A rapid succession of reported floor collapses over the weekend has evicted 11 students from their houses and caused the University of Dayton to immediately amend the student housing contract to include occupancy limits on university-owned houses.

Two floors of university-owned houses broke during the early morning hours of Saturday, Jan. 19, in separate incidents at 1522 Frericks Way and 118 Lawnview Ave. Both residences were hosting parties at the time of the incidents. University officials attribute an additional Tuesday, Jan. 22 floor incident at 218 Kiefaber St. to termite damage.

“We have an issue here with our student houses,” said Chris Schramm, dean of students. “As educators and administrators we have to make sure we are ensuring the safety of our students.”

Schramm went on to say, “Our houses are safe under reasonable conditions.” She also identified large parties with people jumping around as an unreasonable condition.

The university will assign all UD-owned housing a maximum occupancy limit. The limits will be between 6-19 people per house or apartment.

Dayton Fire Department responded at approximately 12:50 a.m. on Saturday to a report of a hazardous condition at 1522 Frericks Way. According to DFD, university officials informed the department upon arrival that “the living room floor partially collapsed during a party in which at least 50 students were in the room.” University officials say the floor dropped 7-to-8 inches.

According to the DFD, the house was evacuated and crews entered the basement. There the crew found six broken two-by-eight floor joists. The department said the gas lines directly under the floor showed no damage or leaks.

Around the same time, a floor at 118 Lawnview Ave. buckled during a party. University officials state the residents of the house did not report the incident until around 10 a.m.

University officials convened on Monday, Jan. 21, to discuss the crisis. At the meeting, university officials identified what they called the “common denominator” among the incidents: the large number of people in the house. They also decided to reimburse students for the weekend’s food expenses.

On Tuesday, Jan. 22, the university publicly responded to the incidents with an email to upperclassman residents of university housing, placing responsibility for preventing further incidents on students.

“In light of these events, upperclass students who reside in university housing, placing responsibility for preventing further incidents on students." University officials responded to the incidents with an email to upperclassman residents of university housing, placing responsibility for preventing further incidents on students. They also decided to reimburse students for the weekend’s food expenses.

Effective immediately, your housing contract will be amended to include these occupancy limits. These limits have been developed based on the recommendations of a structural engineer, and the limits will vary by structure.”

According to Fischer’s email, the university expects student tenants “to manage the number of people inside your house or apartment to ensure that the number does not exceed the occupancy limit.”

“We expect you to be responsible tenants,” Fischer’s email said.

Fischer’s email said students

See Collapse on p.5
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Eboo Patel speaks, encourages faith harmony

CHRIS CRISANTI
Lead News Writer

“Hey it’s cold outside, but this stage is smokin’,” speaker Eboo Patel jokingly said to a jam-packed RecPlex Tuesday night after the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company performed in honor of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement.

An acclaimed author, Huffington Post and USA TODAY blogger, CNN contributor and Advisory Council on Faith-Based Neighborhood Partnerships member, Patel grew up Muslim and founded the Interfaith Youth Core in 2002. The Chicago-based organization is devoted to building social bridges in religious diversity.

“Our goal is to make interfaith cooperation a social norm in the course of a generation,” said Katie Bringman Baxter, director of campus engagements for the IFYC. “I believe this university has a combination of Catholic tradition with great people to make forms a vibrant interfaith community.”

Patel was introduced by former U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See Miguel H. Diaz, and delivered a speech pertaining to King’s impact on the civil rights movement. Patel said for 380 days there was suffering and abuse that resulted in death threats and loss of jobs. However, King was resilient in continuing his effort to build the community, rather than seek revenge on his enemies.

Patel also said a lot of people think religion is a poison and that different faiths are destined to fight. He said some believe religion is a boon of destruction and a barrier of division. According to Patel, society must adopt King’s philosophy to “make faith a bridge of cooperation,” rather than a bridge of division.

Patel proceeded to talk about interfaith leadership and two dimensions surrounding the concept. According to Patel, a good interfaith leader must appreciate knowledge of other traditions and adopt a theology of interfaith cooperation.

“This was the stuff my dad was trying to teach me, see the beauty in other traditions,” Patel said. “The knowledge is to articulate and admire other traditions.”

Patel said UD is a university so much further in the practice of interfaith cooperation than other universities in the nation. He said it is in the nature of UD, having a diversity of religions and great people, which builds a theology of interfaith cooperation.

Patel said while speaking about interfaith cooperation at DePaul University, he heard people say “We love other religions even though we are Christian.” He said the next step to build on a bridge of interfaith cooperation is to say, “We love other religions because we are Christian.”

“Faith is a bridge of cooperation,” Patel said. “We need to be builders of that bridge.”

Individuals in attendance of Patel’s talk also received an invitation to a follow-up session.

The university will hold a follow-up discussion on Patel’s speech for students, faculty and staff on Feb. 5 in Kennedy Union West Ballroom from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Sister Laura Leming, associate professor and chair of the department of sociology, anthropology and social work, said the follow-up session is a “town hall meeting to explore how Patel’s insights apply here at UD and how we can expand our interfaith understanding, dialogue and cooperation.”

The next speaker participating in UD’s 2012-2013 speaker series will be civil rights lawyer, author and associate professor of law at Ohio State University, Michelle Alexander. The event will take place on Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Ballroom.

Sigma Chi punished with two year suspension

MEREDITH WHELCHEL
Asst. News Editor

The University of Dayton chapter of the Sigma Chi fraternity has been suspended for two years following disorderly conduct at a London, Ohio gas station Nov. 17.

After the university investigation, the Madison County prosecutor decided Sigma Chi will not face any charges, according to an email sent to Flyer News from Teri Rizvi, associate vice president for university communication.

However, they will pay $200 for damages and will perform community service in Madison County, she said.

Rizvi also said the fraternity is no longer allowed to live in their special interest house on Kiefaber St. or participate in organizational meetings, events or gatherings.

“The house will be used for either general or special-interest housing,” Rizvi said.

Sigma Chi will be eligible for reinstatement following the suspension term and can submit a plan of action for the fraternity’s intentions to remain in good standing, she said. They will also commit to being alcohol free for the first year, Rizvi said.

She said the fraternity also has the option to appeal the university decision.

The fraternity stopped at the Lake Side Plaza after a university registered event involving alcohol in Columbus, according to a Flyer News article published on Dec. 3.

Madison County police officers received anonymous calls about a disturbance at the location. Officers found broken items in the store, students standing on parked cars and exposing their genitals to customers, urine covering the floors and walls of the establishment, used condoms on the floor and a cooler with several containers of alcohol, according to the FN article.

The subjects, who were identified as UD students, had admitted to consuming alcoholic beverages prior to the incident, according to the FN article. Of the 80 recorded students involved, 33 were under the age of 21, as stated in the police report.

Rizvi said based on the nature of the case, the hearing board felt two years was an appropriate suspension.

Sigma Chi President Matt Walters and Interfraternity Council President Patrick Durkin could not be reached by the time of publication.
KAITLYN RIDEAL
News Editor

The University of Dayton has developed a four-year net tuition plan for freshman students enrolling in 2013-2014 school year.

The plan gives incoming freshman a four-year guarantee that their net cost of tuition will not increase over four years. The net cost of their tuition as a freshman, will be the price they pay for all eight semesters.

“This is a four-year plan that students will be able to see exactly what their tuition costs will be,” said Robert Durkle, assistant vice president for enrollment management and market development. “There will be [increases] in tuition but any merit scholarship money or UD money that is offered to them will increase as well so that what they pay out of their pocket each year will remain the same.”

“A family that enrolls here next fall will see that their net cost for tuition is a guarantee for the next four years,” Durkle added. “It could be less than that, but it will never be more than that.”

Durkle also said that even as a family’s circumstances change, the cost of tuition will never go up for the family.

“If there is a loss of federal aid or state aid the net tuition will stay the same,” Durkle said. Essentially, even if cuts are made to Federal Pell Grants or other types of federal aid for students, the university will make up those costs so the student’s family will not have to pay a higher tuition rate.

“In this day and age the cost of higher education keeps escalating and families are more confused,” Durkle said.

Durkle said the university is at a point financially to be able to offer this program.

“We have been very successful in terms of enrollment for the last four or five years and we thought it’s time to start thinking about the consumer and how can we be more transparent with who we are,” he said.

The new tuition plan will also make billing simpler, Durkle said. The total cost will only be defined by tuition, room and board. There will no longer be additional fees such as an orientation fee, lab fees etc. It will all be included in tuition.

Durkle said the plan has received positive feedback from the public.

“This has been well-received, our national critics have looked at it and said, ‘I wish more schools could do this because it lays everything out so that there are no hidden costs or charges,’” he said.

However there are some restrictions to the program. A student’s original tuition price is not guaranteed indefinitely, Durkle said.

“This is an eight-semester program,” he said. “If a student wanted to study abroad they would have to plan with the financial aid program.”

Also, if a student changes his or her major, the tuition would not be locked in to the same tuition price past eight semesters.

“Some students may take five years because of changing their major midway through their senior year,” he said. “There’s a good chance they’ll be charged the tuition amount at the time they get into the ninth semester of whatever the tuition amount is at that time.”

Durkle also says the plan is independent, meaning currently enrolled students will not be paying higher tuition rates for the purpose of funding the new tuition guarantee for incoming students.

As for current students the year-to-year tuition billing will remain the same.

“We are going to eliminate the fee structure for the currently enrolled students,” Durkle said. “They will see the same tuition increases but they are going to streamline the billing process and illuminate the fee process.”

Current students have expressed mixed feeling about the program.

“I think it is unfair to the students that are here now,” said Allison Gallucci, a senior photography major. “It’s unfair to implement this new tuition program when we’re still paying tons of money.”

Emily Kaylor, president of the Student Government Association, said it is tough when beneficial programs like this are aimed at new students, but it is the university’s way of improving on current practices.

“Students need to be cognizant of the university trying to better itself and build on student feedback,” Kaylor said. “One of the issues has been tuition price.”

Kaylor recalled the $500 textbook scholarship incoming freshman received this year as something she wished she had.

“When something changes there will always be a group that wished they had that benefit. I said that about the $500 textbook scholarship,” she said. “It is just how it is. The university is evolving.”

INTERESTED IN WORKING FOR FLYER NEWS?

Applications are available online and due Feb. 1.

Contact: Chris Moorman
moormanc1@udayton.edu, for more information.
The partially collapsed floor inside a University of Dayton-owned residence at 218 Kiefaber Street is seen, Tuesday, Jan. 22. ETHAN KLOSTERMAN/MANAGING EDITOR

**COLLAPSE**

(cont. from p. 1)

“will be held accountable for failing to comply with their assigned occupancy limits and may be held financially responsible for any damage to their University-owned housing that may result — just as any tenant in a typical landlord-tenant relationship would be.”

Fischer’s email recommended students not enter overcrowded houses or apartments, and asked students to report “obvious occupancy limit” violations and houses or apartments with extra stress on the floor immediately to Public Safety at 937-229-2121.

In terms of enforcing the maximum occupancy limit for residences, Fischer is hoping students will influence each other to abide by the maximum occupancy limits.

“This will be a peer-influencing-peer situation,” Fischer said.

“Students are expected to comply with the occupancy number, if they don’t they will be at fault for failure to comply,” he said.

This means if students have a party and Public Safety is called for another reason, the student could also be written up for a violation of their occupancy level if more than the number of students allowed are in the house.

If there are damages to the house and the maximum occupancy level of the house was violated, then the student may be responsible for the cost of repair.

Then, on Tuesday afternoon, the residents of 218 Kiefaber St. alerted the university to an unstable floor. The Dayton Fire Department was called to inspect the floor. Crews determined there was a “soft spot” in the floor “due to uneven floor joist from a previous repair.”

“The floor in the house was sinking down from the wall and a heating vent had sunk roughly two inches into the basement.”

According to Dayton Daily News, the Dayton Fire Department initially told the residents the house was uninhabitable due to the condition of the floor, but a UD maintenance official overruled the fire department allowing the students to stay.

University officials announced in a meeting Wednesday that the issue at 218 Kiefaber was actually a result of termite damage. The university said it is currently repairing the termite damage and has repaired the sinking vent.

“This has been a really rough weekend, we came together to ensure the safety of our students and the uniqueness of our student neighborhood,” said Schramm. “Houses will be assessed so that we can have some relative peace and this won’t happen.”

Bruce Bullman, director of residential properties, said the limits were computed after a number of factors were taken into account including: the year the house was built, additional weight of objects in the house, the structural integrity of the house and square footage.

The new Caldwell apartments will also have a maximum occupancy limit of eight people, he said.

Schramm emphasized the need for an occupancy limit for safety, but did address student concern over the administration trying to control the neighborhoods.

“I’ve been at the university since 1989. I’ve heard the rumor that we are taking away the Ghetto,” she said. “We have yet to do that.”

Editor-in-chief Chris Moorman contributed reporting.

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UD band excited for upcoming album release

AYSE ALTUNISIK
Staff Writer

With an EP coming out, the Customer Service & The Gem City Horns have everything to look forward to as a band.

“Highlights,” set to be released on Saturday, Jan. 26, has six songs with mostly rock influence and undertones of funk and jazz. The EP was made in collaboration with ArtStreet’s StreetSounds.

“We wanted to do originals, and these were the first six songs we got,” said junior biology major Dillon Corrigan, drummer for CSGCH. “It’s a good first impression to show people what kind of music we play.”

For “Highlights,” frontman and senior music education major Wil Morris wrote most of the songs.

CSGCH was originally started as a project for ArtStreet.

“We weren’t all good friends at the beginning, and it started out as an ArtStreet project,” said Corrigan. “I was asked because they needed someone to play drums. Matt, Wil and David all lived together and needed to do a project. Wil had an idea to get together a band. ‘Gem City’ came from Dayton’s nickname, and ‘Customer Service’ was something catchy Wil thought of. One of our mission statements is to promote live music in the Dayton area and beyond. We want to treat people as our customers and give them a good time. We kind of took it and ran with it.”

Members Corrigan, Morris, junior music performance major Peet Cerrone, senior English major Peter Mills, senior philosophy major Mike Jones, junior music education major Mike Francis and senior music education majors Dave Watanabe and Matt Schroeder came together to create a sound that has a fusion of funk, jazz and rock. The band’s unique sound comes from the inclusion of instruments such as the saxophone, trombone and trumpet.

It only took off from there. According to the band’s website, CSGCH has played for venues such as the Downtown Dayton Revival, opened for La Cucaracha and played at Barnajam and Rockin’ Berfest.

“Our best venue was the Downtown Dayton Revival. We like small venues because it’s more of an intimate feel and the people are really responsive to the music,” said Corrigan.

Since the band’s inception, all eight members have only grown closer.

“As we’ve spent more time playing with each other, we’ve become really good friends. Our sound has become more clean and tight,” said Corrigan.

“Highlights,” will be released at ArtStreet on Saturday, Jan. 26. For more information contact ArtStreet at 937-229-5101.

Marathons contribute to physical, mental, emotional health

Paging Dr. Quinn

Editor’s note: Columnist Riley Quinn is not a licensed doctor ... yet.

Just last Sunday, I logged 26.2 miles at the 20th Anniversary Disney World Marathon. This “bucket list” item of mine is an accomplishment I have been working persistently towards since last June.

Countless hours of pounding the pavement, power bars, pasta dinners and running buddies have assisted in the success of my first marathon completion, and I couldn’t feel more fulfilled.

Originally, I made the decision to attempt my first marathon a year ago in hopes of being able to call myself a “runner.” I know it sounds trivial, but this title has always been attractive to me. Like the way one’s favorite word in Italian might sound as it rolls off your tongue, I wanted to be able to recite my new word as often as possible just to hear the beauty in it.

I began training in the summer months, running alongside the St. Lawrence River with my dog, Rudy, and falling in love with the sunsets and the island breeze. My love for running had been instilled during those perfect blue sky days. Upon return to school in August, I managed to keep up with the training, but it was much more difficult.

I had less time with classes, my Residence Assistant duties and planning Greek Week. Also, at this point in my training, the mileage was increasing immensely. Each day, I’d run between seven to nine miles, while Saturdays were reserved for long runs anywhere from 10 to 20 miles.

I soon uncovered my love for yoga during this strenuous process, as I found it was a beneficial exercise to soothe my “Sunday sore muscles.”

I sustained my body with “green smoothies” and a mostly plant-based diet, still receiving plenty of protein, calcium and iron to finish the whole 26.2 miles with very little animal product.

My mental capacity strengthened and I learned the power of mantra meditation to pull me through the tough miles. Training for a marathon was no longer an activity or a goal, but rather a lifestyle. It was not easy, nor was it always fun or rewarding, but it was worth it. I was finally a runner.

It was in the spring that I joined University of Dayton’s Distance 4 Dreams, an organization devoted to granting a “dream come true” to a Dayton-area child suffering a terminal illness. D4D hosts multiple fundraisers and events throughout the year to support a “wish child” and their family for a magical week in Disney. Over Christmas break, a group of runners complete a half or full marathon course, weaving through each of the Disney World parks in honor and support of the wish child.

This year, our organization selected Navada, a warrior at only 5 years old battling T-Cell Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

There are many reasons for attempting a full marathon, but fewer reasons to complete one.

Often times, we as runners feel we have something to prove. We train and condition ourselves to endure intense physical pain, and for what reason? At mile 21 of my race, I began “biting the wall,” a term used by marathoners to describe the extreme mental road block you reach where you think you cannot go any further. All the reasons for why I began my training in the first place no longer seemed to hold suit for these last 5.2 miles. Instead, I let the strength of the community, guidance from my friends and the support of those around me carry me to the finish line.

Training for a full 26.2 miles is a revolutionary act. Eventually, you learn that the projected marathon takes control of your social life as well as your physical and mental state.

You begin waking up earlier to beat the sun, so that you can fit a good 10 miles in before the unbearable summer heat takes its toll. You learn to live with frozen cheeks and toes when it’s single digits outside. You start developing a relationship with the beautiful world that surrounds you as your days become filled with miles upon miles of hills, canals paths and city streets. You experiment with nutritional diets and learn what it really means to “nourish” your body as opposed to punishing it, and you find that the quality time spent with the thoughts in your own head leads to an unbelievable meditative experience only marathoners will understand.

Despite the difficulty in accepting so much change in your life, the miraculous feeling of completing a marathon is so indescribable, you must consider experiencing it for yourself.

You will find strength inside you greater than you ever thought possible, and you even develop a righteous respect and love for yourself out of the disciplined training process. Since the completion of my first marathon, it has been love at first finish line and I plan to continue on to the next race ahead.
Tarantino’s ‘Django Unchained’ allows seriousness, satire

LANE GIBSON
Staff Writer

Quentin Tarantino graciously provided audiences with a new, diabolic comedy over the holiday season. Most audiences familiar with Tarantino’s style of filmmaking, as well as new viewers, will be satisfied.

“Django Unchained” follows the hilarious sprawling story of two unlikely allies: Django, the freed slave played by Jamie Foxx and the German bounty hunter, Dr. King Schultz, played by Christoph Waltz. Schultz, played by Christoph Waltz, a German bounty hunter, Dr. King Schultz, played by Christoph Waltz.

The title character Django was a freed slave played by Leonardo DiCaprio, from plantation owner Calvin Candie, played by Leonardo DiCaprio, to whom she was sold. I have to admit that I am an obsessive Tarantino fan. From the moment I walked out of “Inglorious Bastards,” which I proudly purchased on DVD, I have been faithfully following the director’s work. Django and his wife Broomhilda, played by Kerry Washington, were sold to separate slave owners. While separated, Schultz employs Django to aide him in hunting wanted slave owners, The Brittle Brothers. The two become friends, and Schultz offers to help Django save his wife from plantation owner Calvin Candie, played by Leonardo DiCaprio, to whom she was sold. I have to admit that I am an obsessive Tarantino fan. From the moment I walked out of “Inglorious Bastards,” which I proudly purchased on DVD, I have been faithfully following the director’s work.

PM: The Bananarama.
JO: In a Nut Shell. Think about that. Everything we play is “in a nut shell.”
PM: Little World, Big World.
JO: My Time to Shine.
FN: You really are bad at this.
JO: I know!
PM: We were actually thinking Pat McKeone and the Joe Oliveris.
JO: That actually came from a Thursday Night Live, when Pat contacted ArtStreet and told them The Leap Years would be playing, but they just put down Patrick McKeone. So, we’re actually The Patrick McKeones.
PM: I guess it just came up. The Leap Years.
JO: I just like the notion of leaping.
PM: Just take it as it is.
JO: If you try to find a meaning, it will just be terrible. Stop asking so many questions.
FN: What can we expect from The Leap Years in the future?
PM: Grammy’s.
JO: We’re going to strive to elect the first female president.
FN: Anything else you’d like to add?
JO: Yes, I do know Denzel Washington. I have eight followers on Twitter, and one of them is Denzel.
PM: Kanye West hooked us up.
JO: That was your question, right? We’ve always coming out with new stuff. Like us on Facebook, hit up that Twitter, look at the YouTube channel.
PM: It makes us feel good.
JO: Talk to us. Challenge us to cover songs!
PM: We’re performing at the next Thursday Night Live [Jan. 31] and hopefully at M-Fest this spring.
A common theme among the Opinion section’s content today is a reflection on the topic of abortion.

This is by design. Tuesday, Jan. 22, marked the 40th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade, which guaranteed American women the legal right to choose. Despite the court’s ruling—or, some would say, because of it—there continues to be a heated debate between “pro-life” Americans who want to limit or ban abortion, and those who support its legality.

This is a raw, painful, emotional topic for those on both sides of the issue, especially at Catholic colleges across the country. We want to be clear that we are not trying to incite controversy by publishing this content—though especially at Catholic colleges across the country. We want to be clear that we are not trying to incite controversy by publishing this content—though we always welcome members of our community to join in the conversation.

Rather, we felt that—no matter which side of this deeply personal issue you fall on, it’s important to try to understand the experiences of those on the other side, to do what we can to bridge the divide between the two camps.

As a staff, we will not take a stance on Roe v. Wade or abortion rights, but we will say this: we believe that both sides are just trying to do what is best for the country and for society as a whole.

The philosophical chasm between the two camps is so great that it would be naive to ask for a truce. There is no way that the debate over the issue will be settled in the foreseeable future—no matter how many marches, elections, lawsuits, tears, attacks, broken families, strained friendships or even casual disagreements, the controversy will remain.

At the very least, we hope that one day there will be a feeling of mutual empathy between the opponents.

Please, recognize that we’re all just trying to do what we think is best for each other. You don’t have to agree with the activists or even listen to them, but you can recognize the patriotism in their attempts to do what they know to be right.

As we mark the 40th year since the legalization of such a tragic procedure, it begs the question: What have we gained since Roe v. Wade? President Obama commented that we lost “beautiful little kids” in the shootings who “had their entire lives ahead of them—birthdays, graduations, weddings, kids of their own.”

But if you think about it, how many of those over 50 million aborted children were denied the same opportunities? They, too, are children who will never have a birthday, a wedding, a chance to attend college like all of us.

While I wouldn’t ever want to detract from the awful sadness of the recent tragedy in Newtown, I can’t understand how the loss of the innocent lives of those children could ever carry a different weight than the loss of the innocent lives of aborted children.

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Anniversary of Roe v. Wade spark debate in Opinions section

Roe v. Wade was a monumental decision made by the Supreme Court on the issue of abortion. The case began when a pregnant single woman, designated as Roe, brought a class action lawsuit that challenged the constitutionality of Texas' criminal abortion laws. These laws made it illegal to obtain or attempt an abortion, except upon receiving medical advice to save the life of the mother.

The three other plaintiffs in the lawsuit included Hallford, a doctor who was facing prosecution for violating those state abortion laws, along with a married couple designated as the Does. The Does wanted to prohibit the enforcement of the abortion laws, under the warrant that they were unconstitutional.

The case began when a pregnant woman whose identity was protected under Roe v. Wade challenged the constitutionality of Texas' criminal abortion laws. The Supreme Court held that the decision must be left to the judgment of the woman's doctor. Although, states may promote their interests in the mother's health by regulating abortion procedures related to the health of the mother. States may even go as far as to promote their interests in the potentiality of human life by regulating or even prohibiting abortion, except when necessary to preserve the life or the health of the mother.

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One of the core principles of the Republican Party is that no human being should be considered property of any kind.

This can be traced back to the issue of slavery where Abraham Lincoln fought for freedom and stated that slavery was “a moral, a social, and a political wrong." Abortion could be considered as one of the main right-or-wrong issues of our time because it has been receiving increasing attention, and cannot be removed from controversy. It is purely a moral issue because it deals with life and death, the treatment of a human fetus as property of the mother, and the question of whether exactly it is considered OK to terminate the life of a human being.

Forty years ago, the Supreme Court made a decision based on the scientific knowledge of its time. The court effectively legalized abortion before the 20th week of pregnancy, which was when the fetus became viable. It allowed states to enact laws prohibiting abortion after viability, except in cases when abortion is necessary to preserve the life or health of the woman.

The debate around the right of the mother to choose in instances of rape, incest or her health and well-being is important, but it is a red herring to the central argument because in the United States the number of abortions due to rape, incest or life of the mother are fractional by any account or measurement.

The balance of the 54 million abortions in the United States since Roe v. Wade have been for other reasons. For the purpose of this argument, those are the abortions that will be discussed.

The real dilemma is, are we comfortable with taking a life?

As a career-driven woman with an interest in sex similar to any other human being, I’ve given a great deal of consideration to what implications a pregnancy would have on my current stage of life. I would like to say that if I were confronted with an unplanned pregnancy, an abortion would be my only choice.

However, this statement would be unfairly made since I can barely fathom the situation I would be in if I thought I needed one. A strong, partisan stance can seem straightforward when discussing one’s individual beliefs. If you believe abortion is murder, there isn’t much sway of opinion there. I do not mean to deem-power the many strong women who have religiously or ethically decided that abortion is not an option for them, regardless of how “legitimate” the case is. However, I believe that the various contexts at which abortions occur obscure a definite solution. It would be against my own code of ethics to prescribe an inflexible decision to a choice that entails a variety of unequal circumstances.

This conflict in moral decision-making exemplifies the stubborn debate, which creates a fundamental obstacle in the way we conceive a solution to the problem of abortion. As a firm believer in the woman’s choice, I still acknowledge that abortion is a problem that needs a solution. I see no end to the debate on life at conception or at birth. Therefore, having a religious debate around abortion is ineffective, inefficient and honestly, it has no place in a secular government.

To respect this topic’s diversity, legislation needs to be formed in light of a utilitarian perspective. Policy cannot be based solely on moral judgments, which are not normally supported by the greater population. Abortion policy needs to be focused towards challenging the context in which abortions occur rather than the moral will-power behind it.

It is statistically supported by data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP) in 2009 that abortions are largely the result of an unwanted pregnancy. Reasons women might not want pregnancies are not unclear. Socioeconomic struggles, coercive relationships, immaturity and fear are all valid reasons to wish not to have a child. Therefore, policy is more effective when focused on pregnancy prevention and child-support services.

Unfortunately assumptions about abortion are made based on ill-conceived notions. It is argued that legal abortions allow an acceptable “out” for the unwanted pregnancies of irresponsible teenagers. In actuality, only 15.5 percent of abortions recorded in the year 2009 came from an age group of 15 to 19 years old.

We are also misleading by the depiction of partial-birth abortions when in fact only 1.3 percent of 784,507 abortions occurring in 2009 took place after 21 weeks gestation and even less beyond (CDCP Data and Statistics on Abortion).

It is believed that illegalizing abortion will help stop it. However, the illegalization of practices in the past has never drastically decreased their occurrences. Realistically, the illegalization of abortion will just give rise to illegal abortion practices that could be unsafe to women. Outside forces such as the father or family can be coercive persuaders to the extent of even forcibly inducing the abortion themselves. Without access to safe abortion services, these instances would undoubtedly rise.

Women should not have to suffer from the uncertainty of safety. Until these assumptions are ended and stubborn arguments are ceased, the American government will be unable to minimize the negative impacts of abortion. By supporting women before and after pregnancy we are more effectively preventing the abortions than if they were banned.

Life matters

Women have the choice

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CONCETTA REDA
JUNIOR
POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Women’s Basketball

MACKAY’S ROLE GROWING IN BREAKOUT YEAR

Senior guard Samantha MacKay (14) drives toward the basket during a game against Florida Atlantic University, Dec. 8, 2012, at UD Arena.

MICKY SHUEY
Chief Sports Writer

Following a player camp she attended in the eighth-grade, University of Dayton women’s basketball senior guard Sam MacKay opened her first piece of mail from a college women’s basketball program.

It was a standard questionnaire sent to dozens of players just like her. Nine years later, MacKay plays point guard for the same man who sent that first questionnaire: UD head coach Jim Jabir.

“At the time, I didn’t think much of it,” MacKay said. “But looking back it’s pretty neat to think I am playing at [Dayton] now.”

Even more incredible, she said, are the relationship dynamics at play between Jabir and herself.

“He’s really hard on me,” she said. “I hear from him a lot whenever I mess up. This season I have a much bigger role. I think he is really the reason why I’m able to take it on.”

Jabir said he agrees.

“When she came in, she was a great player,” he said. “But she was very irresponsible with her ball handling. She would try to throw the fancy passes and turned it over all the time.”

Jabir saw MacKay’s high school career flourish at Dublin Coffman High School near Columbus, Ohio. Her ability to take over a game helped propel her team to the regional championship game in the state tournament her senior year.

The talent alone wasn’t enough, Jabir said.

He added, “She made bad decisions a lot in her first few years.”

MacKay finished her freshman season with 33 assists and 38 turnovers, which according to Jabir was, “totally unacceptable for a player with her talent.”

Despite a rough first year, MacKay said she looks back and remembers the milestones well she was part of — wins over nationally-ranked Michigan State University at home, at Purdue University and the program’s first NCAA tournament berth.

Those moments put a smile on her face.

“Beating DePaul [University] and Arizona State University this season were incredible, too,” she said. “I have seen so many great things happen, but to be able to be part of that and play a role in the game is so much more breathtaking.”

Even so, her success hasn’t come without some growing pains, especially when Jabir notices a problem first.

He said he spent the first three years of MacKay’s career screaming at her, and her resilience has been almost miraculous.

“I’ve been tougher on [Sam] than I’ve been on any other player I’ve had in my coaching career,” Jabir said. “She keeps coming back and now she’s becoming that player we need her to be.”

Following a 65-40 loss at Bowling Green State University on Dec. 30, 2012, the resilience Jabir spoke of was tested. The blemish ended a 12-game win streak for Dayton to open the season, and MacKay had one of her worst games statistically in scoring only eight points while producing three assists.

“Beating DePaul was, “totally unacceptable for a player with her talent.”

Both Jabir and Applewhite agree that MacKay has been integral in the success of the program since arriving on campus.

As of Wednesday, Jan. 23, she ranks and first in assists and steals per game and third in scoring for the Flyers this season, and is 37th in the nation in assists per game, according to NCAA.com.

But for MacKay, excelling has little to do with what she does, and more with how she does it.

She wants to finish out strong, even if it means getting screamed at a little bit more.

“One of the best things I remember as a recruit is when Jabir told me, ‘Good players and people come here, and good players and people excel here … the others don’t last.’” she said. “We all want to excel.”

MacKay was named team captain before the season began, along with her two senior teammates, forwards Brittney Wilson and Olivia Applewhite.

For Applewhite, seeing the way her teammate and head coach interact is remarkable.

“She gets her drive to succeed from Jabir, I think … as a player and as a person,” Applewhite said. “He doesn’t scream at her so much now, but he still makes it clear that she is a leader.”

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Flyers get first win of spring schedule over Valparaiso

TOM STANKARD
Staff Writer

The University of Dayton women’s tennis team concluded its four-match road trip to begin the spring season in Kalamazoo, Mich., on Sunday, Jan. 20, and Monday, Jan. 21.

Dayton competed against Valparaiso University on Sunday and host Western Michigan University on Monday.

Going into Sunday’s match against Valpo, head coach Ryan Meyer said the Flyers were feeling confident, and the team would sustain it on the court. The team ended up sweeping the competition 7-0.

Dayton sophomore Sammi Hornbarger beat Valpo junior Kristin Zakiewicz 6-0, 6-4 in No. 1 singles play, while UD freshman Carly Peck defeated Valpo sophomore Kaitlyn Hamel 6-3, 6-0 in the No. 2 match. UD junior Maureen Stevens also won in No. 3 singles versus Valpo sophomore Michele Fredlake 6-0, 6-1.

Dayton freshman Katie Boeckman, junior Erin Filbrandt and sophomore Victoria Marchant won their respective matches, while overcoming a combined 10 dropped games.

In doubles play, UD swept all three matches to take the point. Stevens and Peck teamed up to beat Zakiewicz and Fredlake 8-3. Hornbarger and Boeckman, as well as Filbrandt and sophomore Georgia Lammers teamed to win the other two matches.

Meyer said he was more than pleased with the team’s performance. “We played great,” Meyer said. “I was most impressed with the attitude we put in on the court, and were able to maintain that attitude in each match.”

Western Michigan proved to be too much to handle for Dayton on Monday, winning every match in defeating the Flyers 7-0.

Peck put up a fight in No. 2 singles against WMU junior Kathleen Hawkins. The freshman won the first set 6-4, but lost the following set 4-6, forcing a super-tiebreaker, which Hawkins won.

“Some good matches. Overall, it was a good team that was simply better than we were,” Meyer said. “They had a head coach that has been coaching there for a long time, now. Being new to UD, it’s going to take some time to get to that level.”

Hornbarger said she was pleased with her teammate’s performance this weekend. “We performed very well,” Hornbarger said. “We played some good teams out there, and played some good matches. Overall, it was a good start to the spring season.”

Meyer said he is looking forward to the team’s upcoming schedule and hopes for success as the spring season continues. “I have high hopes for the rest of the season,” Meyer said. “We’ve showed great strides and kept our heads high. I’m looking forward to the rest of the season, so we can make more strides in the right direction.”

Dayton’s next match is home against Robert Morris University at 5 p.m., hosted at the Five Seasons Sports Club.

Women’s Tennis

Discovery of CTE in living people could help football survive

Ray Lewis.

A third, maybe lesser talked about, but equally important headline, is now being dwarfed by the big game.

This is the discussion on concussions in the NFL, and the problems they cause to former players later in their lives. In the last few years, this problem has come to the forefront of the league, with many cases of former players committing suicide stemming from symptoms suffered from their playing days. Perhaps the most prominent example of this was former All-Pro linebacker Junior Seau who knew he was experiencing psychological effects from his playing days. Seau killed himself in May 2012, in which he shot himself in his chest so that his brain may be preserved for further scientific study.

On Jan. 10, it was revealed that Seau had a brain disease caused from repeated blows to the head called Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, or CTE. CTE can cause forgetfulness, depression, impulsivity and possibly even suicidal tendencies. Its effects on former players have caused thousands of them to sue the NFL because of the league’s supposed failure to protect them. Never officially being diagnosed with a concussion during his career, Seau did not sue the league before his death, but his family did so on almost two weeks after it.

Just days after it was announced that Seau had CTE, another report came out announcing that doctors found traces of CTE in still-living patients. Prior to this, CTE was only found in patients who had already passed away. This is a seemingly momentous discovery in the fight against these brain illnesses, as being able to detect CTE in living patients can possibly lead to cures for the disease.

Although this brings up the major question: How long will it be until people playing football say enough is enough?

Sure, this discovery may help solve the biggest problem football currently faces, but it may take years to completely eradicate the issue. How long will it take until players realize the risks of CTE outweigh the benefits of the league, and begin to pursue other opportunities?

While it may be 20, 30, or maybe even 40 years for people to realize playing football isn’t worth it, the game is currently on the dangerous track of being eliminated from culture, or at least go down severely in popularity. It has already been mentioned by many current players, such as New Orleans Saints’ quarterback Drew Brees, who do not want their kids playing because of the risks the game brings.

Eventually, there will come a time when young superstars realize that they can make a living that doesn’t involve running into each other at high speeds, all the while damaging their bodies and more importantly, their brains.

Believe it or not, there was once a time in which boxing was the most popular sport in the country. Spectators would spend hundreds of dollars to see legends such as Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier duke it out for the heavyweight title. Today, you would seldom find anyone who watches or follows boxing on a regular basis. At least not to the scale as the NFL, is on now.

While there may be many reasons for the decline of the sport, one of them has to be people realizing that boxing at its core was barbaric, and in a way illogical. A sport based around beating someone to a pulp was not worth the revenue it created, and thus it was replaced in the mainstream by other sports.

Now ask a fan of boxing back in the 50s, 60s or even 70s, and he would have probably said you’re crazy to think boxing will ever be out of the forefront of the sporting world. You will probably get the same reaction from a football fan in today’s world. It’s crazy to think that football could not be the most popular sport in the U.S., but it is currently headed that way unless it makes some major, fundamental changes.

While this new study is a major breakthrough to save this beloved sport, it is a far cry from where the game needs to be. There are still thousands of former players who struggle with life because of the injuries sustained from their playing days, and there are thousands more playing now that could have the same problems. While these problems may not have an effect on the game as we see it today, it may not be all that unrealistic to see the first Sunday of February just become another day in the future.
Men’s Basketball

DAYTON ROLLS IN LARGEST EVER A10 VICTORY

STEVEN WRIGHT
Sports Editor

Fordham University hit an opening three to take the first lead of the game, but it was all downhill from there for the Rams on Wednesday, Jan. 23, at UD Arena.

The University of Dayton men’s basketball team started the game hitting 18 of its first 23 shots from the floor and connected on 15-of-21 shots from three for the game en route to an overwhelming 96-51 win.

The win was Dayton’s largest margin of victory ever as a member of the Atlantic 10, eclipsing the previous record of 44 points in an 80-44 win on Jan. 12, 2002 against Duquesne University. It also was the team’s first conference win after dropping its first three contests.

“Important win for our team,” said head coach Archie Miller. “I just feel good for those guys. We’ve been through a lot this season and we’ve had a lot of guys contributing. When you hit any type of rough spot, it feels like the world’s coming to an end.”

Redshirt senior guard Kevin Dillard led Dayton with 22 points on the night on 8-of-14 shooting from the floor. He hit five of the six 3-pointers he attempted.

“I just got back to having fun tonight,” Dillard said. “I just blacked out all that extra stuff and went out there and played for my teammates.”

Redshirt junior guard Vee Sanford added 19 points on 7-of-12 shooting and redshirt sophomore forward Matt Derenbecker also had 11, hitting three of his four 3-point attempts.

Dayton (11-7, 1-3 A10) scored 29 points in the first 5:16 of the game before outscoring Fordham 33-13 for the remainder of the half.

“They’re a good defensive team and we just had it clicking tonight,” Dillard said.

Fordham (5-14, 1-3 A10) started the second half with none of its starting five taking the floor. Its second group outscored Dayton 13-4 over the first four minutes of the half, before Dayton regained control over the remainder of the game.

Fordham senior guard Chris Gaston, the team’s leading rebounder and second in scoring, did not make the trip to Dayton because of a knee injury.

After averaging more than 20 turnovers per game in A10 play, Dayton only gave the ball up eight times while forcing 19 from Fordham, scoring 29 points off turnovers.

Miller said it was one of the biggest keys of the game.

“Tonight we cleaned up some of things that were really hurting us,” he said. “We had two excellent guard plays tonight.”

And despite his team shooting over 70 percent from three, Miller said he still continues to preach defense first to his team.

“This deal for us is about defending, learning to play with one another, don’t turn the ball over and if you’re open, shoot it,” he said, noting that his team’s 24 assists on the night also seemed to be an overarching number, but was happy it happened.

Heading into its next game against Duquesne on Saturday, Jan. 26, at UD Arena, Dayton will have its final tune up before a trip to Cincinnati to face Xavier University.

Derenbecker said it’s good the team was able to get rid of the bad taste three conference losses gave them, but it can’t settle on what it did on Wednesday night.

“We can’t be beat satisfied with this one win,” Derenbecker said. “Any team in this conference can beat us on any given day but we can beat any...”