its fraternity and start a new chapter on campus.

Chi Sigma Alpha, which had been an all-male UD local fraternity from 1962 to 1965, currently has around 500 alumni scattered around the nation, according to Kevin Cane, director of Greek Life and Leadership Programs.

Members of Chi Sigma Alpha recently celebrated the fraternity’s 50 year anniversary, despite having been dissolved for 18 years.

Cane said UD policy prohibits local fraternities from establishing chapters on campus and only recognizes national fraternities. As a result, Chi Sigma Alpha needed to join a national fraternity on campus to re-establish its chapter.

Chi Sigma Alpha alumni formed a re-establishment committee about a year ago. The committee was led by UD alumnus Roger Vernier, Cane said.

The committee reached out to three national fraternities it believed best corresponded with Chi Sigma Alpha’s values. The three fraternities were Alpha Sigma Phi, Phi Delta Theta, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

In late fall 2011, Ryan Tolle, coordinator of expansion for Sigma Alpha Epsilon, contacted Cane about a potential SAE expansion to the university. Tolle was informed that Chi Sigma Alpha was interested in reviving the fraternity and showed interest in joining Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

“We reached out to Kevin Cane in November or December 2011 about potentially setting up chapter on campus,” Tolle said. “It was a little different when I first heard Chi Sigma Alpha. Nowadays, students want to start organizations and reach out to national fraternities to start a chapter, you never hear about a former fraternity wanting to join.”

According to Cane, Chi Sigma Alpha eventually chose to petition to Sigma Alpha Epsilon, specifically because of the fraternity’s similar values and collected alumni network.

The Interfraternity Council accepted the Chi Sigma Alpha’s petition to officially colonize on campus, Cane said.

“We are looking forward to bringing SAE to campus and helping the Dayton community,” said Tolle. “It has been a great experience to partner with them, what it means to be a SAE, and to move forward with the chapter.”

Chi Sigma Alpha will take the name of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and won’t be able to start recruiting until August 2013. Cane said the delay for Sigma Alpha Epsilon to start its chapter was because Greek Life and IFC wanted to make sure new fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi, which began colonization in August 2012, could smoothly go through transition, growth and become rooted within the university in one full academic year.

Patrick Durham, a junior marketing and finance major who had been elected as IFC president in November, said he believes another Greek organization on campus will only benefit the university.

An increase in Greek organizations will attract more potential UD students because of the increased popularity in Greek Life, Durham said.

“I thought it was great when I heard about it,” he said. “I thought it was cool that a bunch of alumni wanted to relive their college days and partner with a national fraternity, plus the university will benefit a lot from it.”

On Dec. 25, Vernier announced on Chi Sigma Alpha’s Facebook page that Sigma Alpha Epsilon had approved their petition. Acting as a Christmas gift to all Chi Sigma Alpha alumni, Vernier’s message thanked all for their support and said the fraternity is very excited for the opportunity to again share the “values-based experience for men who seek a new experience.”

“In the last three years, Greek life affiliation on campus has increased from percent to 17 percent among men,” Cane said. “With UD’s enrollment growth and interest in Greek Life, we feel [Sigma Alpha Epsilon] will fair quite well because it offers students just another viable option to new opportunities.”
HAGEL (cont. from p. 1)

Washington Post reporter spoke about the brothers’ divide.

“Their fights got very heated and often culminated in physical blows,” MacPherson said. “Their difference in viewpoints was indicative of the divisive effects that the war had on this country.”

From there, the Hagels traveled down two very different paths. Tom said he gravitated toward liberalism and earned a law degree from the University of Nebraska before eventually landing a teaching position at UD. Chuck remained conservative, immersing himself in private business and politics. The eldest Hagel brother was elected to a Nebraska Senate seat in 1996 and served two terms.

Chuck Hagel’s nomination as defense secretary has subjected the Nebraskan to a tidal wave of criticism for his record in the Senate on both sides of the aisle. Among the issues the nominee has been attacked on are his stances regarding unilateral sanctions against Iran, U.S. support for Israel and his opposition to the war in Iraq.

Tom defended his brother in light of the criticisms.

“Anytime someone’s being attacked, you have to look at the special interests of those doing the attacking. President Obama could have nominated Jesus Christ and there are some Republicans who would automatically be opposed to it. Chuck will make a great secretary.”

Members of the Chicago Boys Acrobatic Team perform during halftime of a game between UD and the University of Alabama at Birmingham at UD Arena, Jan. 5. ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/MANAGING EDITOR

HAGEl

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Hhousing

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ArtStreet will host a series of events in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. this Friday, Jan. 18.

These will include a vinyl party and a documentary. Studio E will be open for students and faculty to craft posters with images and words inspired by Dr. King until 6 p.m. Afterward, music from the civil rights era featuring Sam Cooke, Bob Dylan and James Brown will fill Studio D.

According to ArtStreet Director Brian LaDuca, ArtStreet planned three vinyl parties last year, each attracting a large audience. He dubbed the event “a nod to the throwback of the era of vinyl albums.”

“At a night in ’63, the purpose was to bring people together to experience a time, place and spirit through music,” LaDuca said. “The audience involved can then hear the music as it was originally recorded in a period before technology might over-polish the final audio.”

There will be a DJ and the University of Dayton student spoken word group, UKURI, will recite poetry influenced by the civil rights movement. The Dayton Contemporary Dance Company will also perform a piece inspired by King’s “I Have a Dream” speech.

After the performances, Artstreet’s film series will start the semester with the Spike Lee documentary “4 Little Girls,” hosted by Cecilia Moore, an associate professor in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The film focuses on the 16th St. Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham, Ala. It shares the story of Carole Robertson, Addie Mae Collins, Cynthia Wesley and Denise McNair. All were killed and were 14 years old or younger.

“So many young people today have very little knowledge of the meaning and work of the civil rights movement beyond a passing understanding of who Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Mrs. Rosa Parks were. They are very important, but I believe both would point the countless young people who they worked with to bring about change,” Moore said. “It shows how consequential young people can be in bringing about positive social change.”

The Office of Multicultural Affairs and UD Speaks also helped organize this day to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr., an icon of the civil rights movement.

“There hasn’t been an event that has looked at the influence of Dr. King through music, dance and poetry. It is a chance for a 21st century UD student to hear and experience music from over 50 years ago that influenced and shaped the world we live in today,” LaDuca said.

At no cost, all University of students can experience this event that LaDuca described as a “once in a lifetime experience.”

For more information, contact Artstreet at 937-229-5101 or go to artstreet.udayton.edu.
Hollywood version of ‘Les Mis’ a must-watch

LANEY GIBSON
Staff Writer

“Les Miserables” is one of many movies to debut during the holiday season, but it is the only film to have the actors sing live on camera.

The incredible sweeping masterpiece was extremely successful in the box office and earned several Academy Award nominations this year. The film showcases many big name actors including Hugh Jackman, Anne Hathaway, Sacha Baron Cohen, Helena Bonham Carter and Amanda Seyfried.

“Les Miserables” follows the stories of intertwining characters during the tumultuous years leading up to and during the French Revolution. The story follows the life of Jean Valjean after his release from prison, as well as his struggle to find a new life, the hardship of the men and women of the revolution, the desperation of the a mother to provide a better life for her child and a love triangle thrown in the mix.

I should say that I am not a musical theater person. The most I knew about “Les Miserables” the musical is that Nick Jonas was in it at some point, somewhere, in some theater. I also noticed that Cat Woman curiously decided to shave her head for the film. Additionally, I really liked the freckled British guy I saw in the previews.

To begin, one of the most powerful performances in the film was Hathaway as Fantine. Even though I associated her with Cat Woman, she completely transformed for this film showing her talent as a dynamic actor. Her rendition of “I Dreamed a Dream” was heartbreaking and evoked the depth of Fantine’s sadness shockingly well. Her performance was made even more incredible due to the fact that she sang live on camera, through tears. She even made me tear up – and I didn’t even resent her for it. I just let it happen.

Hugh Jackman and Russell Crowe also demonstrated their acting talent in their cat-and-mouse game throughout the film. Jackman’s character, Jean Valjean, is constantly hunted by the straight-laced Javert, played by Crowe. Their chase provided a sense of urgency and suspense necessary to keep the viewers guessing.

I knew Crowe did a wonderful job portraying his no-nonsense character because many times during the movie I wanted to push him off a bridge so that the good hearted Jean Valjean could finally be free of his past.

If I had to choose Jackman’s stand-out performance it would be “Suddenly,” an Academy Award nominated song about his love for his new adopted daughter, Cosette, in which his ability to evoke subtle and powerful emotions simultaneously is showcased.

In addition to Crowe and Jackman’s captivating relationship, another interesting pair of characters were played by Sacha Baron Cohen and Helena Bonham Carter as a married couple with double lives as inn-keepers and con artists. They provided the necessary comedic relief when the movie could not get any more heart wrenching.

Sacha Baren Cohen employs his comedic timing expertly and Helena Boham Carter adds her own sassy brand of humor, both making the movie more lighthearted whenever they came on screen. Their song “Master of the House” was hysterical and the slap-stick humor was spot on.

A love triangle was also present in the film between characters Marius, Cosette and Eponine, played by Eddie Redmayne, Amanda Seyfried and Samantha Barks, respectively. Eponine loves the freckled, handsome and brave Marius, but tragically, he only has eyes for the blonde Cosette.

Eponine sings beautifully in the rain about her doomed, unrequited love in “On My Own,” and I cannot help but feel miserable right along with her. Marius is also deeply involved in the French Revolution and his song about the loss of his friends in battle, “Empty Chairs and Empty Tables,” showcases Redmayne’s voice and his ability to convey the pain of death and heartbreak.

The movie captures the essence of the struggle of the people of Paris exceptionally well on screen. Nothing in the film is glamorized which heightens the realistic feel and allows the audience to understand the desperation of the poor of Paris. The people in the slums of Paris were dirty, sick, miserable and freezing. Even the dental hygiene of all of the characters was uncomfortably realistic. Probably the most incredible aspect of the film was that you were inspired and cheer for the characters on screen because the actors commit to their roles so fully.

The universal qualities of loss, love and redemption are powerful and beautiful, allowing anyone in any stage of life to relate to the film. If you would like to be inspired, entertained and moved by a film, make sure you see “Les Miserables.”

Rockabilly band to come to Dayton

KATIE CHRISTOFF
Lead A&E Writer

Looking for ways to get off campus and explore the city of Dayton that are both fun and free? Look no further, because Angela Perley and the Howlin’ Moons will be playing a free show in the Oregon District this Friday, Jan. 18.

Angela Perley and the Howlin’ Moons is a Columbus, Ohio-based band that can be described as Americana, blues, country or rockabilly.

“We definitely fit a mixture of genres, but we’re roots-based,” Angela Perley, the band’s lead singer, said. “Our music also has a modern edge to it.”

They will be playing at the Trolley Stop in the Oregon Historic District, a familiar venue for the Howlin’ Moons. They have played quite a few shows in Dayton because of its close proximity to their hometown of Columbus, and according to Perley, the Trolley Stop is their favorite place to play.

“It’s pretty laid back and easy to walk around,” Perley said. “It’s a cool and lively venue.”

The band is currently promoting their new EP, “Nowhere is Now Here.” It is the fourth EP they have released since 2010.

They plan on releasing their first full-length album by late summer, Perley said. She said they plan to begin recording as early as this week.

Angela Perley has come a long way since she began her music career as a student at Ohio University. The songwriter, who writes all of her own material, began playing at songwriter nights at local clubs in Athens, Ohio.

In 2009, she was discovered by Vital Music USA, the label she and her band are still with today. It was through her roommate, an intern Vital, that she was inspired to take the music seriously.

In addition to Crowe and Jackman’s captivating relationship, another interesting pair of characters were played by Sacha Baron Cohen and Helena Bonham Carter as a married couple with double lives as inn-keepers and con artists. They provided the necessary comedic relief when the movie could not get any more heart wrenching.

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The universal qualities of loss, love and redemption are powerful and beautiful, allowing anyone in any stage of life to relate to the film. If you would like to be inspired, entertained and moved by a film, make sure you see “Les Miserables.”
As a new year dawns, resolve to be more organized, lose weight, find love or whatever it is you feel you must resolve to do. But most importantly, resolve to have hope for a better tomorrow, because without it, we cannot better the world around us.

The advent of a new year is often considered a time for change, but perhaps even more importantly it should be a time for hope. Hope that is on the mend, a new "Star Wars" movie is on the way and the women’s

I am embarrassed by the fact that Rep. Steve Chabot is my congressman. Why you ask? Because this month, he decided to oppose a bill providing aid to disaster victims in order to prove an ideological point.

On Jan. 4, the House voted on (and passed, despite my congressman’s objections) H.R. 41, a bill that increased the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s borrowing authority by $8.7 billion so that it could assist Hurricane Sandy victims. That money went to the National Flood Insurance Program in order that these innocent citizens could do simple things like rebuild their homes. It’s not a handout — it’s money that they are already entitled to under the program.

Chabot was one of 67 Republicans who voted against this bill. Why would he do such a thing? The Cincinnati Enquirer, Chabot’s hometown paper, asked the same question. Originally, he said that he was opposed to the bill because it was full of unnecessary pork including “funding for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) to improve its weather research and forecasting tools, and to upgrade its reconnaissance aircraft.”

Regardless of whether or not those are legitimate expenses in response to an unprecedented storm (hint: they are) the simple fact remains that H.R. 41 contained no such funding. The only thing that it absolutely did was increase FEMA’s borrowing authority. The other spending was included in a second Sandy bill that had not yet been voted on.

To his credit, Chabot later issued a new statement, upon the Enquirer’s follow-up, saying that he was opposed to the $8.7 billion bill because there was no discussion of spending cuts elsewhere, and would have preferred “a smaller immediate increase followed by additional installments, if necessary, once proper offsets for any further funding had been identified.”

A spokesman said that the original statement had been referring to both H.R. 41 and the larger Sandy aid bill later down the road. Apparently Chabot was speaking in the past tense about a vote that had not yet happened.

This leads one to only two logical conclusions. Either Rep. Chabot did not read H.R. 41, or he did not read the Enquirer’s question. Either way, it’s embarrassing for the city of Cincinnati and Ohio’s 1st Congressional District.

One would have to assume, based on Chabot’s second statement, that he voted against the bill because it did not include spending cuts. Considering context and the current climate in Washington, it’s clear that he was making an ideological statement about the federal government’s spending obligations. Apparently, according to Chabot, disaster victims need to wait until we sort out $9.7 billion in spending cuts — chump change, in the grand scheme of things — before any help comes their way.

What are residents of the Queen City supposed to say when the next disaster hits southwest Ohio? Chabot himself, along with other representatives from Ohio, just asked the federal government for a major disaster declaration in the state in August in response to the summer’s severe storms. Why shouldn’t the representatives of New York and New Jersey vote against disaster relief for us the next time Chabot goes knocking on the federal government’s door, hand in hand?

Look, Rep. Chabot, if you want to have a legitimate discussion about the role of the federal government in future disaster relief efforts, we can do that, but can we please try to make sure the victims of the current one have homes first?
Gun restrictions restrict Second Amendment

With the Dec. 14, 2012 massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School that left 20 children and 6 educators dead, there has been much discussion about the role of firearms in many recent tragedies. There have been calls from many liberals to regulate the sale of assault rifles and high capacity magazines, with some even more extreme politicians calling for confiscation. Those advocating further restriction, such as President Barack Obama, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., and TV host Piers Morgan, have a fundamental lack of understanding as to why the Second Amendment was written.

When the Constitution was written in 1787, American colonials had only a few years earlier beaten the most powerful army in the world and won their independence. Our Founding Fathers were so terrified of a strong central government that prior to the Constitution, the states had been unified by the Articles of Confederation, which put in place a severely weakened federal government that had virtually no power.

Seeing as this government lead to conflict between the states, the new Constitution was written so that the federal government could do things such as build an army, collect taxes, mint currency and the like. However, prior to ratification, several states voiced concern over whether or not the new government adequately protected the individual, which contrary to previous social contracts, was established as the sovereign, not the government. It was the promise of a Bill of Rights that allowed the Constitution to be ratified.

Using the Virginia Declaration of Rights and the English Bill of Rights as a model, as well as their very recent experiences, the Founding Fathers drafted the first 10 amendments to our Constitution. The second one states:

“A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

What is most important as to determining the context of this amendment is that it is necessary to the security of a free state, not about whether or not one can go hunting. It is not to enforce the Constitution; it is not to establish an army (this was included under the enumerated powers of Congress), but to allow the sovereign people to defend themselves against a tyrannical government, just as the colonials had only a few years earlier. A militia at the time was the people of the several states, and it was their job to ensure the new federal government did not go beyond its boundaries as established by the Constitution.

I agree that a certain amount of restriction is required, but I think that the current level of restriction is inappropriate. It is nearly impossible to purchase a fully automatic weapon, as are other weapons of war like grenades, tanks and warplanes. But beyond that, further regulation imperils the ability of the people to rise up against tyranny and take back their God-given rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.
Volleyball

SHEFFIELD LEAVES TO TAKE WISCONSIN JOB

Former University of Dayton volleyball head coach Kelly Sheffield stands on the sideline during a game against the University of Cincinnati, Oct. 31, at the Frericks Center. ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/MANAGING EDITOR

DAN WHITAKER
Ast. Sports Editor

On Dec. 28, 2012, the University of Dayton head volleyball coach, Kelly Sheffield, announced that he was leaving his position to take the head coaching job at the University of Wisconsin.

On the same day, Sheffield tweeted from his personal Twitter account (@KellyPSheffield):

“What a crazy and exciting day. Emotional and hard to say goodbye...”

Sheffield seemed to spot me as I thought about the greats and wondered if he would notice me. As I got closer, I introduced myself as a reporter for the Flyer News and he then introduced himself:

“I’m Kelly Sheffield, the head volleyball coach here,” he said. “Damn glad to meet you, Chris.”

I’ve never played volleyball and can’t say that I plan my day around watching it on TV. That’s if it’s actually on TV.

But I was upset over this winter break when I heard the news that Kelly Sheffield, the head coach of the University of Dayton volleyball team, was leaving UD to become the head coach at the University of Wisconsin.

In my four years, the coaches who call Dayton home have been some of the kindest people I’ve met at UD. They’ve also happened to be great coaches and have led their respective programs to A-10 championships, NIT appearances and the NCAA tournament on numerous occasions.

And now UD has lost one of those fine coaches.

According to a university athletics press release on Dec. 28, 2012, Sheffield announced that he was leaving. In his five seasons as head coach, Dayton went 131-33 and made the NCAA tournament five straight times.

But it wasn’t all the wins and championships that made Sheffield such a good coach. In today’s sports world of greed and winning, no matter the cost, Sheffield was a man of character who valued coaching his players about life lessons that were important far away from the volleyball court.

The first time I met Sheffield was at the beginning of my sophomore year, and I was nervous to be covering a varsity sport for the first time. I waited anxiously in the hallway of the Frericks Center outside the entrance to the gym as the volleyball team was finishing up practice.

As I thought about the greats in UD basketball history like Don May and Don “Monk” Meineke who once played on the floor I was about to step onto, practice finished and I wandered in looking to interview a couple players and Sheffield.

Sheffield seemed to spot me right away. It wasn’t hard, seeing as I was carrying my notepad and recorder around. The look of terror on my face also might have been a good clue.

But Sheffield put me at ease quickly when he asked if I was a scout for Saint Louis. When I told him no, he said, “Good, because otherwise I would have had to kick you the hell out of here.”

I introduced myself as a reporter for Flyer News and he then introduced himself:

“I’m Kelly Sheffield, the head volleyball coach here,” he said. “Damn glad to meet you, Chris.”

After a 20-minute interview that was comedic and, oddly enough, dramatic, Sheffield surprised me again with his personable nature.

Most coaches have a slight distrust with the media, but Sheffield has always seemed to enjoy being in front of the camera or talking to a beat writer, no matter how small the paper. But after our interview, he gave me his cell phone number voluntarily and told me to call him whenever I had a question.

It seems like a simple gesture now, but it was a big deal at the time as a Division I head coach was treating me, of all people, like a big-time sports writer while he and his wife Cathy were just days away from expecting their first child, Alexa, who is now two years old.

But now he’s gone. Left Dayton for the white winters in Madison, Wis.

Some people might want to hold a grudge that he left so unexpectedly, but I wish him the best of luck and hope the Badgers succeed under his leadership.

I was damn glad to meet you, coach.
There seems to be a line in sports that separates the men from the women. Unfortunately it is scarcely, if ever, crossed.

When it comes to the University of Dayton, though, that role of presumed sexism rarely surfaces enough to cause problems on the field of play. Per the requirements of Title IX, there are similar accommodations for the women’s team that there are for the men. Simply put, the administration of the game isn’t the problem; it’s the support from fans.

To be fair, women’s athletics at Dayton are able to draw good crowds — most of the time. Unfortunately, the one anomaly also happens to be a nationally ranked program. In my Dec. 2, 2012 piece entitled “Women’s basketball deserves more attention than men,” I pointed a finger at fans for not showing up for a team that has earned the support.

Though the team lost badly to a decent Bowling Green State University team on Dec. 30, 2012, they haven’t faltered in either of their two games since Wednesday’s game at home against La Salle University (1-12) only added kindle to that fire, as the team dealt out a 46-point hammering.

So why would fans rather sit at home and watch a men’s team that has little going for it? Certainly, that program has great potential. They’ve got superb talent and prime leadership in their seniors. But at 10-7, there’s a need for a reality check, not for the team but for the fans.

I have always loved Dayton men’s basketball and I always will. Even in their worst seasons, I’ve been proud to follow the Flyers. But I have come to realize that there are other teams that deserve just as much attention and excitement as the men. More importantly there are better teams that deserve as much attention.

In my piece several weeks ago, I offered that fans should choose the women over the men in regard to who they should support more. While this was not my intent, I understand how this sounds. Horrible. To put it lightly.

In my attempt to inform the fans of the existence of a team just as worthy of their time and love, I admit that I came off as callous. But my point still stands: The women are just as good and the program starting down the path to becoming a collegiate powerhouse. Yes, powerhouse.

Right now, powerhouse doesn’t mean winning championships. It means being regarded as a program that just might have a shot at the title each year.

Any team that has a record of 14-1 is going to get respect from their opponents. But with sexism in sports, it’s much harder to get respect and turn it into ticket sales. I have been told that fans respect (and watch) teams that are successful, no matter what the sport.

Nothing against the men’s team, but is a 14-1 start to a season not better than a 10-7 start? Why are the lines so skewed in the men’s favor? In some cases, the fans need to ease up on a program rather than push harder. They should come to expect the continuing success of UD women’s basketball in the future, much like the men’s. Both have earned the right to a good support system.

By all standards in college basketball, this year’s women’s team has a lot to be respected for. Yet, as great as UD fans are — especially students — little attention has been paid to the team.

Average home attendance for women is 1,922 fans per game, while the men are averaging 12,364 per outing. Women are 1,822 fans per game, while the men are averaging 12,364 per outing. In a building with a capacity of 13,455, the women are regrettably filling just 15 percent of the stands. And it’s not for lack of trying.

With the integration of local and national talent in the program, women’s head coach Jim Jabir is reaching a level of excellence comparable to his former colleague Kelly Sheffield. In just five years as head of the women’s volleyball program, Sheffield took the program to new heights.

That’s exactly why the University of Wisconsin hired him as their new volleyball coach. He was loved here on campus. His teams were nationally ranked on a consistent basis, and he had a way with words.

Much like Sheffield, Jabir is well liked by his players, coaching staff and local media. He has what it takes to take this program and turn it into what the volleyball team has become. For 10 years, Jabir has rebuilt a once broken program.

As women’s sports grow in popularity on campus, there seems to be less of a need for an incentive to attend events. Though the soccer team has its scarves, and the softball team has its cookouts, the fact of the matter is there should be absolutely no excuses for why fans don’t fill up those seats.

Regarding my last column, the goal was not to throw the men’s team under the bus. I was trying to point out, and am continuing to point out that fan expectations are so high sometimes that even the best teams struggle to meet those expectations. Look at the University of Kentucky’s men’s basketball team this year as they’ve lost a handful of games, plus a major home winning streak.

In 2012, the eight major sports at UD combined for a record of 157-67-4, or a winning percentage of about 62 percent. Of them, just one sport (women’s softball) had a record under .500 on the year.

At UD, women’s volleyball and soccer — and even softball to a small extent — has rowdy fans at their home games. So why shouldn’t women’s basketball?
Women’s Basketball

FLYERS FINALLY RETURN HOME, BEAT LA SALLE

STEVEN WRIGHT
Sports Editor

It’s easy to get homesick when you go 40 days between games in your own arena, such was the stretch the University of Dayton women’s basketball team recently completed.

Shooting 79 percent from the floor in the first half, the players certainly seemed to feel the effects of being back at home sweet home. Dayton dominated right from the opening tip in defeating La Salle University 95-47 at UD Arena on Wednesday, Jan. 16.

“I think we were pretty hyped to be at home again,” said freshman guard Kelley Austria, who scored a career-high 14 points. “Our huddle was pretty crazy before the game.”

Dayton (14-1, 2-0 A-10) came into the week ranked No. 18 and 17 in the Associated Press and USA Today Coaches’ Polls, respectively. It was playing for the first time at home since it defeated Michigan State University on Dec. 6, 2012. UD went 3-1 on its four-game road trip, suffering its first loss of the season at Bowling Green State University on Dec. 30, 2012.

UD jumped out to a 14-3 lead just over five minutes into the game with exceptional shooting from the floor that it was able to maintain throughout the half.

“I think when you defend and rebound, it opens up so many opportunities for you to run your break,” Dayton head coach Jim Jabir said. “When we defend and outlet it, lots of good things happen.”

Dayton shot 21-for-30 from the floor, with 18 combined assists from eight different players.

Despite the excellent shooting, Jabir said he came away pleased with his team’s play when it didn’t have the ball the most.

“When we play with a certain intensity level and a commitment to defense, we’re a pretty good team,” Jabir said. “I was worried about this game because I’ve watched them on tape a lot and they’re very capable of hurting people. They lost to Rutgers by four or five, so I was really pleased with our defense.”

All 10 players who saw time on the floor scored in the half as well.

“We are extremely unselfish and distribution the ball as best as we can,” said junior center Cassie Sant. “Our chemistry on the court is unmatched.”

Dayton started the second half missing its first three shots from the floor.

Jabir called timeout on his team’s next trip down the floor so to settle his team down from what he thought was errant play.

“I didn’t like our intensity level,” he said. “We had given up a couple of buckets that we hadn’t in the first half and we wanted to make sure we weren’t getting satisfied with where we were. There’s no room for it because we’re not that good where we can just show up and go through the motions.

“We really want to become a good defensive team if we want to be a championship team.”

Dayton was led by a pair of double-doubles from freshman guard Amber Deane and senior forward Olivia Applewhite. Deane scored a game-high 20 points to go with 10 rebounds, while Applewhite had 13 and 10.

La Salle (5-12, 1-1 A-10) redshirt senior guard Brittany Wilson came into the game as the leading scorer in the conference this season at 18.9 per game. She was held under her average on the night, scoring only 10 points.

“That was the goal to hold her under her average,” Austria said.

Dayton next travels to the University of Rhode Island at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 19, in Kingston, R.I.

Junior center Cassie Sant (33) shoots around a defender during a game against La Salle University, Wednesday, Jan. 16, at UD Arena. ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/MANAGING EDITOR

CNN makes mockery of self with Bleacher Report alliance

Imagine seeing the headline to a story about a speech President Barack Obama gives on foreign policy appearing next to a story titled, “20 Athletes Who Need to Take a Chill Pill,” on a website. Too farfetched an idea? Not anymore.

CNN announced on Jan. 8 that it has associated itself with the sports website Bleacher Report, ending a long time partnership with Sports Illustrated.

When you go to CNN’s website and attempt to use its link that takes you to the Sports Illustrated website, you are instead first directed to a message stating that CNN is changing its partnership soon.

The message says, “Starting in February, CNNSports will be provided by Bleacher Report.”

They might as well have said, “We at CNN have decided to make PowerPoint our No. 1 formatting tool.”

The announcement piggybacks off another one made on Aug. 6, 2012 when the Turner Broadcasting System acquired Bleacher Report after ending its own relationship with Sports Illustrated.

This is an amazing move that is a win for the new wave of blog type websites and a loss for almost everyone else.

Bleacher Report launched in 2007 and states on its website it wanted to create “an amplified outlet for writers whose unique voices were routinely drowned out by cookie-cutter analysts and celebrity ‘experts’.”

It allows anyone with a keyboard a platform for their writing and opinions to be expressed with the chance of it being viewed by the masses.

While news is indeed reported on the website, it doesn’t match anywhere the quality of what the CNN brand has worked towards.

Bleacher Report doesn’t look to find and tell the story about news on its own like many reputable news agencies, its writers usually pass along the work that others have done or creates unique, controversial opinionated lists in the aforementioned slideshow format.

The blog-website Deadspin on Oct. 4, 2012 published an email it acquired which appeared to show how stories are written for BR. In the email, it showed someone providing over 100 different possible headlines for a story which included many possible pre-written outcomes of a sporting event or things involving the “top 5” or how many total things. Hardly real journalism.

Sports Illustrated is a brand that began in 1954. Its Sportsman of the Year award is one of the most coveted in the world of sports every year. Its magazine cover has great notoriety which the site lumps across its main sections in the aforementioned slideshow format.

Of course, if they don’t get their points, they can console themselves by reading up on the latest news from World Wrestling Entertainment, which the site lumps across its main feed with actual sporting organizations.

There’s going to be some that say this is just part of the changing times, where print is dying and digital is in. Reality says CNN doesn’t appear to mind if it might end up filling its viewers with nonsense lists.

For those that enjoy the site, continue surfing through your choice between “Gauging the Mood in Lakers Nation After Second Straight Win” and “Can Ryback Escape the Shield and Finally Become the WWE Champion?”

Just make sure you check out those hard hitting slideshows every now and then about “25 Best NHL Ice Girl Lockout Photos” too.