UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
Magazine
SPRING 2015

ROWING MACHINE
FORGIVE-ME-NOTS
PINTS OF PRIDE
No lounging around: Education majors study on the renovated sixth floor of Fitz Hall.

Photo by Larry Burgess
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### ON THE COVER

Senior Pete Ogonek at the Vesper Boat Club in Philadelphia, where he’s training like an Olympian. Read more Page 30. Photo by Dave Moser ’90
COMMENTARY BY DANIEL J. CURRAN
PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

At home in China

When I step down as president in June 2016, I plan to spend part of my time teaching students at the
University of Dayton China Institute because I believe our graduates need an international perspective.
They need to excel in their chosen professions — and develop the cultural skills necessary to collaborate
in the workplace locally and globally.

That’s why I was so moved by the words of junior chemical engineering major David Borth at a January
announcement of Fuyao Glass America Inc.’s $7 million gift. We will use the company’s generous donation to
purchase the building that houses the China Institute in Suzhou, China (see story, Page 8).

“When employers hear that you have been to China, they are intrigued and want to know all
about it,” David told the audience of state legislators and community leaders. “It speaks to what kind of
person you are — that you are not just willing to go outside of your comfort zone but are willing to go
very far outside that comfort zone. Employers know that you are willing to challenge yourself.”

The value of Fuyao’s gift is priceless for countless University of Dayton students. When students study
abroad, it changes their lives. It prepares them to live and work in a borderless world.

The China Institute — slightly larger than Miriam Hall on campus — sits 7,000 miles away,
but it’s become a home away from home to all those who study and conduct research there.

Our students are gaining invaluable experience conducting hands-on projects with such partner
companies as Emerson Climate Technologies, GE Aviation, Johnson & Johnson Medical and Lilly
Pharmaceutical.

Fuyao’s gift is both visionary and bold. With a presence here in Dayton and on the other side of
the world in China, this company knows the power of intercultural partnerships. Just a few miles
from campus, Fuyao is undergoing a $250 million renovation of a former General Motors assembly plant for a
large automotive glass manufacturing facility. I’ve had the privilege of visiting Fuyao’s headquarters in
Fujian Province in China twice, and it’s an impressive operation.

As a Marianist university, we believe building community begins with building relationships, one at a
time. We’re discovering that’s a mission that resonates in every corner of the globe.

In December, I traveled to China to join the U.S. ambassador to China as we dedicated the new American
Cultural Center at the China Institute. It is one of only 20 such centers funded by the U.S. Department of State
in China — and the first to be established outside the campus of a Chinese university. That speaks volumes
about our reputation for building bridges.

When making the gift announcement, Fuyao Glass Group Chairman Dewang Cao said the China Institute
“has the potential to become a center of international goodwill.”

For our students, globalization is not part of the future. It’s right now.
And it’s quickly becoming part of their comfort zone.
LETTERS

My year in Malawi taught me lessons about life I wasn’t aware I needed to learn. —Carly Hensley ’11

THOSE WHO FOUGHT

I was very glad to see the profile on Floyd Norman [“Honorable Service,” UDQuickly, Nov. 11, 2014]. Reading such bios brings me over the chasm of time to be closer to my dad who was in WWII also — in the Pacific theater. I lost my dad right after my freshman year (June ’66), and every Veterans Day especially (and Memorial Day as well) I feel the loss a little harder. Thank goodness my father talked to me about the war and his service as well as teaching me in-depth about all America’s wars and those who fought them. It was a great legacy that has given my husband’s experience in Vietnam fought them. It was a great legacy that has given my husband’s experience in Vietnam more depth and compassion. Thank you for the profile.

VIOLA JEANE HEIMBERGER CANDIDO ’69
POSTED TO UDQUICKLY.UDAYTON.EDU

DOING ‘WITH’

I consult with the United Methodist Church in their effort to retool their denomination’s process of “helping” the majority world. They call their initiative In Mission Together (IMT). This article [“Pachoko, Pachoko,” Winter 2014-15] was spot on, and I will share it with the IMT person overseeing work in Malawi. Moving toward doing “with” instead of doing “to” or “for” is a slow, arduous task. I applaud UD’s direction.

Perhaps we may encourage and learn from each other.

DAVID PHIPPS ’83
ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

MEANING OF MALAWI

As a UD alumna and volunteer with Matt Maroon’s nonprofit, Determined to Develop (D2D), I have witnessed firsthand just how far UD’s efforts in Malawi can reach. In the year I spent volunteering in the Chilumba region, I saw Maroon and D2D volunteers change countless lives. With projects supporting education, orphan care, women’s empowerment, health and the environment, Determined to Develop brings donor efforts to Malawians in a sustainable and community-driven platform. The sense of community that lives within all UD students and alumni is mirrored in the smiling faces and helping hands of the people of Malawi. I have never met more accepting, grateful and innovative individuals. My year in Malawi taught me lessons about life I wasn’t aware I needed to learn. When the University provides opportunities for research and development in Malawi, it is giving students the opportunity of a lifetime. The practicum research will affect the lives of people that many of us will never meet. The Marianist model is being lived and breathed by Maroon, and this thing he created will continue to do God’s work. If any students or alumni are interested in sponsoring students, funding projects or even donating their time in Malawi, I urge them to consider the call. Please visit D2D’s website, determinedtodevelop.org.

CARLY HENSLEY ’11
DAYTON, OHIO
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BIG IMPACT

I was very happy to read that UD students are actively participating in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program [“From Little to Big,” Winter 2014-15]. Last year, I completed a lengthy research project while finishing my master’s degree in education at George Mason University about the effects of mentoring on at-risk youth. By actively replicating and extending the research of
many others, I found overwhelming evidence that mentoring seems to be one possible solution to helping at-risk youth overcome adversity in order to become successful adults. One staggering and interesting fact I learned was that at-risk youth were 70 percent less likely to initiate drug use than at-risk youth who were not mentored. The same patterns were found with the use of alcohol across all at-risk youth demographic groups.

As I was completing my research, I couldn’t help thinking about all those who made an enormous, positive impact upon my own life while growing up. I remembered kind and loving teachers and coaches, my older brothers and sisters, and even my Alpha Nu Omega fraternity brothers, as well as mentors in the ROTC program at the University of Dayton. I had no way of knowing then how much of a difference a mentor would make in my life, but now I fully understand what they did for me.

I am currently employed as a special education teacher in an alternative high school in...
Alexandria, Virginia, and I mentor several kids throughout the year. Every day I see the negative effects of poverty on broken, dysfunctional families, but I know that mentoring can make a significant difference in reducing negative behavior in at-risk youth.

Father Burns, S.M., was asked the question in the “Ask a Marianist” section of the same issue, “What was the most rewarding thing about being a community member of UD?” His reply, “As a vowed Marianist I hoped to answer Chaminade’s vision by a belongingness, a relationship.” I think that’s exactly what the Big Brothers Big Sisters program does for not only their mentees but also for the UD student mentors. It warms my heart to see UD students practicing the Marianist tradition by participating in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

JERRY WALSH ’87
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to the Dayton Flyer basketball team of 2013-14 for making it to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tournament. Reading the magazine [Summer 2014] brought back many nostalgic memories.

The Dayton Flyers had many great teams, including Roosevelt Chapman’s 1984 team. Let’s not forget Donnie May’s teams that made it to the 1967 title game with UCLA, which had Abdul-Jabbar as the center and a few All-Americans, or Dayton’s 1968 team that won the 1968 NIT Championship.

Then there was the Flyer team in 1974 that lost to Bill Walton’s UCLA in triple overtime 111-110 in the west regional of the NCAA tournament.

In my opinion, Tom Blackburn’s 1962 NIT championship was probably the best Flyer team ever. The team had Gordie and Tommy Hatton at the guards, Garry Roggenburk and Hal Schoen at the forwards, and Bill Chmielewski at center. In 1962, the Dayton Flyers defeated an excellent St. John’s team. Additionally, Hall-of-Famer Roger Brown from the Indiana Pacers was on the 1961 freshman team.

In my opinion again, the 1962 Dayton Flyer team would have won the NCAA championship, but they would have had to beat either Ohio State or Cincinnati. That would have been a great match-up.

I look forward to the 2014-15 Dayton Flyer basketball season with high hopes for another successful season.

JOSEPH RICCIARDI ’63
YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, NEW YORK

COACH TOM BLACKBURN

Tom Blackburn and the teams he built put the University of Dayton on the map.

Any boy growing up in the ’50s knew that Dayton was one of the top-rated basketball teams in the nation year after year. And year after year they were in the National Invitation finals and, just like my beloved Dodgers, they always seemed to make the finals but not win the championship.

There is little chance this kid from Brooklyn, and so many other East Coast kids, would have chosen Dayton over St. John’s or Providence or Seton Hall if they didn’t believe they were entering the excitement and prestige of a nationally recognized Catholic co-ed university.

Let me reinforce the impact of coach Blackburn by asking a trivia question: What Division I basketball team had the most wins during the ‘50s and ‘60s — Kentucky, UCLA or Dayton?

Answer: The little school in Ohio.

Results: The University of Dayton Flyers had 435 wins during the 1950s and 60s (228 and 207 wins, respectively). UCLA had 427, and Kentucky had 421.

Coach Blackburn should be memorialized in some significant way by the University of Dayton.

DON FISK ’61
HENDERSON, NEVADA
NEVADAROADRUNNER@MAC.COM

RUDY’S EXTENDED FAMILY

What a great way to stimulate memories and conversations for everyone who has made UD a part of their lives. The “Truth or Tale” feature [Winter 2014-15] had several interesting pieces that made me and others reflect on memories that we may have been a part of while at UD. The piece by CC Hutten ’15 on the origins of Rudy the Flyer (“Original Rudy M.I.A.”) are very interesting, to say the least. I hope my own memories can shed some more light on Rudy’s origin. Albeit taken for granted that the Wright brothers are a common and justified beginning for the mascot’s image, a couple of us may have been the model for the current “barnstorming pilot” mascot Rudy. During the late 1970s, a very old leather and wool bomber jacket and leather cap, complete with goggles, was discovered in the coat closet at 224 Kiefaber St. At the time, this was the Alpha Nu Omega fraternity house. One William A. “Buddy” Mills ’78 started wearing the outfit to the basketball games off and on. Upon his graduation, the outfit was passed on to Tom “Rudney” Golias ’81 who wore it religiously to every home game. When Rudy made his appearance in December 1980, I continued to don the outfit for every game through the 1980-81 season. We don’t know where the original outfit came from or what has happened to it since. We just know it was perfectly suited for Flyer games. While I wasn’t selected to actually wear the Rudy costume for games, I was nonetheless proud to have supported the UD Flyers, as I still do. Go Dayton Flyers!

THOMAS M. GOLIAS ’81
HURON, OHIO

________________________________________

Clarification: In “Star Reader” [Page 10, Winter 2014-15], we wrote that one student receives a cash prize for the winning essay in the journal Line by Line. In fact, there are three winners from student work completed for first- and second-year composition courses. The winners each receive a scholarship of $100 or $200.

Have thoughts about what you read this issue?

PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:
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Please include your city and state. Indicate whether you wish your email address printed. Letters should not exceed 400 words. University of Dayton Magazine may edit for clarity and brevity. Not all letters received are printed due to space. Opinions expressed are those of the letter writers and not necessarily of this publication nor the University of Dayton.
Love to help
#BEUDKIND

We love that so many of our students broke up — with their T-shirts. During four collection days in February, students donated 1,200 gently used and new shirts in exchange for a new #iloveud T-shirt. The donated shirts went to St. Vincent DePaul to help clothe our Dayton neighbors in need. During other #BeUDKind service opportunities, faculty and staff filled 86 backpacks with supplies for the homeless, students gave supplies for the Urban Child Development Resource Center, and Flyer basketball fans donated 300 towels and sheets to a local homeless shelter.

The calling
UDAYTON.EDU/LIBRARIES

If we didn’t ask, we wouldn’t know: Sister Mary Louise Foley, F.M.I., enjoys playing Rummikub — and winning; Father François Rossier, S.M., loves rock ‘n’ roll, especially Led Zeppelin. The Year of Consecrated Life, decreed by Pope Francis, led University Libraries to ask and record videos of campus religious talking about themselves, their calling and community. The videos are part of the exhibit Charism, Character and Calling, on display through March. The exhibit includes crowns of thorns worn by sisters in some orders during special ceremonies, photographs from consecrated men and women throughout history, and more, all celebrating how answering the call influenced their lives — and ours.

Know the law
U.S. COP APP

As a police officer and School of Law student, Mark Albrechtsen recognized the knowledge gaps officers had regarding case law and its practical application on the beat. “There’s a huge disconnect between civil rights and law enforcement,” he says. The app he created, U.S. Cop, helps to lessen that disconnect, offering more than 1,200 pages of information of cases on record across the country to help officers avoid liability and protect individuals’ civil rights. It’s now the No. 1-selling law enforcement app on Apple and Google Play.

“Our biggest challenge at UD is that people don’t want to leave; I can see some seniors nodding their heads right now.”
—DANIEL J. CURRAN ANSWERING STUDENT QUESTIONS DURING DIALOGUE WITH THE PRESIDENT FEB. 11

“It’s part of our ‘pay-it-forward’ mindset.”
—JASON ECKERT OF CAREER SERVICES ON THE UD CAREER FAIR: ALUMNI ALWAYS WELCOME

“I learned that solidarity is love, and experiencing their struggle made me realize how interconnected we are.”
—JUNIOR SAM BRICKWEG ABOUT THE WINTER BREAKOUT TRIP TO EL SALVADOR

“So many people have reached out to me this week to tell me that they love me. I challenge all of you to remind your loved ones how much you love them, every day.”
—SENIOR KAYLA MUeller, IN FLYER NEWS, AFTER A HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST WITH THE SAME NAME WAS KILLED BY ISIS
If you build it, they will eat — cream of tomato soup or the El Guapo sandwich with ham, chicken, pepper jack cheese and hot sauce. The Brown Street Bistro is now open on the fifth floor of Fitz Hall. The building across Brown Street from Holy Angels Church is home to many academic departments, including art and design and music, and the entire School of Education and Health Sciences. More than 2,500 students take classes in Fitz Hall each week. UD dining services operates the bistro five days a week. Said junior graphic design major Alexa Indriolo, “Because it’s open so early, I plan to go in the mornings before class as often as I can.”

CONVERSATION PIECES

Add it up
3D PRINTING

Success breeds success. In 2013, UD received a $423,326 grant from the Ohio Board of Regents, which it used to create 48 new co-op positions to benefit both students and small companies. Then in 2014, UD received its second Ohio Means Internships and Co-ops grant — $800,000. Funds supported a capstone class project and the purchase of a Stratasys Fortus 360mc 3D printer. Two students — one from UD, one from Sinclair Community College — are using the technology to manufacture parts for student and faculty research projects. And they plan to add to their success by working with business students to create a student-run additive manufacturing business.

Make room
DAYTON MARRIOTT

It is a home to families during graduation, alumni attending Reunion Weekend and visitors throughout the year. Now the Dayton Marriott Hotel is officially part of UD, purchased in December for $18.5 million in conjunction with Concord Hospitality, which will operate the full-service hotel. With 399 guest rooms, it is the largest hotel in the region and sits on the west edge of campus. The investment purchase includes plans for upgrades to guest rooms; reconfiguration of the lobby and restaurant space into a Marriott great room; and renovations to the ballroom, meeting rooms and fitness center. And while the upgrades are sure to make it more popular, don’t delay — rooms are already filling up for the June 12-14 reunion.

Food for thought
BROWN STREET BISTRO

“If Paul was not afraid to point out injustices in the American system and in institutions where he served. But he always did it with calmness as if coming from a warm and loving heart.”
—BROTHER JOSEPH KAMIS, S.M. ’69, REMEMBERING FATHER PAUL MARSHALL, S.M. ’69

“Being nervous means you’re feeling something ... it means you’re loving what you do. Whatever it is that you are doing, trust in your work.”
—HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL STAR CORBIN BLEU, WHO VISITED CAMPUS FEB. 2

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CONVERSATION PIECES
$7M gift of global goodwill

“Young ambassadors” — that’s what economic representatives from the U.S. Embassy in Beijing called UD students when they met at the University of Dayton China Institute Jan. 21.

The 30 students are the first cohort to take at the institute in Suzhou, China, a semester’s worth of courses in arts, business, engineering, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. UD students study there at no additional cost relative to a semester on campus.

More such opportunities will be possible for UD students thanks to a $7 million gift from Fuyao Glass America Inc. The announcement was made Jan. 9 in an on-campus ceremony, just a few miles from where Fuyao is transforming a former General Motors assembly plant into a $250 million automotive glass manufacturing facility.

The gift will go toward purchase of the five-story, 68,000-square-foot building housing the China Institute, which opened in 2012 in the Suzhou Industrial Park.

Fuyao Glass Group Chairman Dewang Cao, who founded the company in 1987, said education and fostering understanding are top priorities for him.

“The ultimate goal of our endeavors is to achieve harmony among people,” Cao said. “The University of Dayton China Institute has the potential to become a center of international goodwill, where people from all over the world come to learn and work together.

“That is important and valuable work, and we would like to play a part in making it happen.”

Fuyao Glass America Inc. will collaborate with the University of Dayton and the China Institute in the areas of research and development, technology, and management, developing new technology and improving management effectiveness, said President Daniel J. Curran.

“We are immensely grateful to Chairman Cao and pleased to enter into this relationship, which solidifies the University of Dayton’s presence in China and our growing international reputation,” he said. “With this gift, we can continue to expand our academic, research and development, and innovation programs.

“Looking into the future, this gift will benefit generations of UD students, offering them an unparalleled, affordable international experience. It will also benefit students in China, giving them access to a first-rate American university where they can develop an international perspective.”

The China Institute also offers professional training courses in communications, engineering, project and business management, technology, and technical English to Chinese professionals in the industrial park and the Suzhou area.
Presidential search firm, committee named

What are the markers of success?
That’s the question the national executive search firm of Isaacson, Miller is asking the greater UD community.

“When you start a presidential search, you’re looking to the future,” Vivian Brocard, vice president of the Boston-based firm, told the trustees and presidential search committee at the winter board meeting Jan. 14. “You’ve had a wonderful run with President Curran. The next president will be able to build on that foundation.”

Daniel J. Curran will step down as president in June 2016 after a 14-year tenure.

The firm came to campus March 3 to 5 to hear from students, faculty and staff. Alumni are invited to share their comments on the markers of success of UD’s 19th president through the presidential search website, go.udayton.edu/presidentialsearch.

Brocard said the firm will be searching for “creative and innovative leaders” with a track record for addressing demographic and financial challenges and the ability “to imagine” the future.

Fitz honored

“Like Mary, he has made a fundamental contribution to society by simply saying ‘yes’ to what has been asked of him.”

That’s what the president of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities said about Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M. ’64, before awarding Fitz the prestigious Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC, Award for outstanding contributions to Catholic higher education.

“Brother Ray’s contributions to Catholic higher education are both local and global,” continued Michael Galligan-Stierle, president of the ACCU.

“He lent his insights to the Vatican as a U.S. consultant during the drafting of Ex corde Ecclesiae; he informed the writing of the Application of Ex corde Ecclesiae in the United States; and he has significantly transformed the University of Dayton.”

Fitz, UD’s longest-serving president from 1979 to 2002, received the award Jan. 31 in Washington, D.C.

Romero Award for Vatican human rights champion

A cardinal who leads one of the world’s top humanitarian organizations received from UD an award named for the man who served as inspiration for poor around the world.

The University honored Cardinal Oscar Andrés Rodríguez Maradiaga of Honduras with the Archbishop Oscar Romero Human Rights Award March 10. Rodríguez Maradiaga is president of Caritas Internationalis, a Vatican-based umbrella organization for 180 charity organizations working on six continents. In 2013, Pope Francis appointed him coordinator of the Council of Cardinals for the Study of the Organizational and Economic Problems of the Holy See. He also has served as the Vatican’s spokesperson to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on the issue of Third World debt.

“Thank you to the University of Dayton for this great honor,” Rodríguez Maradiaga said. “Oscar Romero was slain 35 years ago while officiating Mass because of his vocal defense of the human rights of the poor and disenfranchised. The award is presented to an individual or organization that has earned distinction for the promotion of the dignity of all human beings and alleviation of the suffering of the human community.

Pope Francis officially designated Romero a martyr earlier this year. Beatification of Romero, the last step before sainthood, is expected later this year.

“We are honoring Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga for his lifetime of human rights advocacy, and especially the way he continues to challenge leaders of prosperous nations to increase aid to poor countries,” said Mark Ensalaco, director of human rights research in the University of Dayton Human Rights Center and creator of the award. “Both Pope Benedict and Pope Francis hold Caritas Internationalis’ work in high regard for its ability to respond to the needs of the poor. Pope Francis has called it ‘an essential part of the church.’”
**Setting the groove**

Jazz music is a language — a syncopated, improvised, purely American language. Sit down with senior music major Kieran Grace, and his bass will speak you a few bars.

“Being a good musician is being able to learn the language, to be put on the spot and to be fluent,” Grace says. He plays bass — electric or upright — in almost every possible musical corner of UD. But if the bass is off beat, the whole song is off.

“Think of it this way: If a song was a house, rhythm is the foundation,” says senior electrical engineering major Matt Sprague, who plays piano alongside Grace in the Dayton Jazz Ensemble and the student alternative-rock band NineTies.

“[Bass] sets the tone for everything else. It’s the walls, the roof. If there’s no foundation, the house collapses. The horns are the brick, the covered gutters, the freshly mowed lawn, the two-car garage. If the gutters leak, if the wallpaper is off-color — of course, the house loses value,” Sprague says. “But if the foundation collapses? You don’t have a house anymore.”

Grace has been building this house, year by year, with the help of music professor Willie Morris, who created a jazz studies concentration at the University of Dayton in 2011 — the same year Grace made the decision to attend UD. In May, Grace will become the first to graduate from the program.

And though the pressure is hot, bassists keep cool. It’s in their nature — specifically Grace’s, as he lets his instrument do the talking on stage.

“I’m pretty shy until you get to know me, but I’ll open up,” says Grace, who can barely hide his 6-foot-3-inch frame behind his upright, which stands only an inch taller. “[UD] taught me professionalism in that aspect; you never know who you’ll run into or who’s listening.”

A lot more people will get the chance to listen, as Grace graduates and gets to set the groove of a jazz professional.

—CC Hutten ’15

**But who’s counting?**

How the death penalty lives

In the most recent edition of *Studies in Law, Politics and Society*, assistant professor of sociology Jamie Longazel and his co-authors analyze why, despite a tremendous decline in the use of the death penalty in the United States, a few locales continue to pursue death sentences. Only 16 percent of U.S. counties account for about 90 percent of all death verdicts.

“Capital punishment operates in a field of violently defended racial boundaries,” said Longazel, who with his colleagues analyze Maricopa County, Arizona, one of the most active death penalty locales in the contemporary United States. They describe how various local actors contribute to a climate characterized by deeply rooted fears of racial ‘outsiders.’ These “racist localisms” are catalysts for the continued implementation of the death penalty in the United States, they write: “At a moment when the death penalty continues to breathe life in just a few places, it is essential to uncover an ever more in-depth understanding of what allows this peculiar institution to persist.”
Lackner Awards

There were tears of laughter and admiration at the 2015 Lackner Awards Feb. 13, when Marianists and guests gathered to honor two full-time lay faculty or staff who have made noteworthy contributions to the Catholic and Marianist character of the University. The award, first bestowed in 1985, is named for Brother Elmer Lackner, S.M., whose influence permeated nearly all areas of University life. These are excerpts from the citations presented by Father James Fitz ’68, vice president for mission and rector.

Dr. Thomas Lasley

For his commitment to the education of youth with a predilection for the most disadvantaged

In the Rule of Life of the Society of Mary, it states that “education is a privileged means of formation in faith.” In the educational apostolate, our founder, Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, had a special predilection for youth and the poor. Dr. Thomas Lasley has witnessed to this deeply held Marianist conviction about education, especially for youth and the poor.

Tom began his career at the University in 1983 and serves now as professor in the School of Education and Health Sciences. He served as dean of the school from 1998 to 2010. During his tenure as dean, Tom promoted the linking of learning and scholarship with leadership and service among students, especially undergraduate students. Following the model set forth by our Marianist founders, Tom has consistently committed energy and resources to the educationally marginalized in the community. Tom has been especially committed to the improvement of pre-college education. He played a leading role in the foundation of the Dayton Early College Academy, a program committed to helping at-risk students achieve unbelievable goals, and was instrumental in setting up the Center for Catholic Education, including two of its outstanding programs: Lalanne and the Urban Child Development Resource Center.

One of Tom’s colleagues described him this way: “Tom’s passion for success of students whose families are without material and psycho-social resources to provide a pathway to post-secondary education is evident in the leadership he provides in the greater Dayton community as well as at the state and national levels.”

Teri Rizvi

For her deeply humble and honest service

In our Catholic tradition, we celebrate the Word become flesh; Mary, the mother of Jesus, saying “yes” to the incarnation of Jesus Christ, Son of God, become Son of Mary for our salvation. Teri Rizvi has spent her years at the University of Dayton incarnating the word. She has served as executive director of strategic communications since October 2013. Previously, she led communications efforts for the University of Dayton for nearly 25 years, the longest tenure for a communications director. She began her UD career as director of media relations in 1987. The media field demands much of one’s time, energy and patience. It takes a rare person who can accomplish this with ease, grace and beauty.

Under Teri’s leadership, the Office of University Communications has demonstrated an outstanding ability to capture the many faces of UD. Collaborating with partners across campus and beyond, Teri utilizes her skills as a listener, a bridge-builder and an innovative thinker. In imitation of Mary, the mother of Jesus, Teri is in the forefront of the background, observing, nurturing and enabling others to be the best they can be.

In 2000, she founded the biennial Erma Bombeck Writers’ Workshop. Teri’s commitment to capturing beauty, values and ideas in the written word has inspired many people through this workshop.

During her tenure, the University’s national visibility and reputation increased as communications expanded through print, electronic, online and social media. Her efforts have exemplified Blessed Chaminade’s vision and Marie Thérèse’s skills of organization with a personal touch.
Community engagement is our way of life.

Now the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has confirmed it. It selected UD for its 2015 Community Engagement Classification for long-standing commitment through teaching, service, research and partnerships.

The University is one of 361 institutions nationwide that earned the classification this year. Unlike the foundation’s other classifications that rely on national data, institutions participated voluntarily by submitting materials describing the nature and extent of their community engagement.

“Active engagement in the local community is a central part of the Marianist tradition and integral to the University’s mission and identity,” said President Daniel J. Curran. “We are honored with this designation, which is an affirmation of our long-term efforts to put into action the Marianist spirit of social justice, peace and commitment to community.”

The designation is indicative of a university’s deep engagement with local, regional, national and global communities, according to John Saltmarsh, director of the New England Resource Center for Higher Education. “These are campuses that are improving teaching and learning, producing research that makes a difference in communities, and revitalizing their civic and academic missions.”

UD’s engagement includes PK-12 neighborhood schools, environmental sustainability advocacy and remediation, community and economic development, arts and cultural programming, service learning, civic leadership, research in areas such as human rights and neighborhood stabilization, and other activities.

“The University of Dayton has a long and very rich tradition of community involvement on many different levels ranging from human services to economic development,” said Michael Parks, president of The Dayton Foundation. “This engagement is a very real embodiment of the Marianist teachings, and we are so fortunate to have UD in our community.”

Curran praised students, faculty and staff for their sustained engagement and advocacy.

“I’m proud of their service, and especially grateful to our students, who approach community engagement with great passion, commitment and ingenuity, and bring the Marianist spirit to life each and every year,” he said.

Reconciled, on stage

Faith and reason are not just for the classroom or the chapel.

This winter, they took to the stage in the performance installation (ir)reconcilable: faith and reason in UD’s Black Box Theatre.

The creative process included six story circles, during which faculty and students shared stories in response to questions and listened to the stories of others. Participants described the “ineffable” in their lives — something that is virtually indescribable. They spoke of relationships with family, with themselves and with higher powers they believe in.

Michelle Hayford, director of the theater program, used their responses to visualize scenes, then worked with other artists to create songs, dances, puppetry and recitations of narratives. Among those performing were two students, sophomore theater major Ohana Garcia-Isgut and first-year theater and psychology major Alexandra Damiani.

Four themes connected the scenes: journeys of intellect and spirit; the enduring nature of love — even after death; relationships between parents and children; and spiritual connections made through nature. Between scenes, the audience visited four rooms with interactive experiences based around the elements of earth, water, air and fire. For example, the fire room described the danger of knowledge and how individuals could be forced into ideas of religion or other ways of life.

“Many story circle participants remarked on what an unusual and touching experience it was to hear people answer questions that wouldn’t normally come up between strangers,” Hayford said. “The play really serves as a site for people to reflect on values of the community, their own values and to connect with other people.”

—Erin Callahan ’18
Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M. ’64, former president and current Ferree Professor of Social Justice, answers questions from college presidents (Pestello of Saint Louis, Ploeger of Chaminade and Curran of Dayton), fellow Marianists (one being his brother) and a grad (Keneally) whose career includes being UD student government vice president 1989-90 as well as the 42nd premier of New South Wales, Australia. Read more answers from Brother Fitz at bit.ly/UD_RFitz.

How did your sense of mission guide you during your tenure as president of UD?
—FATHER MARTY SOLMA, S.M. ’71 ST. LOUIS
I was attracted to the Marianists by their mission of educating leaders. In conversations over the years we developed the phrase “learn, lead and serve,” as shorthand for our mission. I sought to get our UD community excited about educating servant-leaders who integrate knowledge to advance justice in our society.

How has your work with the Fitz Center influenced your thought on what makes a “complete” professional?
—BROTHER BERNARD J. PLOEGER, S.M. ’71 HONOLULU
I have used the phrase “complete professional” to describe a person with competence in a discipline or professional field, a deep understanding of what it means to be human, and the ability to engage in positive change in society. In recent years we talked about this as “educating for practical wisdom.” I have come to believe that a complete professional must learn to see injustice and work to advance justice, especially in collaboration with those at the margins of society.

What has been the most challenging aspect of leadership for you?
—FRED PESTELLO ST. LOUIS
It has been to engage people in constructive conversations that moved us toward greater realization of our mission as Catholic and Marianist. That requires creating opportunities for all to appreciate how our mission was meaningful to our tasks of learning and scholarship. It also requires the skills of listening, of formulating our ideas so others could understand them, and of having the courage to engage different, even conflicting, perspectives to forge a constructive consensus. That was the most challenging — and most fulfilling — aspect of leadership.

What’s it like to be a former president?
—DAN CURRAN DAYTON
That will be the second-best job you will ever have. As president, I was blessed with an ability to develop consensus around important issues. I used this ability to engage some faculty in exploring the important role of Catholic social teaching in our curriculum and in challenging our community to be concerned about the youth and our families in our high-poverty neighborhoods. Also, when asked, lend your wisdom to the new president. Expect to work about as hard as you are now; you will just have fewer issues to keep you up at night.

Many students vote in an election for the first time when they are at the University. What advice would you give them?
—KRISTINA KERSCHER KENEALLY ’91 SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
In working with students, I have been guided by the statement of the American Bishops and Vatican Council’s document Church in the Modern World. As citizens, we have a responsibility to participate thoughtfully in elections and in public life. In the Catholic tradition this participation must be guided by a well-informed and critical conscience. In my own experience and in conversations with students, the options we have in voting are never clear-cut. Each candidate has some strengths and some deficits in promoting the common good. Politics is the art of the possible. I ask students to examine the candidate’s positions on a variety of critical life issues, abortion, poverty reduction, war and peace, etc. and then make a prudential judgment of which candidate has the greater possibility of promoting the common good.

What did you learn from your family that has helped you in your ministry?
—FATHER JAMES FITZ, S.M. ’68 DAYTON
From Dad, I learned “to keep promises and to be resilient.” From Mom, I learned “to see with my heart.” Both of them have shaped my work of advancing justice. There is a picture of Mom and Dad on the wall in front of my desk reminding me to keep faithful to their lessons.
Bringing home to home

Meet the Bukovec siblings from Mentor, Ohio, as they sit laughing and chatting in the Hangar. It’s their first year — and last year — to do so together, three siblings all at UD.

Karly, the first to venture to UD, is a senior studying marketing and visual arts. Next is Colin, a sophomore and newly declared finance major. The youngest is Morgan, a first-year student in early childhood education. Turns out, having an older sibling at UD is good for more than recommendations on classes, professors or the “monster cookie” at Marycrest dining hall.

When Colin or Morgan crave a home-cooked meal, they run over to Karly’s place on Lowes Street. Lucky for Morgan, Karly’s cooking was there when she ran out of money on her meal plan. “A rookie mistake,” Colin teased.

Some of their family traditions carry into college, like celebrating birthdays.

A rolling (gem) stone

In the last 50 years, Edward Evans’ UD class ring managed to travel 2,900 miles without him. How? He has no idea, but he has it back, thanks to the kindness of a stranger.

Before this winter, the last time he had seen his ring was in the mid-’60s. He sold siding and roofing for Montgomery Ward in Valley Stream on Long Island, New York, where he took off the ring to wash his hands. He went back for it later, but the ring was gone.

Fast forward to this January, when Gina Zappariello-Illescas wrote to UD. She wanted to return a class ring with a green stone and engraved “Edward R. Evans.” She found it in a box while cleaning out her deceased mother-in-law’s garage. “She has no connection to the school, and no one remembers a Mr. Evans,” she wrote.

It took some hunting to find Evans, who came to UD in 1958 but left after two years to join the Army. While at the Army Pictorial Center in New York, Evans learned the film trade. His career in television took him around the world, from the 1972 Winter Olympics in Sapporo, Japan, to the D.C. inauguration of George H.W. Bush. He received awards for his coverage of California wildfires and the riots after the Rodney King beating.

Evans now lives in Oxnard, California. The ring — in the box, in the garage — was found five hours north in San Francisco.

“My guess is that someone took it and wore it as their own,” said Zappariello-Illescas, who called Evans to give him the good news. She was happy to mail it to its rightful owner; he was overjoyed to receive it.

“It looks like it’s been worn, not by me; it was almost new when I lost it,” Evans said. “I’ll wear it for a while, look at it, get used to it and tell people about it.”

Even though he and she were unable to decipher the ring’s mysterious road from one coast to the other, it’s still a great story to tell.

—Michelle Tedford

In Memoriam

Bette Rogge Morse ’44 covered the Apollo 14 moon landing, conducted a special televised half-hour tour of the White House during the Johnson administration and interviewed celebrities from Lucille Ball and Bob Hope to William Shatner and Liberace. Morse died Jan. 20. She was 92.

Her 40-year radio and television career included The Bette Rogge Show on WHIO-TV in Dayton. She donated her collection of shows, plus other materials, to the UD archives in 2002.

Morse was a long-time advocate for UD. She served on the board of trustees, was a communication professor, and with her husband, Wayne Morris Sr., supported scholarships in communication and engineering, athletics and the rebuilding of St. Joseph Hall after the 1987 fire.
Depending on your generation, your path to living in the neighborhood was decidedly different from students today. You could have rented a room from a nice family, waited for hours in a housing line or sat by a computer until you could click and claim that home you’d been scouting for months.

This year, the path to a student’s next housing assignment is, in fact, PATH — Points Accumulated Toward Housing. Students attend events and activities, swipe their student IDs, and rack up the points.

For the Department of Housing and Residence Life, it’s part of an intentional residential living program where students learn to be engaged members of a community.

For students, it’s about being a good neighbor in the place they want to live — whether it’s VWK their sophomore year or a home on Lowes as seniors. The more points your group gets, the higher your priority in the housing assignment process.

Here are a few of the ways students earned PATH credit this winter.

**COMMUNITY BUILDING**
- Check-in chats with your RA
- Flyer Host training
- Community building meeting

**SERVICE**
- I Love UD: T-shirt Break-up Day

**ARTS**
- The Rose Ensemble: Land of Three Faiths concert

**INTERNATIONAL**
- The World Around Us: A Palestinian/Israeli Conflict Movie
- Intensive English Program poster session

**ACTIVITIES**
- Late Night Spoken Word
- Freedom Center trip
- Sophomore luau

**LECTURES**
- UD Speaker Series: Sister Helen Prejean
- “Natural Disasters and Policy Change” with Meg Warnement ‘07
WHERE ARE YOU READING UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON MAGAZINE?

1 Maddi Schmidt ’14, UD Magazine in hand, visits with her grandparents, Edwin J. and Erma Schmidt, in Buhler, Kansas, on their 73rd wedding anniversary. She writes, “We’re pictured in front of the monument ‘Our Mennonite Forefathers.’ My great-great-grandparents were part of the contingent of Mennonites who brought Turkey Red wheat over from Prussia in the 1870s,” making Kansas the “breadbasket of the world.”

2 Joan McGuinness Wagner, director of Marianist strategies at UD, A.J. Wagner ’77, Mary McGroarty McNamara ’78 and Jim McNamara ’78 brought their UD Magazine with them in spring 2014 on a dream vacation to Italy. They write, “This photo was taken at a winery in Tuscany, with the medieval town of San Gimignano in the background.”

3 Melanie Webb Schramm ’76 writes, “I attended UD in the 1970s and studied the music of the Beatles. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Beatles’ first visit to America, my husband, Dwight, daughter, Jenny, and I visited Liverpool, England. Here we are enjoying our University of Dayton Magazine at Penny Lane.”

4 Colleen Conlon ’07 and Carolyn Verst Thorngate ’05 snapped this picture during a World Cup match in Brazil in summer 2014. “We took this picture before the Germany vs. Ghana game in Fortaleza,” they write.

5 Jacquelin Zubko-Cunha ’07 writes, “This fall, my husband and I had the opportunity to visit my sister, Grace Zubko ’15, in Lisbon, Portugal. Lisbon is one of the many cities she ported in while studying abroad on Semester at Sea. I sailed in spring 2006. It was bittersweet to share our love for UD and SAS.”

6 Louis Guzzo ’09 and Josetta DeFrancisco ’12 traveled to Cota, Colombia, in summer 2014 for Josetta’s sister’s wedding. They write, “While we were there, we decided to try milking a cow. After all, how many times could you say you got to milk a cow in Colombia?”

7 Larra Scolaro ’91 writes, “I was finally able to go on vacation this year — and it was great. Here is a picture of me enjoying the sunset (and my UD Magazine) by the pool in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. The rest of the vacation, I was either enjoying the sun, swimming in the Red Sea or mountain biking in the desert.”

8 Three University of Dayton graduates — all currently studying at the Marianist seminary in Rome — took this photo in front of the Marianist General Administration/Seminary Community by the Marianist Family statue. They write, “You can see Father Chaminade on the right.” Pictured, from left, are Brother Armando Añeses ’03, Brother Sean Downing ’04 and Brother Bob Jones ’98.

9 P. Jeffrey Hoke ’02 writes, “I read my UD Magazine in front of Lloyd’s of London in England. I earned an MBA from UD in 2002 and am the manager of the risk management and insurance function for Honda North America in Marysville, Ohio.”

10 Tom Mikos ’68 and Jenny Galloway Mikos ’88 are reading their University of Dayton Magazine at the Jane Austen Centre in Bath, England.


12 Ben Beachler sent us this pic via Twitter, writing, “The UD Magazine made an appearance at both the UD alumni table at Oktoberfest in Munich and with another alumni group in Frankfurt.”

Where are you reading University of Dayton Magazine? Send us a photograph — at home or abroad — to magazine@udayton.edu.
View more photos on Facebook at www.facebook.com/udmagazine.
Built like a tank

Before clean-burning vehicles can go rolling down the streets, they need reinforcements. The University of Dayton Research Institute will help provide that strength as it leads the development of compressed-gas storage vessels for the automotive and trucking industry.

“The demand for compressed natural gas as a lower-cost, cleaner-burning alternative to diesel and gasoline fuel for vehicles continues to grow,” said Brian Rice, who heads the Research Institute’s multiscale composites and polymers division. “In order for natural gas fuel to be efficiently and safely used to power vehicles, the transportation industry needs an affordable, lightweight but high-strength compressed-gas fuel tank. Our team will work to design and develop tanks and manufacturing processes that can be mass produced at low cost while minimizing energy use and waste production.”

Rice will serve as director for the compressed-gas storage initiative of the new Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation. Led by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, the Institute is a 122-member consortium comprised of manufacturers, universities and national laboratories with the goal of creating better composite materials and process technologies.

Rice said research will focus on semi-trailer trucks first, followed by commercial box trucks and, eventually, automobiles. The Department of Energy committed $70 million to the Institute for five years, and the Institute’s six partner states and members have committed $189 million, including Ohio’s $10 million. The Research Institute will also work with Sinclair Community College in Dayton on workforce development around the technologies, Rice said.
Forgive-me-nots

While most of us aren’t mental health experts, avoiding a grudge could be as easy as following these steps and considering the questions Demmitt poses through his research.

1. Look beyond the books. The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders is the reference guide mental health counselors use to diagnose mental illnesses like depression or anxiety. However, there may be additional factors to consider. “Things you won’t see in there are bitterness, resentment or a lack of forgiveness, but there are many people struggling with those issues, and it could lead to depression, anxiety or fractured relationships,” Demmitt said. Taking those negative feelings into account could help individuals pinpoint — and solve — the problem.

2. Consider your values. Whether you practice a religion or not, certain values could influence your approach to forgiveness, Demmitt said. As part of his research, he interviewed a group of 10 clergy of different faiths about how they apply their religious practices to forgiveness. He’s transcribing the results and plans to next interview individuals without a faith tradition. Eames wonders if research could also address one of her observations: “Forgiveness is innate in everyone, whereas faith is not.”

3. Establish a forgiving spirit. Demmitt devotes a portion of his research to how people prepare for forgiveness. “I’m focusing on what people do to be ready to forgive when a situation arises,” he said. “How do they go about cultivating this sense of forgiveness in their lives?” Eames calls it “stabilized forgiveness”: finding its origin and learning how to keep it going to prevent a grudge from interfering with your life.

4. Keep it up. It’s easier to accomplish something than it is to maintain it, Demmitt said, like losing 5 pounds versus keeping it off. “Are there habits and practices people engage in on a daily or weekly basis to keep a forgiving spirit about them?” his research asks. Like the religious figures Demmitt interviewed, following a certain faith tradition or another moral code can contribute to maintaining the forgiving spirit you establish. While Demmitt has not yet reached a conclusion in his research, Eames contends that addressing the process — and the topic itself — is an important first step in helping people live happier lives.

—Erin Callahan ’15
Living the dream

The reality is that a basketball walk-on rarely gets to walk, run or shoot on the court during games.

"Realistically, at games I used to feel almost like a manager," junior Bobby Wehrli told the Dayton Daily News. "I'd sit on the bench and do whatever the other guys asked me to do — hand them a towel, whatever."

Wehrli, who joined the team his freshman year, knew his primary role would be in practice, not games. He played a total of four minutes for the Flyers during the past two seasons.

Then came December and the dismissal of the team's two tallest players. Suddenly, 6'6" Wehrli was a big man on the court.

No more sitting. Now, when men's basketball head coach Archie Miller calls Wehrli's number, he immediately stands up, removes his warm-up and enters the game, often with the task of defending the opponent's tallest player.

"It was a big adjustment," said Wehrli, who played both volleyball and basketball at his high school in Naperville, Illinois. "I had to physically and mentally prepare myself to take on this new role."

That includes workouts to build muscle and stamina for more minutes — now an average of 16 per game.

"I kept working hard, and once I got the opportunity, I was happy to step in," said Wehrli, a mechanical engineering major. "It's a dream come true."

On Jan. 8, Wehrli played 23 minutes, scored 9 points and had both an assist and a steal in the Flyers' 78-61 win against St. Bonaventure in Olean, New York.

At home, Red Scare shows its appreciation for this dream-come-true story for a fellow student with chants of "Bobby, Bobby."

Miller took a chance on Wehrli, but Wehrli also took a chance on UD. As a high schooler, he had to decide between another university — which offered him a position on the basketball team — and UD, which did not. He said his campus visit sealed his decision.

That choice was affirmed Jan. 16, when Wehrli posted a picture on his Twitter account showing he was granted an athletics scholarship for the remainder of the year. He's a walk-on no more.

—Ryan Wilker '16

Sports shorts

Donoher named to Hall of Fame
Don Donoher '54 won more basketball games than any other UD basketball coach. In November, he will be enshrined in the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame in Kansas City, Missouri. Donoher posted 437 wins and eight NCAA tournament appearances. He was the first coach in the country to take his alma mater to a NCAA Division I championship game after appearing in the tournament as a player.

Play against the owner?
From the Dayton Business Journal in a story about the NCAA First Four being in Dayton: Q. Who is the best basketball player you have ever seen play? A: From Brian Roberts ’08: “Best player I’ve seen play was MJ. I wish I could have been on the court against my owner (Charlotte Hornets owner Michael Jordan), but being on the team is a treat in and of itself.”

Flyer Faithful
Also answering questions for the Business Journal was Chris Johnson '12, who played this year with the Philadelphia 76ers and the Utah Jazz. Asked why Dayton was such a great place to host the games, he said, “Dayton has the best, true basketball fans in the country.”

NCAA.com includes Dayton in its list of the “most passionate college basketball fans.” Mentioned as being in the same class as the Flyer Faithful are the fans of Duke, Syracuse, Arizona and Kentucky.

Hoover sets record
During the Feb. 15 Flyer 82-64 victory over Saint Joseph’s, senior Andrea Hoover sank the 222nd 3-point basket of her UD career, breaking the record that was set by Stefanie Miller in 2004.
Out of this world

Your planetary guide to a few of the shooting, putting and swinging stars of Flyer athletics

GOLF

It may not be light years away, but in February, Dayton feels that far removed from sunny Arizona, where the women’s golf team opened its 2015 season at the Saguaro Shootout. Both the men’s and women’s teams log hundreds of miles on the road each year, playing in tournaments across the country. But local Flyer fans don’t have to hit the road to see their players in action; each October, the teams host a joint tournament at the NCR Country Club in Kettering, Ohio.

TENNIS

To infinity and beyond — that’s the kind of courage Matthew Fox brings to both the men’s and women’s tennis teams. The 10-year-old from Vandalia, Ohio, diagnosed with pediatric brain tumors last year, signed a National Letter of Intent to both rosters Dec. 4. It entitles him to attend all practices, matches and team events. Said sophomore Mandy Marchant, “I’m excited to see what we can do for him, but also what he can do for us.”

VOLLEYBALL

The Flyers’ Atlantic 10 record is far out — 11 regular-season titles and nine A-10 tournament championships, plus 10 NCAA tournament appearances in program history. The team received four of the five annual awards handed out by the A-10, including Coach of the Year to Tim Horsmon, Player of the Year to senior Alaina Turner, Libero of the Year to senior Janna Krafka and Setter of the Year to sophomore Jane Emmenecker.
BASKETBALL

Senior Andrea Hoover this season became a member of an elite club as one of two players in program history to rocket past this milestone: 1,000 points, 500 rebounds and 300 assists in her Dayton career. She joins Beverly Crusoe ’80, who set the benchmark — 1,627 points, 946 rebounds and 358 assists — in only three seasons, and before women’s basketball had established the 3-point line.

SOFTBALL

It was a star-studded start to the 2015 campaign when Gayle Blevins ’73, one of the winningest softball coaches in NCAA history, joined student-athletes for the Meet the Team event Feb. 1 in Boesch Lounge at UD Arena. Said Blevins, “UD presents a positive experience for young women looking to compete as well as attend an excellent university. I will continue to be a fan of the Flyers and wish the softball program and all teams the very best.”

BASEBALL

Last year, coach Tony Vittorio surpassed 400 career wins at Dayton. After the game, he shared the credit: “We have a lot of players, coaches and other people working together with a vision,” he said. That vision has propelled 10 of his players into the Major League Baseball draft. Vittorio began his 16th season at Dayton this spring. “One key to the success? ”Throw away yesterday and play today,” he said. Remember, a new sun will rise.

BASEBALL

Athletes travel great distances to play at UD. In the last two years alone, men’s soccer players have hailed from 11 countries. The 2014-15 team includes four players from Africa. One of them, senior Amass Amankona from Ghana, was named a Presidential Scholar Athlete for his academic excellence, qualities of leadership and service to the UD community.

SOCCER

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BASKETBALL

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Dayton’s glory days are hopping again when it comes to libations thanks to a revival of the local brewing industry. It distills a piece of the city’s history, lends a full body to the economy, and adds a distinct flavor and aroma to Dayton’s cultural scene.

**Behind the barrels: UD alumni, innovators and entrepreneurs making it happen with their craft.**

*By Kristen Wicker ‘98*
The number of breweries and distilleries now open in Dayton mirrors national trends in the growth of the craft beer and spirits industry, and also bellies up with consumers’ growing taste for high-quality, sustainable and locally sourced food. (Yes, well before the first glass is finished, many argue craft beer and spirits are food.)

It’s about a love for all things local that make a town unique, a singular blinking blue dot on the map. (You know, things like the University of Dayton.) And Dayton’s new breweries and micro-distilleries are infusing new flavors into their pints of Dayton pride.

**BIG STEINS TO FILL**

During the mid-1800s, the city had more than the average number of breweries for a town its size, with 14 at the industry’s peak in the 1880s. Today, at least that many establishments have opened since 2011 alone, when a change in Ohio law made it economically feasible to open a small brewery or micro-distillery.

Shane Juhl ’04 opened the first brewery in the city of Dayton in 52 years June 28, 2013, when the inaugural glass was raised at Toxic Brew Co., where he is brewmaster and partner.

Before his Toxic adventure, Juhl — who completed his undergraduate work at Virginia Tech and his master’s in materials engineering at UD — was a research scientist working on fuel cell materials, nanotechnology, polymers and space-durable materials. But his love for Belgian beers pulled him away from those labs and into a new one: the home brewery.

“I’d spent about six years homebrewing and felt Dayton had a vacuum when it came to breweries,” Juhl said. “So I pulled the trigger to start one.”

Juhl and his partners bought a boarded-up building in downtown Dayton’s Oregon Historic District and renovated it inside and out. He designed the seven-barrel brewing system and other equipment, which was made in Ohio. Juhl and his staff even make Toxic’s tap handles.

“The best part of this has been people enjoying the beer,” Juhl said. “I’m excited to see the growing beer scene in Dayton. People are coming from other cities to see our breweries. Dayton has a rich history, and I enjoy being able to say we’re part of it.”

Toxic and other breweries are, indeed, resurrecting a legacy — one re-enacted at Carillon Brewing Co., a Dayton History facility at Carillon Historical Park near UD’s campus. The park is packed with things from Dayton that impacted the world, such as a replica of the workshop where the Wright brothers fashioned their flying machines. With a focus on life in the 1850s, beers are made as they were at that time, and staff in period costume serve up food and drink while guests observe the brewing equipment and, on certain days, the brewing process.

“Dayton is a great example of many American towns during the 1850s,” said Tanya Brock, Carillon Brewery manager and brewster. “This was a point in time when America was being heavily settled, especially by English, Irish and German immigrants. Barley was king and a staple of the daily diet. Beer was the result of all those things coming together.”

They came together so well in Dayton because all the necessary ingredients for beer exist or grow well in the region, which also has an abundance of water. Even then, Dayton was the “crossroads of America,” a gateway to the West, and lots of travelers needed a place to stop for a drink.

“Beer used to be a daily drink, not a social drink,” Brock said. “People didn’t realize boiling the water was what made beer safe to drink. They thought it was something in the fermentation process. So it was a safe, daily drink somewhat similar to how we drink water today, and a source of nutrition. Even kids drank what were called small ales, light beers with 2 percent or less alcohol content. As long as your community had a brewery, you knew it could provide you with something safe to drink that would not give you cholera.”

Beer changed from a daily to a social drink through the course of time, impacted by the temperance movement, an alcohol tax, cleaner water sources, and changes in agriculture and transportation. When Dayton Brewing Co. closed in 1964, it was the lone such business in the city.

Yet Carillon Brewing harkens back to those earlier times, using equipment and recipes that replicate an 1850s experience. Grain is hand milled, and barley is roasted over an open fire. Beer is fermented in oak barrels, and visitors can opt to drink the finished product as it was served in the 1850s: The cask ale is served at room temperature and is lightly carbonated.

The process to brew a barrel takes 12 to 15 hours, rather than the average six hours at a modern brewery. “The modern brewer doesn’t need to lug wood to make a fire using hot coals to fire the kettle in the morning,” Brock said.

Carillon Brewing — which opened in late August 2014 and served its first house-brewed beer in December — is the only fully licensed production brewery at a park and the only historical brewer in the United States. Brock hopes it will help it become a tourist destination for such visitors as UD alumni visiting campus.

“We hope to draw people to come see us, but also to see other Dayton breweries,” she said. “History really is repeating itself here, and this is a rare opportunity to really see that in action.”

And it’s an important history at that: “What would Dayton be today if all these breweries hadn’t opened and provided a healthy, safe drink?” she asked. “If you don’t have anything to drink, you can’t birth babies who grow up to invent the airplane.”

**WHAT’S OLD IS NEW AGAIN**

Warped Wing Brewing Co. started with a handshake at Flanagan’s, located on Stewart Street a block from UD’s campus. Well, that or with the Wright brothers imitating the shape of birds’ wings for their flying machines, an innovation that made controlled flight possible.

Nick Bowman ’02, co-founder and head of sales and marketing at Warped Wing, moved back to Dayton after an 11-year career with Anheuser-Busch — where he worked in a variety of positions in Indianapolis, Chicago, Denver and the Bloomington, Indiana, area — to join the Warped Wing team.

“While I was in Bloomington, I had taken notice of the craft beer industry, and it was love at first sight,” Bowman said. “I wanted to move
‘We put ourselves on the line for this business, and to see the city embrace us so quickly has been one of the greatest things of my career.’

Nick Bowman ’02
WARPED WING BREWING CO.
'There are only a few micro-distilleries in the United States, so we’re really on the cutting edge, which is cool because the Midwest doesn’t always see things first.'

Mike LaSelle ’04 and Mike Check ’04
BELLE OF DAYTON
home to Dayton and start my own business. My idea was to start a craft beer distribution company. My dad, Bob Bowman ’74, had a 20-plus year career with Allied Wine in Dayton, where he met Joe Waizmann, beer division manager for Allied from 1990 to 1992. Fast forward to 2009, and my dad introduced me to Joe.”

It was a meeting, and that eventual handshake, that changed the trajectory of Bowman’s life.

“Joe listened to my idea and was respectful, but he said, ‘There are four distributors already in the Dayton market. What Dayton really needs is a brewer.’ This instantly piqued my curiosity,” Bowman said. “I started learning everything I could about the craft beer culture and industry. Eventually, we said, ‘Dayton needs a brewery? Let’s do it ourselves. Let’s open a brewpub.’”

He and Waizmann began assembling their team, starting with CPA Mike Stover, and working on a business plan for a full-scale production brewery with a tasting room and self-distribution. “Our business plan was about 90 percent done when John Haggerty, at the time brewmaster at New Holland Brewing Co., decided to come on board,” Bowman said. “That was a game changer.”

The team’s final business plan was completed in spring 2013, and they raised $1.2 million in private equity capital and $500,000 in bank financing in six weeks. In only five months, renovations were made to the brewery’s new home, the former Buckeye Iron & Brass Works Foundry in downtown Dayton, and — boom! — Warped Wing took flight Jan. 18, 2014.

Warped Wing’s ties to Dayton and Ohio history go beyond its namesake: Its flagship brew, Ermal’s Belgian Style Cream Ale, is a nod to Dayton inventor Ermal Fraze, creator of the pop-top can (and sold, appropriately, in pop-top cans.) The artwork for all labels, created by a team in Cincinnati, represents the city and Ohio. “We incorporate a story into every beer,” Bowman said. “We put ourselves on the line for this business, and to see the city embrace us so quickly has been one of the greatest things of my career. You can really feel a vibe in the city. People are jazzed.”

FOLLOW THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

Dayton’s modern-day breweries and distilleries are building on another Dayton legacy: innovation.

Craft distillery Belle of Dayton is innovating when it comes to how micro-distilling is done. Co-owner Mike LaSelle ’04 and friend Mike Check ‘04 are working to develop different maturing processes.

“This will be a huge innovation coming out of Dayton,” LaSelle said. “We’re looking at creating an advanced form of aging so you can emulate a 20-year-old whiskey in a short period of time with a real barrel-aged taste. This will allow us to experiment and not waste seven years.”

Indeed, the innovation that led to the opening of Belle of Dayton, in the Oregon District downtown, came from experimentation.

“I started making beer in the kitchen with my brother Murphy,” LaSelle said. “We were trying to make all these different kinds of beers, and one day we realized maybe we were making the wrong product. So we began to study distillation and spent three years taking classes in Kentucky and Chicago and studying the industry. We never knew where it would go. It was just a fun thing to do.

“We were talking one night and said, ‘If you won the lottery, what would you do?’ and we said we’d start a distillery. We like the mystique behind it. And we knew how to distill and had a business background,” said LaSelle, who also works at his family’s retail business and spent five years in Chicago after graduation working in commercial real estate.

Belle of Dayton is also a family business, with Mike, Murphy and brother Tim taking on different roles. The company artisan-distills small batches, 170 gallons at a time, using a small, copper-pot-still hybrid system that allows it to distill different products, including Belle Vodka; a 1775 colonial reserve rum made...
with Dayton-area molasses; Hell’s Vodka, a pepper-infused liquor; and a four-grain Ohio rye whiskey. The company’s name comes from an old whiskey bottle etched with “Belle of Dayton” unearthed downtown.

“Dayton has a rich history, and we’re bringing it back, one distillery and one brewery at a time,” LaSelle said. “There are only a few micro-distilleries in the United States, so we’re really on the cutting edge, which is cool because the Midwest doesn’t always see things first.”

The work is getting noticed: Belle of Dayton won a 2014 silver medal at the New York World Wine and Spirits competition and slowly is expanding its distribution to nearby markets.

“We’ve had overwhelming support,” LaSelle said. “This is the easiest sales job I’ve ever had. Making small batches of beer in your kitchen is one thing, but being able to make a spirit in a quantity you can share and take pride in — that’s really cool.”

Another example of innovation is distillery Buckeye Vodka, created by business owners impacted by the great recession. Several alumni are among them: Tom Rambasek ’75, Nancy Finke Rambasek ’76 and their daughter, K.C. Rambasek ’01, along with Nancy’s brother, Chris Finke ’82.

“Buckeye Vodka came at a time when the economy had tanked,” Nancy Rambasek said. “Two family-owned-and-operated small businesses, The Finke Co. and Crystal Water Co., saw sales fall drastically, and we knew we had to reinvent our businesses. It was a great risk in 2008 when we started throwing our ideas around, but we think it paid off when we launched our product in April 2011.”

That product combines the raw material of Crystal Water with the distribution power of the Finke Co. into Crystal Spirits, which produces Buckeye Vodka — packaged in red, white and blue bottles to honor the state of Ohio and United States — in a facility near downtown Dayton.

“The Crystal Water Co. was started by a priest, Father Hollenkamp, and his family in 1919,” Rambasek said. “Its key business initially was to supply distilled water to local beer manufacturers. With the onset of prohibition, Father Hollenkamp decided to diversify his business and went into the bottled water business.

“We have come full circle now, providing our steam-distilled water to Buckeye Vodka, which gives the vodka a smoother taste.”

CHEERS TO THAT, MY FRIEND

Neil Chabut ’11, owner and head brewer at Eudora Brewing Co. in Kettering, Ohio, knew he wanted his business to make a positive difference in the world.

“It was at UD where I got the idea to donate to a water charity,” he said. “I took an environmental social work class, and we learned about the global water crisis. I took that knowledge and worked it into my business plan. In brewing, you use a ton of water. It’s the main ingredient in beer, and you also use a lot of water when cleaning.”

Eudora donates a portion of its proceeds to the nonprofit organization “charity: water” — donating more than $3,600 to date, and the brewery opened in fall 2013.

Eudora also supports the community in its own backyard. It has a custom brewing setup where people can brew 5 to 10 gallons of beer with friends and family for weddings, birthdays and other special events (or for fun). They even can make their own bottle labels. Eudora customers have brewed more than 900 gallons of beer — the equivalent of more than 10,000 bottles.

“Craft beer and brewing are meant to be shared,” Chabut said. “We want people to learn about how to brew beer and its history. One pleasant surprise about having this business is we get so many regulars, it’s almost like a family. During our first anniversary celebration we had a band, and people in their 80s were dancing alongside those in their 20s. I thought, ‘Where else can you get so many different people together in one place interacting and having fun?’

“Dayton’s hip factor definitely shoots up with the breweries opening,” he added. “It also helps create a sense of community because we have each other. It’s not competitive; it’s collaborative. It’s fun to try all the different breweries. It brings people together.”

A number of Dayton’s breweries partner with each other and pay homage to local businesses and personalities. Toxic has offered brews named after other Oregon District businesses, such as fitness studio Practice Yoga and hair salon Derailed. Fifth Street Brewpub, in the historic neighborhood of St. Anne’s Hill about a 10-minute drive from UD’s campus, is Ohio’s first co-op brewpub. In January, it released the Saphire IPA, named for longtime UD law professor Richard Saphire. According to the pub, the brew — like the professor — “makes a strong case and demands respect.”

Warped Wing collaborates with other Dayton businesses to create innovative brews. In November 2014, it worked with Esther Price Candies to produce a beer that sold out in three days. Collaborations with downtown businesses — Press coffee shop/Wood Buri Coffee Roasters and the Century Bar, named a Top 50 bourbon bar in the United States, also led to some innovative beers.

“It was always part of our business plan to collaborate with other locally owned businesses,” Bowman said. “When you get two small businesses to work together to create a unique product, it’s very communal. The craft beer industry is very collaborative and promotes a community approach.

“We are reinvigorating Dayton pride,” he added. “We want to work with other businesses that are re-urbanizing downtown, the place where the first settlers to Dayton came from Cincinnati. We want to push local pride and get people excited about what Dayton offers.”

EAT YOUR DRINK

Chabut started brewing while an upper-class student at UD, making beer at his Kettering home with his brother and cousin. While living at ArtStreet, he and his roommates decided to focus on culinary arts for a required resident project — demonstrating how to brew a batch of beer. Indeed, craft beer and spirits increasingly are being folded into the local food movement.

“There are a lot of people who are used to the lighter beers and who come to Eudora not
'Dayton’s hip factor definitely shoots up with the breweries opening. It also helps create a sense of community because we have each other. It’s not competitive; it’s collaborative.'

Neil Chabut ’11
EUDORA BREWING CO.
Pete Ogonek ’16 is paddling toward Rio.
Catch him if you can.

Rowing machine

By ERIN CALLAHAN ’15
Photographs by DAVE MOSER ’90

C'est en faisant n'importe quoi qu'on devient n'importe qui.
“It is by doing anything that we become anyone.”
—Rémi Gaillard

Pete Ogonek has this famous French prankster’s words tattooed on his inner right bicep. He’s a civil engineering major, a rower with only four years’ experience; and he’s training alongside veterans of 15 years or more. And while, like Gaillard, Ogonek loves a good joke, this is no joke — Ogonek won’t stop training until he’s passing the top athletes in the world.

By rowing like an Olympian, he could become an Olympian.

Growing up, Ogonek had other aspirations.

When he was young, he was half of his family’s two-man fix-it team with his dad in Cleveland. He was an athlete at Westlake High School and mowed grass to earn money — one of many jobs. He thrived on the challenges of track, cross-country, remodeling a bathroom and taming lawns. College came with a desire for something new, and with some coaxing from his Stuart Hall resident assistant and rower Nick Ritter ’15, Ogonek ran (or rowed) with the opportunity.

“There is something beautiful about a boat, be it two, four or eight rowers, moving in unison,” he said, “the quick splash at the catch, creak of the oars swinging through, and the resounding thud as all oars come through and release the boat, letting it glide underneath your seat, moving gracefully up to the next stroke.”

He remembers himself as the gangly freshman, a former runner trying out the rowing machine for
the first time in 2011. He and several other rookies received their first 20-minute crash course at UD’s Outdoor Engagement Center, awkwardly pushing and pulling on the foreign contraptions. After just two weeks, they were on the river.

“We rowed in unison — well, you could barely call it unison — but we were doing it,” he laughed. “I could tell how much the sport depended on everyone’s coordination. The biggest challenge was getting the team aspect of it. Cross-country and track were more individual efforts, but in rowing, you’re only as strong as your weakest member.”

Although Ogonek didn’t have the ideal body type and had not picked up an oar before 2011, he’s now a senior, with strong back and quad muscles, his body further defined by tattoos adorning his arms and torso. However, he said physicality only plays a small part. It’s more about dedication. All he needed was a way to apply it.

He picked up the technicalities quickly, using his legs to propel the boat and using his back and arms to continue the momentum. “You learn the first 90 percent of rowing in the first three months and the rest of your life learning the last 10 percent,” he said.

Ogonek’s 90 percent was monumental.

Freshman year, he broke UD’s novice record for the 2k distance with a time of 6:39.

Sophomore year, he placed in the top three lightweight records for the 2k with a time of 6:28 and the 6k with a time of 21:07.

At Dayton, Ogonek’s 90 percent beat the odds.

Dayton is no Ivy League rowing powerhouse — no top-of-the-line facilities and cutting-edge boats. Students aren’t offered scholarships and don’t always commit to the club team for four years. While some elite rowers spent their college practices in indoor rowing tanks that simulate rowing on the water, Ogonek used a rowing machine outside under a tent. However, UD head coach Marty Carrabine said Ogonek earned his resilience during 9 p.m. practices rowing on the river in the dark.

“There was a lot to overcome at Dayton, so whatever you could throw at him now is going to look mild,” Carrabine said. “If you want him to row in the rain or in the pitch black, it will be a walk in the park. He didn’t have the best [equipment or facilities] he could’ve had, but true athletes will shine no matter where they come from.”

Dayton gave Ogonek the opportunity to shine. It gave him the challenge he was looking for. When he bought a single boat after his sophomore year and began training individually on the river, Carrabine knew it wouldn’t be long before Ogonek advanced.

“Pete was internally motivated and driven to get better — the sport was more of his obsession,” Carrabine said. “We wish he would’ve stayed, but there was no surprise.”

Junior year, he broke the lightweight record, 6:18 in the 2k and 20:30 in the 6k.

Ogonek continued to perfect his 10 percent during his individual training, increasing in speed and fitness in preparation for the next level.

In February 2014, he was amassing on his desk applications for elite summer rowing clubs. He gained acceptance to Vesper Boat Club in Philadelphia and a few months of training in its program. The summer served as a trial period, where coaches judged his abilities and decided whether to extend an invitation to join their club.

Vesper said yes, and the opportunity to focus on rowing also provided him an opportunity to focus on engineering. Knowing he’d be training in Philadelphia for a year, he secured a one-year internship with Langan, a civil engineering firm.

The move to Philadelphia put him in good rowing company.

Established in 1865 along the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia, Vesper Boat Club was named the 2014 USRowing Club of the Year among 1,200 eligible organizations across the country. Vesper produced Olympic and national team coach Allen Rosenberg; it’s the only U.S. club with three Olympics rowing regatta gold medals for the eight-oared shell (1900, 1904, 1964); and two of its members medaled in the 2014 World Championships.

Vesper is a three-story house with three steeply pitched roofs over three garage doors that open onto the river. The history and prestige of the building itself helped draw Ogonek in.

For example, the first sight through the front door is a banner from an early 1900s World’s Fair, where Vesper earned a championship with its eight-man boat.

The first floor houses “the glorified garage” where Ogonek pulls out his boat for the day. He admires accomplishments from years past in the second-floor trophy room next to the kitchen. He changes clothes and prepares for practice in the third-floor locker rooms. Vesper is a “welcome home” to all lovers of the sport, not just for the elite. It’s for children taking lessons, for community members getting some exercise, and for older rowers — the masters. This is Ogonek’s home for at least four hours per day.

**MORNINGS ARE FOR LONG-DISTANCE exercises when Ogonek covers anywhere from 15 to 25 kilometers in a single session. Evenings are for lifting, cross training and focusing on technique, which could mean another 15 to 20 kilometers of rowing, totaling a potential distance of more than**
Over and over time
The 24 hours of Pete Ogonek

4:50 Wake up, take heart rate and determine recovery score from the night’s sleep.

5 Pack for the day — afternoon practice clothes, business casual work clothes, and breakfast, lunch and snacks.

5:30 Have a cup of coffee, take supplements with fruit and water, leave for practice.

5:50 Arrive at boathouse, stretch, review practice drills.

6 Practice and post-practice stretching. Anywhere from 15 to 25 kilometers of rowing.

8:20 Shower, get dressed, bike to work.

8:30 Arrive at work, eat a real breakfast, start the workday.

5:15 Return to the boathouse for evening practice. Change, stretch and prepare.

5:30 Practice — either a lift and cross training or a long “steady-state recovery” row. Work on technique and get low-intensity distances in. Anywhere from 15 to 20 kilometers of rowing.

7:45 Arrive home. Shower, cook and eat dinner.

8 Log workouts for the day — how I was feeling, what I worked on, today’s speed.

8:10 Prep for the next day. Cook lunch, get work clothes ready, do dishes.

9 Free time. Read a book, do technique research, listen to music, stretch more if needed.

10ish Bedtime — I need at least 7 hours of sleep to function.
25 miles a day. If the river isn’t iced over, Ogonek rows on the water year round — he actually prefers it that way. As an Ohio native, he’s rarely fazed by the cold.

At Vesper, Ogonek learns from coaches who have been where he wants to be. John Parker was a 1992 Olympian in the final eight-man boat competition in Barcelona, Spain. He advises each rower with a general plan that can be adjusted to increase strides and push aerobic and anaerobic capacities, as well as ensure proper recovery. Former Marist College coach Sean Clarke provides individual feedback and pointers while riding alongside Ogonek and the other rowers, advising on technique and how the boat should feel to them.

The coaches test rowers for physical fitness, ergonomics and physicality. Ogonek has already surpassed the standard, and Clarke credits Ogonek’s success thus far to his power, endurance and inquisitive nature. “He is very talented physically, which is what most rowers need,” he said. “But sometimes it’s more technical, and we’re working on that — he’s not too proud to ask questions.”

Ogonek sees the coach-athlete relationship in approaching a problem as a gradual process. When he senses something unusual in his form or technique, he first has to identify the problem. He will go to Clarke for assistance, and they work through the problem together to find a solution. Ogonek will then implement the solution until he can display the proper form without thinking.

Said Clarke, “He’s always looking for the next edge, and he’s patient enough to find it.”

Perhaps Ogonek’s edge is connected to his day job. In the eight hours between practices, Ogonek works for his internship at
Langan as part of a team focused on storm-water drainage, traffic flow around proposed construction sites and cleaning up old industrial sites.

“I bring the engineering aspect into rowing,” he said. “It affects my thought process in considering how to make each part of my training the most beneficial for my body and get the most out of it that I can.”

Each time he gets in the boat or on the rowing machine, he begins with a drill that segments each part of the stroke and progresses into the complete form. He starts pushing with his legs, arms extended, and continues into a fluid stroke. From there, he applies more and more pressure as he assesses the balance and feeling of the water, adjusting his form to achieve maximum efficiency.

When rowing indoors, Ogonek observes his power curve on a screen that displays the amount of force he’s applied over time. The goal: to get the biggest space under your boat, though he and his doubles partner may row separately. Ogonek said this isn’t achieved by applying more pressure but by adjusting technique to move the farthest distance using the least amount of effort. When rowing outdoors, he can observe the whirlpools made by his oars in the water as he strokes. The larger the space between the whirlpools, the more distance he’s gaining per stroke.

JP Kirkegaard, Ogonek’s teammate and close friend from Vesper, said Ogonek mentally goes above and beyond his training and pushes others to be their best, too.

“Pete likes to study the sport a little bit—he’s not just given the training plan and taking it at face value. Not every athlete does that,” he said. And as a rower in the lightweight class and one of the newer rowers at Vesper, Kirkegaard said of Ogonek, “Pete has no problem going toe to toe with guys who have been here for a while and nipping at their heels.”

In the Olympics, rowers can compete in single, double, quadruple or eight-man boats. Ogonek has experience rowing in each boat, though he has spent most of his recent training in singles and doubles.

A single boat is delicate and solitary, while a double boat requires cooperation. Although he and his doubles partner may row differently, they essentially must become the same person in the boat.

“Something striking about the elite level is that nothing should stand out in good rowing,” Ogonek said. “You link every part of your body with very smooth, continuous motions. Most people are composed once they get to this level, but you can’t see how much they’re pushing their bodies to the very end.

“The toughest part is the mental and physical stress we all encounter each day. We all have long-term goals we’re getting to on a day-to-day basis. Looking at the big picture can be overwhelming, and sometimes it’s just minute by minute that you’re able to push through.”

Minute by minute—that’s how Ogonek approaches his training and his day-to-day schedule to keep him on track. He’s focused on adapting to the training level and continuously improving his 10 percent to be properly prepared for this time next year. The hope is that in 12 months, Ogonek will be sitting on the horizon of Olympic trials for the 2016 Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro.

“There’s been such a transition from where I was to now, but the transition to where I need to be is still huge. There’s a learning curve to that kind of racing. You need mental toughness and more experience in racing. It’s an ongoing thing.’

‘There’s been such a transition from where I was to now, but the transition to where I need to be is still huge. There’s a learning curve to that kind of racing. You need mental toughness and more experience in racing. It’s an ongoing thing.’

Olympic trials are nothing to take lightly. Ogonek hopes to earn a spot in the four-person boat through identification camps or a camp in Oklahoma City. He may have the chance to visit Oklahoma City’s facilities for a few weeks to train while the coaches observe his performance. From there, the coaches choose who will represent the country in the Olympics.

“[Reaching the Olympics] would definitely be a humbling experience, racing against the fastest people in the world,” he said.

Clarke will provide the proper direction, but he emphasized that Ogonek’s success depends on him alone. Even though a common challenge and a big risk for young rowers is putting their college and professional careers on hold, pursuing a sport without pay, traveling and paying out of their own pockets, Clarke said the experience is life changing, and he’s never found someone who’s regretted the move to the elite level.

“Pete is here on his own accord; he’s here to make the national team, and I’m here to help,” he said. “He knows I don’t worry about things like discipline, he doesn’t have to worry about making me angry or letting me down. … He only has himself to let down. We’re just very focused on getting him faster and reaching the goals he wants to achieve. As long as he keeps his focus, he’s going to be fine.”

This prospective Olympian has been four years in the making, and while Olympic trials are in sight, Ogonek will soon return to where it all began. After he completes his internship, he plans to move back to campus for his final two semesters and resume individual training. He will possibly train with Dayton’s team again, in the family atmosphere that gave birth to his ambitions, in the dark, on the river — rowing, learning and growing.

Good luck, Pete, your UD family is rooting for you. UD

Erin Callahan ’15 is a senior journalism major. She writes, “Though I normally stick to land sports, Pete’s story was incredibly inspiring. You can bet I’ll be looking for his boat in Rio next summer.”
As a sophomore, Nichole Henger ’14 was looking to add something different. She was majoring in environmental biology, the field in which she holds her bachelor’s degree. “I was working with blow-flies,” she said. “But I was also interested in how people interacted with the environment.”

She learned of a relatively new minor called Sustainability, Energy and the Environment (SEE). “It sounded cool.”

“Cool” is an appropriate description of several of the University of Dayton’s curricular initiatives, the largest of which is the Common Academic Program (CAP), the University’s new undergraduate general education program.

“The spirit of CAP,” said Bob Brecha, coordinator of SEE and
professor of physics, “is that it forces students — and faculty members — to wrestle with ideas from different perspectives.”

That can be as traditional as first-year students comparing Aquinas and Aristotle, as contemporary as looking at Bob Dylan’s lyrics through the lens of gender studies or as personal as a psych major taking an art course that makes him look at things differently — so his rap group can really make a difference.

Faculty members for years have been encouraging students to look at the world from different perspectives, but the scope of that approach throughout the new required curricula is extensive and the emphasis on it is clear and well thought-out. Nearly a decade ago, the Academic Senate — after numerous campus conversations — wrote and approved Habits of Inquiry and Reflection, a document analyzing the purposes of a Marianist education at UD and delineating specific outcomes. Since then the University of Dayton faculty has been working on the means of delivering those outcomes. The class of students entering in fall 2013 was the first to follow the CAP requirements.

“CAP makes more explicit what had been implicit — outcomes, connections between disciplines, pedagogy, ways of knowing,” said Juan Santamarina, chair of the history department and chair of the Common Academic Program Committee.

During the program’s development, administrators half-joked that they should change the name to “Uncommon” Academic Program for the way it integrates disciplines and Marianist-inspired learning outcomes in a way that is uniquely UD.

The categories of outcomes for CAP include scholarship, faith traditions, diversity, community, practical wisdom, critical evaluation of our times and vocation. (See sidebar, right, for descriptions of each.) Some of the requirements sound familiar. The first-year Humanities Commons includes history, religious studies, philosophy and English. And then there are requirements in math, social science, arts and natural science. Less familiar may be requirements labeled “crossing boundaries” or “diversity and social justice.” Requirements for advanced study and a capstone indicate this is not a program to be seen as something to take and get out of the way, CAP is the way.

“Advanced courses build on the previous ones,” English professor R. Alan Kimbrough said of CAP, “it is a developmental model, consistent with the Marianist ideal of educating the whole person. It pays attention to diversity, social justice and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.”

The outcome of “critical evaluation of our times” clearly has its roots in the admonition of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, the founder of the Society of Mary, to read the signs of the times. To help accomplish that, Kimbrough said, “CAP gets people to make connections among the things they are studying.”

Making connections runs throughout the SEE minor, most of whose courses fulfill CAP requirements, not only science, ethics and diversity but also advanced philosophy, advanced religious studies and advanced history. Students pursuing the SEE minor can even fulfill their CAP arts requirement by taking English 342, Literature and the
By the numbers

13
Components to CAP (first-year humanities, second-year writing, oral communication, mathematics, social sciences, arts, natural science, crossing boundaries, capstone, advanced religious studies, advanced philosophy, advanced history, and diversity and social justice)

7
Learning outcomes for CAP (scholarship, faith traditions, diversity, community, practical wisdom, critical evaluation of our times, vocation)

4
Subjects in the first-year humanities component (religious studies, philosophy, history, writing)

4
Courses in the crossing boundaries component (faith traditions, practical ethical action, inquiry and integrative)

2
Courses in the natural science component

1
Capstone, a course or experience in the student’s major

to learn more: http://catalog.udayton.edu/undergraduate/cap/requirements/

C
ore is the grandparent of the other first-year communities; it dates back decades. For first-year students — and throughout its two-and-one-half-year curriculum — Core stresses interdisciplinary connections as it analyzes human values in a pluralistic culture. Like all the learning-living communities, the first year of Core is what its director, history professor Bill Trollinger, terms “a CAP delivery system.” And all Core courses fulfill CAP requirements.

Labeled ASI 110-120, the first year of Core is highly integrated and innovative. Students who complete ASI 110 and ASI 120 receive credit for 100-level history, religious studies and philosophy. They also receive credit for English 200H (the 100-level course is waived) and advanced historical study — 15 hours, all told, toward their CAP requirements.

All first-year Core students gather each Tuesday and Thursday morning for a 75-minute lecture by one of the Core faculty members — all of whom are senior faculty and all of whom attend each lecture. The students in the afternoon split into seminar groups for an hour and 50 minutes.

Sophomore Lexi Miles, now helping in the program as a Core Fellow, said of her first year in Core, that the small seminar “allowed us to become very close as fellow academics but also as friends. The way students learn is fun and interesting. I remember one class in particular where we were learning about the Allegory of the Cave.”

When first-year students find it fun to break up into small groups to find ways to illustrate Plato, something interesting is happening.

In their sophomore year, Core students take three individual courses; in their junior year, an ethics capstone course.

Core was the model not only for many of the components of CAP but also for SEE, Brecha said. Core may not be the path for every student. But, CAP committee chair Santamarina said, “It is cool. It’s very cool.”

The approach of Core and subsequent curricular developments not only changes students but changes faculty members. Trollinger has experienced that change. “When I started teaching, I was rigorous,” he said. “I still am.”

But there is a difference. “Then I thought in terms of a bell curve,” he said, on fitting grades for each class into a standard distribution.

Now the emphasis is on student learning. If a student masters the material, Trollinger believes that earns an “A.” “Grade distribution hasn’t changed much,” he said, “but it’s a different way of teaching. If we would have educated citizens at the end of their college days who could and would learn on their own, I’d love that.”

While the requirements of history, religious studies, philosophy and English as well as those in math, social science, arts and natural science are traditional, those called “crossing boundaries” may sound new. But crossing boundaries, interdisciplinary studies, learning at the intersections — whatever it has been called — the concept has been at UD in the past, if not as explicit as it is now.

Crossing Boundaries-Inquiry requires students to take courses outside their division. These are courses, Santamarina explained, “that have been designed for the non-major with CAP outcomes in mind.” So students outside of the
James McLean ’16 took the course Drawing Through Process because he needed an art class, something required both under CAP and the general education system preceding it.

He didn’t expect what he got.

“I thought the class would be about learning how to plot out, outline and shade basic sketches,” he said. But in the first class, professor Jeffrey Jones disabused him of that idea. Jones took out a dictionary and read definitions of the word “draw.” There were more than a dozen. “Most had nothing to do with art,” McLean said. “Draw a bath. Draw a conclusion. Draw somebody in.”

Jones also took a big piece of paper, McLean recalled, put it on the floor, dragged a stool across it, leaving marks, then asked the class, “Is this art?”

The class was mostly art majors; McLean at first thought they had an advantage. Assignments for the class were called problems. “For the first, which was supposed to make us feel uncomfortable,” McLean said, “we were told to trace something in the CPC [now Fitz Hall]. I asked, ‘Should we take a piece of paper and trace over something in the building?’ Mr. Jeff just shrugged.” (Jones asked the class to call him “Jeff.” Since McLean was somewhat uneasy with that familiarity, he settled on “Mr. Jeff.”)

McLean walked the building’s hallways, looking for something. After a while, he looked up and saw pipes in the ceiling. “I realized,” he said, “I could ‘trace’ the water lines back to their source.” He put pen to paper and kept looking up as the pen made its marks. He did so for about a dozen trips.

“I wondered if I needed to add anything else to my rough idea,” he said.

As time for the presentation approached, the art students polished their projects. And their presentations were, McLean said, “of cool ideas. My turn came. I was intimidated, knowing the talent of the others. I took out my 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper and tucked it up. People squeezed forward to look at it. I explained I was uncomfortable by letting my core solution of the problem stand by itself instead of trying to embellish it to make it look like an art student made it.”

Mr. Jeff applauded the solution to the problem, a solution that lay in the process not the product, and pointed out, McLean said, “I had an advantage over the other students, since I was not trained to see the finished product.”

McLean used his advantage as the term progressed; the art students learned from his perspective; and he, from theirs, deeply impressed with their skill and techniques. “This was more of a thinking class,” he said, “than a typical art class. Anyone from any major could do well if they were willing to use their talents to think outside the box.”

“My talent is in music,” McLean said. “That’s how I can help people. Mr. Jeff showed us that everybody is trying to come in the front door, so we should try the back door.”

The back door for his group, Black Epoch (see blackepoch.com), McLean said, “is combining inspiring and positive messages over powerful and energetic instrumentals. It is a different breed of rap music.” The approach also involves working with people who come with a different perspective; Black Epoch has performed and recorded with the student band The Leap Years, whose sound, McLean said, is like Maroon 5 mixed with Mumford and Sons.

Academically, McLean, a psychology major, is currently team leader on a student research group conducting experiments about change blindness. A classic experiment in that field has people watch a video of people tossing an object back and forth. They are told to pay attention to the tosses. When asked afterward about what they saw, many do not remember that, running around in the video, was a man in a gorilla suit.

McLean will be among the UD graduates who will not miss noticing the guys in the gorilla suits.
School of Business Administration might satisfy the requirement by taking Introduction to Entrepreneurship.

Crossing boundaries is also how Bob Dylan makes it into academia.

English professor John McCombe studied British literature in grad school. He teaches a survey course on it at UD. But he also teaches a class on Bob Dylan.

“I was crossing boundaries before I knew the term,” he said.

The English department for half a century has had a course in the catalog called English 380: Topics in Literature. And McCombe likes Bob Dylan. “I’ve read every book on him,” McCombe said. “Many of them are by academics — in literature, theology, communications, gender studies — so I thought a course on academic writing on his work would work.”

Then along came CAP with its emphasis on learning how to see something from the perspectives of several disciplines. “Born a Jew, Dylan converted to Christianity in the late 1970s, moving from being a counter-cultural icon to fundamentalism. And his early songs have numerous biblical references. So religious studies scholars were interested in him,” McCombe said. “Dylan’s connection to the civil rights movement of the 1960s interests social scientists. Songs with misogynist lyrics interest those in gender studies. In English, he’s not technically a poet, but his lyrics have meaning to people in the same way that poetry does.”

The approach works for other performers, too. “In 1964, the Ed Sullivan Show on which the Beatles appeared had 74 million viewers. The phenomenon interests scholars in communications, sociology, cultural history,” McCombe said. “And people realizing that they could make big money selling music to young people sparked the interest of business scholars.”

Like the new class on Dylan, a SEE course in sustainability research also fulfills the Crossing Boundaries-Integrative requirement. Doing the research, working with a group, preparing a presentation — “It’s like a minor thesis,” it gets you ready for graduate school,” said Henger, who is now in Syracuse, New York, in the Forestry and Natural Resource Management Program at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science.

Electronic waste was the subject of Henger’s UD research group. “Everybody has a phone,” she said. “What happens when you’re done with it?”

They found out. And it wasn’t pretty: Third World children sorting out electronic waste in toxic dumps. So, Henger said, “we tried to change behavior.” For Sustainability Week, they educated others on the hazards of electronic waste and publicized the electronic waste bins on campus.

Nearing the end of her first year of graduate school, Henger is thinking of what her master’s thesis might be. She also is thinking of the future beyond that. Her program is normally two years, but she’s looking at combining her science degree with a master’s in public administration. By connecting disciplines and looking at the world from different perspectives while at UD, she said, “I realized the role politics played in dealing with the environment. It was often more than research.”

A Dayton education gets one ready for more than grad school. UD

Thomas M. Columbus has been writing about UD and curriculum since before the students now enrolled in the Common Academic Program were born. In his youth, he was educated with a little Latin and less Greek and a lot of English (with substantial doses of history, philosophy and theology). If he were starting now as a UD student, he thinks he’d choose Core.

‘It is a developmental model, consistent with the Marianist ideal of educating the whole person. It pays attention to diversity, social justice and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.’

Pints of Pride, from Page 28

expecting to find something they like, but we almost always can find something they enjoy,” said Chabut, whose favorite Eudora brew, Bangarang IPA, placed in the Top 9 in the National Homebrew Competition. “One customer found a lighter beer he liked and now is starting to get into new, more robust beers. I think that’s because of the focus on quality over quantity.”

The growth in the craft beer industry also is attributed to consumers’ pickier palates and driven in part by consumer demand.

“Consumers today have shifted their values about food, and that includes beer,” Tanya Brock said. “They want food that is sourced locally. They demand to know who is making their food and what ingredients are in it. People want to know more, and they are knowledgeable about potentially harmful things going into processed food.”

Small breweries can be responsive to meet consumer demands, she added. And they can source locally: Some of the barley used at Carillon Brewing is grown on the historical farm at Carriage Hill MetroPark, and Brock uses local companies whenever possible.

“At a basic level, the same things that drove the growth in the industry in the 1850s are the same driving it now,” Brock said. “Then, it was to provide a safe, clean drink. Today, it’s to provide safe, clean food.”

“And the industry is still bolstering community and providing jobs. It keeps dollars directly in this community.”

Some of the most notable figures in Dayton’s historical brewery scene were John and Michael Schiml, who opened Schiml Brewery in 1852 and first brought from Boston the yeast needed to brew a lager. How does Brock think they would react to today’s beer and spirit hustle?

“They’d be excited at seeing so many proprietors taking advantage of the market and making so many creative products,” she said. “I also think they’d be a little jealous — they’d want to join in.” UD

Kristen Wicker ’98 lives in downtown Dayton, where she enjoys walking to many of the city’s breweries and other attractions. She is the marketing manager for Five Rivers MetroParks.
Good news, great strides

BROTHER DONALD NEFF, S.M. ’54

Brother Donald Neff, S.M., is living proof of the global nature of the Marianist charism. From Ohio to Malawi, Africa — and many places in between — Neff has dedicated his life to education through the church.

“Above all, our mission is to assist Mary in bringing Christ to the world in a meaningful way. As an educator, school administrator and promoter, I feel blessed and honored to have had an opportunity to work with youth,” Neff said.

Neff started his teaching career in Cleveland and later became the principal of Hamilton (Ohio) Catholic High School. In 1966, Neff’s journey took him to Colegio San José de Río Piedras in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

His next move came in 1969, to Melbourne, Australia, where he was tasked with the establishment of a Marianist secondary school and oversaw two additional Marianist schools. Five times during the past 30 years, those three schools have invited Neff to “brief” students, staff and administrators about what it means to be schools of the Marianist tradition, and five years ago, a science center at John Paul II High School in Frankston, Victoria, was named in his honor.

“We commit ourselves to do whatever He tells us, but people say my heart is in Australia,” Neff said when asked for his favorite assignment.

In 1989, Neff returned to the United States, this time taking on the role of development director at Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory School in Hollywood, Florida. In 2005, Neff found himself returning to familiar territory as property director of Mount St. John in Dayton. Today, he enjoys retirement in Florida.

Taking the good news to the far corners of the world is a driving force behind Neff’s life, he said, as well as his career. Since returning from Australia, he’s been involved with the Church’s Mission Cooperative Program, raising awareness and support for Marianist missions in Africa and India.

“The spirit of community and family is very evident in our schools, whether it’s in California, Florida, Puerto Rico, Australia, Africa, India or at UD,” Neff said.

—Caroline Glynn ’15

Golden Flyers

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GOLDEN FLYERS REUNION WEEKEND
June 12-14, 2015
reunion.udayton.edu

email classnotes@udayton.edu.

Class notes are in print issues only. To submit a class note, email classnotes@udayton.edu.
As an English major at UD, Mike Brogan loved to read great works of fiction and viewed American literary luminary Mark Twain as an inspiration.

“I was just impressed by the way he made words jump off the page,” Brogan said.

Within a few years, Brogan’s words would become part of Americans in a different medium.

Near the end of his four-year law school studies at the University of Detroit, he saw an ad inviting budding scribes to take a writing test for Campbell-Ewald, an advertising agency that handled the account for General Motors. Brogan decided to try, not yet sure if he wanted to pursue a career in law.

The response came quickly — “When can you start?”

During his career, Brogan worked on the teams that developed the iconic “Baseball, Hot Dogs, Apple Pie and Chevrolet” and “The Heartbeat of America” television commercials in the 1970s and ’80s. He also spent seven years overseas writing copy for GM ads that appeared in Europe, winning international honors for his efforts.

It was his experience overseas — including witnessing a bombing 60 feet from his home in London — that prompted his interest in elements of mystery and suspense in the fiction he enjoyed writing in his spare time.

That hobby became a second career for Brogan, whose novels Business to Kill For, Dead Air and Madison’s Avenue incorporated themes of terrorism and international security and experiences from his advertising career to create captivating page-turners. His most recent work, G8, involves an assassination plot against world leaders gathered at the international economic summit.

Years after leaving UD, Brogan is still hard at work following in the footsteps of his idol — whether his words jump off the pages of books or television screens, he turns phrase readers and viewers find hard to forget.

—Shannon Shelton Miller

1967

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M I K E B R O G A N ’ 6 3

SPRING 2015  UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON MAGAZINE
The text on the page is not legible due to the poor quality of the image. It appears to be a page from a journal or a book, but the content is not discernible.
IN MEMORIAM

1939
Mary Kathryn Curren, C.P.P.S. — Oct. 31, 2014
1947
Dan Brant — Sept. 16, 2014
Brother Jimmi Masuura, S.M. — Nov. 14, 2014
Helen Lehner Thomas — Nov. 17, 2014
Joan Roderer Vargo — Oct. 27, 2014
1948
James Finke Sr. — Sept. 23, 2014
1949
John Anthony — Nov. 21, 2014
Elmer Arling — Nov. 16, 2014
Eileen Kennard Collins — June 2, 2014
Robert Ruther — Sept. 25, 2014
1950
Robert Campbell — Oct. 31, 2014
1951
Richard Campbell — Nov. 9, 2014
Robert Seiter — Oct. 31, 2014
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Hazel Smalley — Nov. 13, 2014
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John Becker — Nov. 18, 2014
James Gessells — Nov. 5, 2014
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Norman Bertram — Oct. 19, 2014
John “Jackie” Minardi — Nov. 17, 2014
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Stanley Back — Nov. 22, 2014
Richard Paulus — Nov. 27, 2014
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James Davison — Oct. 9, 2014
Robert Gallis — Nov. 17, 2014
Robert “Bob” Schroer Jr. — Nov. 10, 2014
1959
Louis Leibold — Sept. 29, 2014
William Malloy — Sept. 27, 2014
John Messenger — Sept. 25, 2014
Rita High Schaefer — Nov. 5, 2014
1960
Glenn Cox — Oct. 27, 2014
Mary “Molly” Payne Petitig — Sept. 20, 2014
Mary “Jackie” Hawkins Renshaw — Sept. 6, 2014
1961
John Allison Jr. — Nov. 19, 2014
1962
Willard Frazier — Aug. 26, 2014
Martha Hawkins — Oct. 19, 2014
Paul Witte — July 11, 2014
1963
Sister Mary Valeria Abele, C.P.P.S. — May 8, 2014
1964
William Delmar Gainey — Oct. 16, 2014
Roger Geist Jr. — Sept. 9, 2014
Leonard “Krys” Krystnak — May 13, 2014
Karen Fleming O’Connor — Aug. 11, 2014
Peter Pocher — Aug. 2, 2014
Sister Dianne Skubby, C.P.P.S. — Nov. 4, 2014
Bernard “Ben” Staub Sr. — Oct. 24, 2014
1966
Robert Kistner — July 31, 2014
Theodore Long — Sept. 7, 2014
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Sister Maria Tasto, O.S.B. — July 13, 2014
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Patrick Toye — Oct. 15, 2014
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William Aaron III — Nov. 12, 2014
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Donald “Mike” Mikesell — Aug. 29, 2014
Bernard “Mike” Milesell — Nov. 14, 2014
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Mary McCarthy Fuleky — March 16, 2014
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Jane O’Loughlin Dunphy — March 13, 2014
Carl Herman — July 22, 2014
James McDonough — Dec. 2, 2014
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Anne Berry Earls — Oct. 21, 2014
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Alain MacDonald — Nov. 13, 2014
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Kenneth Van Sciver — Nov. 2, 2014
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Nancy Alt — May 12, 2014
Robert Hanson — Sept. 28, 2014
Arthur Shumate — Nov. 19, 2014
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Mary Ann Cunningham Del Medico — Oct. 30, 2014
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Robert Hoover — Aug. 30, 2014
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Nancy Alt — Aug. 30, 2010
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Robert Kistner — June 2, 2018
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Sister Virginia Hebbeler, C.P.P.S. — Nov. 4, 2019
1992
Morris Jenkins Jr. — Feb. 10, 2014
1994
Francie Vachon — Aug. 31, 2014
2012
Sarah Crawford — Nov. 2, 2014

FRIENDS

Carol Bohman — Oct. 1, 2014; survived by her husband Jerome
Jerry Bohman ’53 and daughter Ann Bohman Whitehair ’92.
Deborah “Debby” Colville — Dec. 2, 2014; former Kennedy Union dining
services staff.
Charlotte Dobkowski — Oct. 29, 2014; survived by daughter Susan
Dobkowski Ferguson ’76, son-in-law Dick Ferguson ’73, grandsons
Mark Ferguson ’02 and A.J. Ferguson ’12, and granddaughter-in-law Amy
Queenan Ferguson ’02.
James Ernst — Oct. 25, 2014; survived by daughter Carrie Ernst Franz ’04.

To the nearly 200 University of Alaska Anchorage gymnasts, Nordic and Alpine skiers, volleyball players and other student athletes, Chris Gruber Volk is much more than their athletic trainer.

"Some call me Mother Volk," she said.

It’s easy to see why. Since joining the Seawolves staff, Volk has taped thousands of ankles, splinted limbs, encouraged exhausted competitors and helped countless athletes get back where they belong: in the game.

"The goal is always to make sure athletes can compete and participate in their chosen sport," said Volk, herself no stranger to sports injuries.

While at UD, she played a year of volleyball, two years of basketball and four years of softball until a torn ACL sidelined the left fielder. While rehabbing her knee alongside UD’s athletic trainers, Volk found the blend of sports and science much more attractive than her declared major, computer science. Volk quickly switched to biology because, “I couldn’t see myself working in an office all day,” Volk said.

After graduating, Volk taught biology at a local high school and continued working toward her certification as an athletic trainer. Eventually, Volk returned to UD, where she pursued a master’s degree in biology. Then she and her husband, high school sweethearts, eventually made their way to the last frontier. In 1993, the head athletic trainer position opened up at the University of Alaska.

Over the years, the approaches to treatment, equipment, techniques and nutrition have evolved. Volk, who calls herself a “first responder to on-the-field injuries,” said one thing hasn’t changed — the invaluable lessons learned on the field and in the classroom.

“Student-athletes have a certain drive and competitive nature,” said Volk, a mother of three grown children. “They face challenges during games and in the classroom and can apply those to life.”

—Molly Blake ’96
Dressing for success
PAULA CATLIPP COSBY ’81

When it comes to serving the community, Paula Catlipp Cosby has found something that works: clothes.

She’s executive director of Clothes That Work, a nonprofit organization that provides professional clothing and one-on-one coaching to under-resourced Dayton job seekers. It has served more than 24,500 individuals since 1998, with nearly 1,800 served in 2014 alone.

For the past three years, Cosby has been responsible for building relationships and partnerships, strategic planning and execution, management, and fundraising for the grassroots nonprofit.

“I am very passionate about community development and helping individuals reach their potential,” she said. “The organization is the perfect fit for me.”

Data showing what prevents individuals from getting on their feet drives Clothes That Work’s mission.

“There are three barriers to those seeking employment: child care, transportation and image,” she said. “We aim to provide a polished, professional image for job seekers and help them feel more confident and prepared to approach the [job] interview.”

Clothes That Work partners with workforce development organizations and relies on the community for clothing donations, creating what Cosby calls a ripple effect.

“We have a very tangible way of assisting vulnerable citizens,” she said. “We’re not providing a handout; we are helping them while they help themselves along their journey toward self-reliance. Our services support the growth of healthy families, lifestyles, the workforce and the community.”

Collaboration is the key to success for nonprofits, Cosby said. Before joining Clothes That Work, she helped rebuild the Wright-Dunbar Historic District in Dayton, consistently finding new ways to “serve my community and make it better,” she said.

In 2013, Cosby was awarded Outstanding Nonprofit Professional of the Year by the local chapter of the National Leadership Alliance.

“It’s not about having a job and making a living. It’s more important to give and serve others as you’re building a life,” she said.

——Erin Callahan ’15
James Casey ’88 chose UD’s School of Law partially because Dayton ran about 10 degrees warmer than his native Milwaukee (he stayed to earn two degrees). Today, Casey still enjoys Wisconsin from afar as a nonresident lawyer and administration, transportation and public policy enthusiast. What’s on the pages of your life story? Tell us in a class note today. Email classnotes@udayton.edu.

“Writing is a hobby. My work in transportation development is a passionate hobby. My other hobby is music, whether listening or playing,” Casey said. “I took piano for six years when I was young and sang in the Madrigala music group at Catholic Memorial High School in Waukesha, Wisconsin — think Glee. After a long absence, I am playing a Gibson Les Paul Goldtop. Les Paul was from Waukesha, too.”

Casey has given professional presentations in 14 countries in Asia, Europe and the Middle East. At the Belgium conference, Casey was part of a roundtable that discussed standards and norms, legal issues, confidentiality, data security, and intellectual property in building enhanced transatlantic bridges between the European Union and the U.S. “Representatives from the European Commission and the U.S. Department of State were on hand to listen to our perspectives on building a new transatlantic relationship, including an innovation component,” he said. Casey recommends students honing their presentation skills keep it simple, do more than simply read PowerPoint slides and constantly learn from other presenters. “We can always improve,” he said.

While in UD’s Master of Public Administration program in 1993, Casey began writing on transportation issues in southeastern Wisconsin. “I was particularly intrigued as to why, compared to other cities of similar size, Milwaukee had a smaller and incomplete freeway system with stub ends going nowhere,” he said. Thanks to Kurt Bauer at the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, Casey met Frank Zeidler, Milwaukee’s mayor from 1948 to 1960 and the last socialist mayor of a major American city. “In 2006, I published a book on his mayor,” Casey noted.

REUNION WEEKEND June 12-14, 2015 reunion.udayton.edu

JAMES CASEY JR. ’88 (LAW) lives in Pittsburgh. He writes, “I am president-elect of the Nonresident Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Wisconsin, where I work to increase services and mentoring to nonresident lawyers. I teach in the Rush University master’s in research administration program. I also recently contributed a commissioned biographical essay on Milwaukee Mayor Frank Zeidler for inclusion in the Encyclopedia of Milwaukee project and presented at the BILAT USA 2.0 EU-US Innovation Conference in Brussels, Belgium.” He welcomes hearing from UD friends at lawrev@hotmail.com.

For the past two decades, Casey has worked primarily in university research administration, a field he says he “fell into” after working for the city of Huber Heights, Ohio, in the early 1990s. “I was a grants administrator and then interim parks and recreation manager, where I implemented a recycling system in city buildings and directed the cleanup of the Erie Lock and Canal site in preparation for a city park,” Casey explained.

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REUNION WEEKEND June 12-14, 2015 reunion.udayton.edu

1985

comminiam iunt audicit poreper entur?

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If you were to walk through the student neighborhood any time between 1989 and 1992, you could follow the sound of Mötley Crüe blaring from 225 Kiefaber. Once you got there, you could join the residents for a round of golf.

Ron Prasek ’92 found the house his sophomore year with friends he met in Stuart Hall — and he didn’t move out for three years. His sophomore year, Prasek lived with Mike Corcoran ’92, Rick Stempien ’92, Pat Stillwagon ’92, Brett Cuthbert ’92 and Bill Stevenson ’92. Junior year, he lived with Stempien, Stevenson, Leif Hansen ’92 and Bob Byerlein ’92. Senior year, Leif stayed, and Rich Murdy ’92, Scott Eyink ’92, Larry Marshall ’93, Jimmy Miks ’93 and Mark Pollaci ’92 moved in.

Prasek eventually knew the house like the back of his hand. Despite its age and a basement that reminded him of a dungeon, Prasek grew to love it, and the residents gave it a personality all its own.

“We were known for the type of music we played,” Prasek said. “It wasn’t the typical ‘college music’ — it was new wave, hard rock.”

While weekends were usually for letting loose, the guys spent one afternoon of leisure practicing their backswing. They innovatively designed an entire 18-hole golf course scattered across the backyard, through their back door and out to the front patio.

The residents’ inventiveness came in handy more than once. During one chilly March, they lost power, resulting in no electricity or heat for more than once. During one chilly March, they

so we could watch TV.”

Prasek still keeps in contact with his former roommates and often reminisces with them about the old days of song, sport and shivering.

—Erin Callahan ’15
Beds, breakfasts and business

LESLIE ROSELL GONYA ‘94

After traveling the country and staying in numerous bed and breakfasts, Leslie Rosell Gonya decided she wanted to help others fulfill their dreams of traveling in style. In 2003, Gonya and her husband, Jeffery Gonya ’95, opened a bed and breakfast of their own: the Inn Port Guesthouse in Dayton’s Oregon District.

“In Plant City, Florida, we stayed at one really great bed and breakfast where the owners also had side jobs. It was so laid-back and fun. We thought, ‘Hey — we could be doing that,’” she said.

The couple opened a second Oregon District bed and breakfast in 2007, Inn Port D’Vino, which Gonya says has a “wine destination” theme and features four suites that can also be combined for families or larger groups.

In 2011, the Gonyas added Deaf Monty’s Wine to the Inn Port D’Vino. Named after the couple’s pound puppy and as a salute to Blind Bob’s Bar down the street, Deaf Monty’s is open evenings, Monday through Saturday. Monty the pound puppy has since passed away, so customers — whether there for a wine tasting or an after-work happy hour — are now greeted by one of the Gonya’s newest furry friends, Bonnie, Charley or Toby.

Their business venture coincides with Leslie Gonya’s self-started company, Ideal Travel, which organizes group travel packages. Her most frequent request? Planning overnight trips to road games for Flyer fans. She’s organized trips to Maui, Orlando, Charleston, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Buffalo and, of course, Memphis last spring during the Flyers’ March Madness run.

“You have to balance how much you pull away from one business to work on the other. It makes me proud, and I feel blessed to have the opportunity to interact with people in these two very different businesses,” she said.

“Still, both businesses have helped us stay connected to UD.”

—Caroline Glynn ’15
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City prints

JOSEPH MINDAK ’95

Take a walk around the city of Hoboken, New Jersey, and you’re likely to see Joe Mindak’s fingerprints all over it.

Eighteen years ago, he returned home to work in his father’s print shop. Since then, Mindak has transformed the one-man shop into a 20-plus person digital marketing agency, Infexion Interactive. He’s also franchised his own magazine and launched his own beer line; he’ll soon launch a website designed to help clients finance their weddings; and plans to soon teach marketing and entrepreneurship at Stevens University.

Mindak attributes his project diversity to personal interests, everyday life and a curiosity that says, “They did it; why can’t we?”

“We did a golf magazine for a client and I thought, ‘Why don’t we start our own?’” he said. “The idea for the wedding site came when our nanny was getting married.”

While owning his own businesses has allowed him to work with big-name brands like Sábaba and Avril, Mindak still maintains strong ties to his hometown.

His magazine, hMAG, is “by Hoboken for Hoboken” and highlights its culture and lifestyle. A nod to the city can be seen in the name of his beer line, Hoboken Ale.

From UD, Mindak gained valuable leadership, marketing and business skills, as well as a heart for giving, that’s prepared him for his ever-evolving career.

He’s contributed to rebuilding areas affected by Hurricane Sandy and used connections from hMAG to partially fulfill a “dream wishlist” for a 6-year-old girl with terminal brain cancer. They provided her a limo ride to bake with the Cake Boss, featured her in hMAG and raised money for medical bills.

“UD offered many opportunities to grow outside of the classroom, and as a Marianist school, it taught me to give back through a lot of things I do now,” he said.

“One of the biggest rewards is getting the opportunity to do something beyond the business.”

—Erin Callahan ’15

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If you attended any events on UD’s campus between 1997 and 2001, chances are you’ve already heard the musical stylings of Scotty Kilwein. Kilwein, his brothers Mike Kilwein ‘99 and Dave Kilwein ‘02, along with Kevin McCarron ‘99, Kevin Kindbom ‘01 and John Surso ‘02, banded together to form the Kilwein Family Tree-O.

“We played at all different types of events,” Kilwein said. “We played at house parties, Christmas on Campus, Reunion Weekend, Dance Marathon, Parents Weekend. We had to cater to so many different types of audiences, making sure we were playing songs that alumni, parents, students and even the Marianist brothers could all sing along and have a good time with.”

Playing for diverse audiences at UD was instrumental experience for Kilwein, who now caters to an audience from the world over. Kilwein is director of entertainment at Jellyrolls, a dueling pianos nightclub at Walt Disney World’s Boardwalk Resort in Orlando, Florida.

“We have huge, diverse audiences with people from all over the world,” he said. “It’s interesting to see what people are listening to by what songs they request.”

Fielding requests from the audience for six hours each night is no easy task, and Kilwein has to keep his musical repertoire up to date.

“Each of our musicians has to know about 500 songs right off the top of their head, and some even more than that,” he said. “But when you’re able to bring so many demographics together and connect them on a musical level, it’s a special thing.”

Kilwein credits his time spent at UD for not only allowing him to pursue a career in music but also influencing every performance.

“Music is a catalyst for nostalgia and memories, so while I’m sharing this new experience with the audience, I’m also experiencing a resurgence of these memories from UD,” he said.

—Tom Corcoran ’13

Class notes are in print issues only. To submit a class note, email classnotes@udayton.edu.
Fashion forward

BRITTANY YANTOS ’08

When she was 12, Brittany Yantos declared she was going to be a movie star — not just an actress, but a full-fledged superstar — when she grew up. Now, she’s written the script on being the star of her own life.

“I was originally a theater major at UD, probably because I had delusions of grandeur still then,” she laughs. “After graduation, I fell into fundraising, and six months ago, I stumbled on my current job. It found me.”

Yantos is business development director for Chicago’s GeekBar, a themed bar that caters to an audience more interested in Dungeons and Dragons than the Dallas Cowboys. “We have video games, a comic book and graphic novel library, tabletop gaming; but no sports — except Quidditch,” Yantos explained.

“I secure sponsors and partners and help with events. We hosted a launch party for the Game of Thrones beer; NBC’s 1st Look did a ‘Best of Chicago’ episode and filmed at the bar, and I got to make cocktails, play Nintendo’s ‘Super Smash Bros.’ and read comic books with the host, Audrina Patridge from The Hills. So there’s some red carpet in my life after all.”

And runway. Yantos also manages her own clothing line, Merit Clothiers, with Brittany Yoder ’09. “It’s my baby,” Yantos said. “I really liked the military-style clothing trend but wanted something I could personalize. I started sketching designs on a cocktail napkin.” Yantos is responsible for design and order fulfillment. Yoder, who lives in Cincinnati, handles accounting and marketing.

Available on Etsy.com, Merit Clothiers offers a military jacket and bag, manufactured in Chicago and made of 100 percent organic cotton canvas and cloth. Merit badges, “similar to what you’d receive as a Boy or Girl Scout, but for adults,” are available to iron on. Are you philanthropic? Like to travel? Adopt rescue pets? There’s a hand-stitched badge for that.

“We like to think of it as building an army of goodwill,” Yantos said. “We want people to be proud and inspire other people to do good things as well.”

—Audrey Starr
REUNION WEEKEND June 12-14, 2015 reunion.udayton.edu

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Can you UDentify us?

Three friends pause their graduation celebration and pose for this picture from the 1984 Daytonian. If you’re not having a senior moment and can identify these students, email magazine@udayton.edu. And see more archival images at ecommons.udayton.edu.

From our winter issue

From last issue, this photo of friends on a porch looked familiar to Flyers across the generations. “I don’t recognize them, but I know as soon as spring hit that year, I had senioritis!” wrote Sue Gorman Mastrovito ‘85. Karen Pavlic Santelli ‘85 had a couple positive IDs: “That’s Barb Hickel on the left and Becky Sell on the right. I don’t know the fellas.” But they sure know how to enjoy a spring day at UD.

CLASS NOTES

Send information for Class Notes to: Class Notes, University of Dayton, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH 45469-1303. Or you may send it to: classnotes@udayton.edu.

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To be sure you receive the latest news between issues of University of Dayton Magazine, update your email address and other information at udayton.edu/alumni.

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As media specialist of Daniel Wright Elementary in Dublin, Ohio, Marisa Congelli Saelzler ’08 doesn’t just manage the school library; she makes it a springboard for service.

While hosting a Scholastic book fair in fall 2013, Saelzler noticed a trend: Students were eager to take books home. Their families, however, couldn’t afford them. Saelzler’s solution? A free book fair, held each May.

“Students now have access to books when the school library isn’t open,” Saelzler explained. “My students often can’t get a ride to the public library, so the books they have at their house are all they have access to. Even if their family moves, they will still have books.”

In its first year, the three-week fair drew more than 3,000 donated books. Saelzler sorted them by category and created eye-catching displays and raffle packages. Every student left with five free books.

“I wanted it to feel like a bookstore, where everything is displayed nicely and encourages them to want to read,” Saelzler said, noting that she hopes to give away 6,000 books this year. She’s heard of students sharing their books with younger siblings, and parents with limited English proficiency reading the books to strengthen their language skills.

“My hope is for the program to spread; I’ve already been contacted by schools across the country hoping to run a similar program,” she said.

And if it needs a little momentum, organizers can look to another of Saelzler’s inventions: a before-school bike repair club that offers students a chance to fix donated bicycles, then take them home at no cost.

Dubbed Wright Wheels, the club began in fall 2014 — and quickly garnered a waiting list for the spring session. Of the 50 donated bikes Saelzler initially received, 35 have been distributed. Although in its infancy, the club has already secured a $2,000 grant from the Dublin Education Foundation to pay for a school storage shed, bike parts and helmets for each recipient.

“I’ll take any size bike,” Saelzler said. “I try to fit whole families so they can ride together. For some families, the bikes mean that they will be able to ride to the grocery store instead of walk, since they don’t own a car.”

Saelzler’s work helped her make another connection — this time, back to her Flyer roots. She met her husband, Mark Saelzler ’05, at a new-teacher orientation while working for Dublin City Schools, where Mark worked as a technology support teacher. (Today, you’ll find him at Upper Arlington Schools as the education systems coordinator.) The couple married in 2014.

The pair was the first to repair bikes for what became Wright Wheels, making weekend trips to school to get them up and running. “Mark taught me a lot about the process, encouraging me to give it a try even though I was unsure,” Marisa said. “I feel like our service to our students has not only helped them in their daily lives but has also strengthened our marriage. We’ve found joy in working together and making what people told us was impossible, possible.”

“Marisa is an idea generator; I’m just along for the ride,” Mark said. “First, she wanted to revamp the dull and unappealing library space, so I helped paint a chalkboard wall to hold welcome messages. Then, she found some unique chairs on clearance at Target, and we visited seven different Target stores to pick up 30 chairs for the space.”

As Marisa put it, “I think about how often we heard the words learn, lead and serve while at UD. Together, we’re working to embody that spirit. We both have a love of helping others and leaving things a little bit better than the way they were before.”

—Audrey Starr

Books, bikes and a lasting bond
Continuous service
In December 2014, two cadets from the Fighting Flyers Battalion of the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps — Joseph Kearney ’14, an electronic and computer engineering technology major, and Jackson Pennie ’14, an exercise science and fitness management major — were commissioned as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army.

Lt. Col. Dan Redden said the ceremony symbolizes the culmination of the military and technical education each cadet has garnered. “A cadet is mentored from not knowing anything about the Army into an officer who is able to lead troops,” Redden said.

Kearney will complete his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and will serve as an active duty engineer officer. Pennie will complete his basic training at Fort Lee, Virginia, and will begin civilian employment as a law enforcement officer.

The San Francisco story
Dayton Daily News sports editor Si Burick called it the “high point of high points” in the 1939 Dayton sports season: “The football game in far-away Frisco between Dayton and the Galloping Gaels of St. Mary’s.” The Flyers made the 3,000-mile journey to a game where, according to prognosticators, they stood little chance of scoring, let alone winning. The squad held its own, leaving the field with a 6-6 tie.

Shirley Wurstner Padley ’40, wife of the late Jack Padley ’40, the team’s quarterback, remembers the trip. “When the train would stop, the fellows would get off and exercise. When they got back on and the train started moving, someone would tell coach Baujan that they couldn’t find Jack; he must still be back on the platform. Poor Harry — I’m sure that’s all he needed,” Padley said.

On the way home, the team enjoyed a 12-hour stopover in Los Angeles, where film star Tyrone Power — a Cincinnati native who attended St. Mary’s Institute for Boys, UD’s preparatory school — welcomed them to a private party on the 20th Century Fox lot.

Helping hands
For nearly 30 years, students have been singing — and signing — a different tune. Hands in Harmony music ensemble offers the chance to learn sign language and perform choreographed pieces to music. No experience is necessary, and students can earn a half-credit.

Heidi Reynolds ’86, the group’s professor, took the class as a senior. She leads the class in lessons while a certified interpreter observes and ensures proper form. Even the slightest changes in hand positioning can mean different interpretations, Reynolds said.

“It takes a lot of confidence and hand-eye coordination, and you have to consider your body language and facial expressions when you’re on stage,” she explained. “You can hide in a choir, but signing is a whole different level of performance.”

For more Flyer news from campus and afar, see udquickly.udayton.edu.
More than 600 members, nearly 30 years, one common bond. While this group of Flyers comprises many diverse histories and journeys, at one point, each member found himself contemplating a life in the Society of Mary.

Now approaching its 27th year, the group — dubbed Common Bond — unites former members of the Society of Mary and fosters mutual support for each individual’s chosen path.

When Bob Toia ’69 embarked on his journey through the Marianist tradition at age 16, he had envisioned himself teaching biology after graduating college as a brother. Growing up, he attended a Catholic Marianist high school in Pittsburgh and went on to spend his novitiate period in upstate New York at a preparatory school for future members of the Society of Mary.

After professing his temporary vows, he arrived in Dayton as a first-year student. At that time, future and current Marianist brothers lived on the campus of Mount St. John, 5 miles east of UD while attending or teaching at UD, allowing the prospective members to learn from and connect with current brothers and priests.

“As members of the order, we were able to spend a lot of time with our spiritual advisers at Mount St. John,” Toia said. “After many interactions and discussions with my adviser, we both knew that taking perpetual vows to the Society of Mary was not my calling.”

At the time, Toia’s experience as a young, prospective member was fairly common, with many men leaving home at an early age to attend preparatory school. However, the steps in formation have since changed, with the stability of the Society of Mary growing after a restructuring of the process.

“You could have come from anywhere. At some point, each of us in Common Bond decided that vocation was not our calling,” Toia said.

While small pockets of former Marianists have remained close and formed associations, Common Bond is the only organization of its kind. It officially formed in Rockaway, New York, and in 1988 approved the Rockaway Statement. This allowed the association to strengthen its network of support by acquiring 501(c)3 nonprofit status and appointing a board of directors.

“Even during the time of Father Joseph Chaminade, who founded the Society of Mary in 1817, he recognized a need and desire to keep former professed members close to the Family of Mary,” said Don Wigal ’55. “So, given that, a case could be made that there has been something akin to a Common Bond since the early 1800s.”

Over the years, Common Bond has taken advantage of Internet resources to further connect and support its members. Its website now features a forum for members to host discussions, whether the topic is political or personal. The organization also provides financial and emotional support for members struggling with health or other issues.

Since its first official reunion in 2000, Common Bond has held a celebration every three years in Dayton. While many members of Common Bond are Flyer alumni, many also travel from various locations around the country to attend the weekends. This year, the group will meet July 24-26.

Past reunions have featured golf outings at Yankee Trace in Centerville, memorial services for deceased members of both Common Bond and the Society of Mary, and ecological tours of Mount St. John.

—Caroline Glynn ’15
PITTSBURGH
Alumni give community a sporting chance

Nestled between the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers is a town that some call “America’s most livable city” or “the Steel City.” For 1,880 University of Dayton alumni, this hidden gem and gateway to the Midwest is simply called “home.”

The alumni presence in Pittsburgh has boomed in the last decade due to a resurgence in industry and a rise in job creation. Chris Webb ’95, leader of the city’s alumni community, moved his family there four years ago for a position with U.S. Steel.

“The people in Pittsburgh are great,” he said. “When we moved here, the first thing I did was reach out to the UD alumni community to connect with people, and we were welcomed with open arms.”

One of the unique aspects of the Pittsburgh area is an immeasurable and undefined quality that combines big-city resources with a small-town feel. Similar to the spirit on UD’s campus, community is a big part of the Pittsburgh way of life.

“There’s just something special about UD and the connection you feel with people from UD no matter what year they graduated,” Webb said. “Pittsburgh has a very similar community feel to it, and I think that is attractive to a lot of UD alumni.”

The other common thread that makes UD graduates feel right at home is Pittsburghers’ obsession with their sports teams. Each summer, Webb and the rest of the alumni community organize a trip to take in a Pirates baseball game at PNC Park, one of the nation’s premier ballparks. While cheering for the Black and Gold is fun, the alumni community makes sure to stay true to its Red and Blue roots.

During the basketball team’s Elite Eight run in 2014, Webb said, the alumni community had several watch parties to collectively cheer on the Flyers. It is Pittsburgh’s proximity to one of UD’s biggest rivals, however, that allowed Webb and the rest of the community to start a new annual tradition when the Flyers come to town.

“It started last year, when UD came to town to play Duquesne,” Webb said. “We rented out the Blue Line Grille across the street from the Consol Energy Center, where the game was played, to have a big party for all the alumni in the area and anyone else in town for the game. We had a huge turnout because we put our ‘UD Alumni Community’ sign in the front window of the restaurant — Flyer fans just started swarming in.”

As they say, birds of a feather flock together — and so do the Flyer Faithful.

—Tom Corcoran ’13

WHEN YOU’RE NOT ROOTING FOR THE FLYERS AT UD ARENA, WHICH PITTSBURGH SPORTS STADIUM IS YOUR FAVORITE?

“PNC PARK, because you have a beautiful view of the Pittsburgh skyline, and every seat has a fantastic view of the game.” —Jennifer Huber Kirschler ’89

“For me, there is nothing better than taking my 6-year-old granddaughter to PNC PARK by the river on a sunny Sunday afternoon.” —Thomas Fox ’70

“PNC PARK is one of the most beautiful ballparks in the U.S., and I’m a season ticket holder at HEINZ FIELD. The CONSOL ENERGY CENTER is also a great venue (and I’m not a huge hockey fan).” —James Bernauer ’70
GOOD WORKS

Repeating history

Social studies teacher Justin Parker ’14 arrives in his classroom each morning. By the end of the day, he will have seen 107 students sitting in front of him; but he also has the spirit of former social studies teachers behind him.

For Parker, a first-year teacher at Dayton Early College Academy, such a career was a goal set during his own high school years after a charity ball-game gave him a new perspective — and a Flyer connection.

“I had a particular teacher in high school that I wanted to model myself after,” said Parker, who attended Solon High School near Cleveland. That teacher oversaw an annual dodgeball tournament in memory of Solon social studies teacher David Yates, a 1981 UD graduate who died in 2000 from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

“Every year, my teacher shared memories of Yates and how those experiences impacted his life,” Parker said. “Without ever meeting Mr. Yates, I learned how selfless he was as an educator and as a person. I did my best during my own time at UD to emulate those character traits.”

A magna cum laude graduate and Dayton Civic Scholars participant, Parker was also a recipient of the University’s David Thomas Yates Scholarship. A history major, Yates was president of the honorary history society and received the Dean Leonard A. Mann, S.M., Award of Excellence, given to the outstanding senior in the College of Arts and Sciences. Established in 2000 by Yates’ family, the scholarship has since been awarded 14 times to service-minded students training for teaching careers — students like Corinne Smyth Gries ’04, the scholarship’s first recipient. Today, she teaches education at St. Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Indiana.

“UD challenged me to look beyond the classroom and use my education to give back to others,” Gries said. “It was helpful and comforting to know that through the Yates scholarship, someone else was giving back and supporting my education. Earning the scholarship showed me that UD is a community that cares about the future generations of Flyers.”

Parker agreed. “The Yates scholarship held a very special meaning in my life,” he said. “My hope is to make an impact on the students I teach in the same way past teachers impacted me.”

Celebrating life

When Philadelphians Mark Connor ’81 and his wife, Miriam Crivaro, prepared to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary in 2014, they knew it should be special.

So, they held a joint celebration with Crivaro’s parents, who were celebrating 60 years of marriage. They hired the West Chester Swing Kings, a 19-piece big band, and enjoyed a hot-and-cold buffet from Carlino’s Specialty Foods. And they encouraged guests to send gifts — but not the kind wrapped in pretty paper.

Instead, the couple asked attendees to give to the David Thomas Yates Scholarship at the University of Dayton.

“David Yates ’81 was my roommate for three years at UD, my best friend for nearly 23 years, the brother I never had, and one of my groomsmen,” Connor wrote in his anniversary invitation. “At UD, Dave taught me — a clueless hick from upstate New York — how to study and, by example, showed me there was nothing wrong with having a work ethic and striving for perfection. Dave inspired me to become an A student. I owe Dave for not only my academic achievements but also for my subsequent professional success.”

The duo met in Founders Hall and roomed together as the first residents of 361 E. Stewart St. in the newly built Garden Apartments. Yates helped Connor learn to study, and Connor, a security guard for Marycrest Hall and Campus South, introduced Yates to new faces. Senior year, they shared the Dean Leonard A. Mann, S.M., Award of Excellence, the first time the honor was ever split.

“For two years before his death, Dave attended an annual Yates 5K Run/Walk in Solon, Ohio, that raised funds for ALS patients and their families,” Connor said. “The theme was ‘Celebrate Life,’ and that’s what we wanted to do with our anniversary. I miss Dave, but I’m grateful our paths crossed when we were young men at our beloved UD.”

—Audrey Starr

Mark Connor ’81 (holding UD Magazine) with his wife, Miriam, and guests at their 30th wedding anniversary celebration.
In a small walk-in closet tucked behind office space, University Archivist Jennifer Brancato stores some of UD's oldest — and quirkiest — treasures. Without setting foot in the space, she can tell you which shelf, cabinet or box each artifact calls home. She just wishes she could tell you what they all are.

Take, for example, a 12-by-13-by-17-inch set of wooden risers bearing 39 smiling (albeit photographed) student-athlete faces. Commemorative gift? Planning tool? Child’s toy? Like many other archive items, this one didn’t come with instructions.

“We identify what we can — old photos, concert tickets and other UD material that was either found or donated,” Brancato said. “We keep very detailed records now, but going back several decades, that practice wasn’t as common, and we don’t have any records.”

This set of bleachers included. Embossed with the UD seal on either side, each level holds individual wooden figurines with painted-on football uniforms (red jerseys, yellow pants and blue knee-socks) and glued-on headshots. Each player’s name was carefully printed and adhered in front of every figure. According to the Division of Athletics, the model could be an early predecessor to today’s media guide, which includes a roster, photos and brief player biographies.

While its creator is unknown, the players represented on these wooden steps aren’t, representing some of the University’s brightest sports stars: Tony Furst ’40, Larry Knorr ’40, Ralph Niehaus ’39, Jack Padley ’40. Once giants of the Flyer gridiron, all four have since been inducted into the UD Athletic Hall of Fame.

The figurines perched next to the team boasted equally giant reputations (indeed, in this model, they stand nearly three times the size of the players). One is assistant coach Joe Holsinger, and another is Louis Tschudi ’34, also a member of the UD Athletic Hall of Fame. The most recognizable face belongs to Harry Baujan, a.k.a. the “Blonde Beast,” UD football’s legendary coach and College Football Hall of Fame member.

Baujan served as head football coach from 1923 to 1946 and as director of athletics from 1947 to 1964. He is credited with growing the football program from relative obscurity to national prominence, and Baujan Field was named in his honor in 1961. Now home to the men’s and women’s soccer teams, the space hosted the Flyer football squad until the construction of Welcome Stadium in 1974.

Individual honors aside, the 1938 UD football team collectively has a special place in University sports history, as it captured the Buckeye Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship title with a 7-2 record. This would be Baujan’s second, and final, championship title as a head coach; the previous one occurred in 1933 when the Flyers captured the Ohio Athletic Conference title.

Was this model used by Coach Baujan as a more colorful, creative way to manage his team roster? Did a Flyers superfan craft it to celebrate the championship season of ’38? Maybe it was the work of a few football pranksters aiming for a laugh. While its origin may remain buried, the history of UD football — and its legends — hasn’t.

Well played.

— Tom Corcoran ’13
The detour

By Jayne Robinson

“The really happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery when on a detour.”
— Unknown

I make my way down the crowded aisle. I am headed to Paris — my luggage lighter than the limit, but I carry the diagnosis of cancer.

The plan was to spend four weeks teaching. And then 10 days in Provence with my two daughters, Lizzie and Kat, traveling by train and a mini-Cooper convertible. I am forced to detour by a cluster of unruly cells.

“Excuse me, would you like a stick of gum?” my seatmate, a woman in her 60s, says. I take it and mumble thanks. I am in a metal cocoon with a woman battling fourth-stage liver cancer. Her husband died when she was in her 40s leaving her to raise her children alone; her daughter died of diabetes. I tell her about my convertible and how my trip was supposed to end not in cancer surgery but a roofless ride through Provence with my two daughters.

She tells me her sister has a convertible. She says, “You know that face? The face you have when you are in a convertible and wind and time are rushing past.” I do. I have often been accused of looking sad or tired when I am neither. People taking my photo say, “Look happy, for God’s sake. ... Well, OK, just say cheese.” After my first child was born I sent a photo of me holding her to my father. He tells me it is the first photo of my life where I looked happy. But in a convertible the wind transforms my face. Joy wipes away the years.

“You know,” she says, “cancer, like convertibles, is good at blowing unnecessary things out of your hair and mind.”

On the day before I am set to fly home we visit Reims. The cathedral is lovely, but my religious experience comes in the cellars of Maison de Champagne Taittinger. Bottles destined to travel the world, to toast babies not yet conceived, life partners not yet drawn together, anniversaries of people now struggling, who hope their union will be celebrated, the burning of mortgages and degrees bestowed, cancers in remission, ships launched in calm seas ...

Surgery morning is dark with a fine rain. It has rained on all the significant days of my life. The rain on our wedding day stopped just as we crossed over the Ambassador Bridge, and a double rainbow graced our Canadian honeymoon. It rained on the day I defended my Ph.D., the birth days of both Lizzie and Kat, the day Lizzie was diagnosed with MS — and four solid days after; the universe wanted to be sure I understood that this meant the disease would not conquer this girl. And today.

I take this as a good omen.

I ask my husband, Wayne, if he will drive me to the hospital in the convertible. I want to feel the rain on my face. I wish I was heading to the hospital with my uterus full of child, not cancer. It feels like yesterday Kat was born. Einstein insists time is not linear. Today it is evident.

The surgeon emerges and tells Wayne and my daughters that it went well. Earliest stages.

Lizzie uses her vacation to take care of me. Both daughters join me in bed for pillow talk. Wayne dotes ...

I see love, the love of the humans we travel with — who chauffeur us when we are broken and ride shotgun in convertibles when we joyride.

Summer is running out. Do I feel well enough to go river rafting?

So, under a perfect blue sky, we tumble our way down one of the world’s oldest rivers. Between whitewater we jump into the river and float — our family a flotilla. Kat often says we are like one soul in four bodies. The river drowns my worries. Back home I am ready to drive solo. Wayne helps me put down the top and lower myself, gingerly, into the seat of our almost classic convertible. I head out on the highway and then cut away into the woods. I drive until I am at the speed of life. Time slows, and flows, like caramel in the sun. It is like the river, this road. It flows and I flow with it; I am 17 driving down a road in Southern Ontario. And I feel it ... convertible face.

Jayne Robinson is a professor of biology and author of The Cake Chronicles: Finding Sweet Hope In This Crazy World. This above is an excerpt from her upcoming book, The Convertible Chronicles: Going Topless.

‘Ionic Bond’

—Beatrice M. Mady ’76
beatricemady.com

ionic bond
A telegram in 1945

By Maureen Schlangen

On the bitterly cold evening of Jan. 25, 1945, a Western Union messenger approached my grandmother’s front door in Tiffin, Ohio, with a telegram from Maj. Gen. James A. Ulio, adjutant general of the U.S. Army in Washington, D.C.: “The Secretary of War desires me to express his deep regret that your husband Private Clarence W. Chester was killed in action on five January in France.”

In those cold first months of 1945, my grandfather’s 70th Infantry Division — the Trailblazers — fought back Operation Nordwind, Adolf Hitler’s last major European advance. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, in his 1948 book, Crusade in Europe, wrote that the fighting on that front descended “to the dirtiest kind of infantry slugging. ... Operations became mainly a matter of artillery and ammunition and, on the part of the infantry, endurance, stamina and courage.”

For my grandfather’s company, the fighting began in earnest Jan. 2, and by the evening of Jan. 5, the village of Phillipsbourg, France, was out of enemy hands.

“It had been a costly victory, but it had prevented the Germans from gaining access to Niederbronn, which opened into the Alsatan Plain,” wrote Don Docken, a member of my grandfather’s regiment, in a company history. “Many friends were missing, and (Staff Sgt. Tom) Higley turned to L.t. (Russell ‘Bussy’) Holmes and asked, ‘Where are the men?’ ... Bussy simply said, ‘Gone, Hig.’”

So my grandmother, Marguerite Chester, 29, undertook her own demonstration of endurance, stamina and courage. She sold bricks. Her front yard held chickens looking for food and two brown floppy puppies. Clara’s dad greeted us with a smile.

Dinner brought us five dishes including green beans with bacon as well as a very fresh chicken.

The next morning, I filled my backpack with my wallet, camera, sunglasses, snacks — and a bottle of my father’s ashes. As we walked through the gate of Getu River National Park, we were stopped by a policeman. We had missed the point back down the road where we were supposed to buy tickets.

Clara looked down at her cell phone. A smile on her face looked mischievous. Then one by one the kids with us walked slowly into the park. The policeman seemed not to notice, I walked toward the fence. Then I pretended to take a picture. Then I walked in, too.

It was my childhood visit to Cedar Point with my dad all over again.

One summer’s day we had gone to visit the amusement park on Lake Erie’s shore. The line to the parking lot stretched long and hot. My dad turned the van toward the entrance for people who had boats docked at the marina. We did not own a boat. A college student at a checkpoint asked his name. “Bill Jenston,” he replied and drove on.

Today, the story lives on in our family.

Near the end of our visit to the park in China we began to walk back to the entrance. We detoured to a beautiful lake and soaked our tired feet. As we continued our walk, I saw a beautiful view. I took a bottle from my jeans pocket. I twisted off the cap. At the base of a tree, I poured out my dad’s ashes.

Welcome to China, Dad.

The above is an abridgement from a blog by Heather May ’12 and her husband, Keith, who teach English in China with the Peace Corps. Their blog, http://SpongeandSlate.com, won the 2014 Peace Corps Blog It Home competition.

Toledo in China

By Keith May

In China with the Peace Corps, I received a package from my mom that included snacks, taco shells, treasures from my Toledo home and a sealed plastic Kroger bag.

The bag contained a number of pill bottles. The bottles held my dad’s ashes. I was excited about the places I would scatter them. Then I saw she had also included the baseball hat he was wearing the day he died. My eyes began to sting.

Sometime later, Clara, a student I see as my Chinese daughter, asked me to come with her to her hometown, Ziyun. I knew this was a place my father would need to go.

As we rode buses through the countryside, my mind saw not tiered, mountainous fields, but rather the back roads of Ohio from Toledo to Sandusky. We arrived at Clara’s home, a two-story cement building, shrouded from the road by trees across which was a large, busy facility manufacturing.
Depending on your profession, a blank page could be a wonderful thing — full of possibilities, ready for you to make your mark.

For an editor, it’s the stuff of nightmares — ones with hairy spiders, chainsaw-wielding madmen and red pens that have all run out of ink.

So, I almost hate to ask, but did you see the blank pages in this issue, Pages 30-35? No? Thank goodness.

And thank a student. I did.

We employ 13 students — writers, photographers and a social media intern — for contributions that go beyond simply completing assignments and filling holes. In this issue, senior Ian Moran drove under threat of snowmageddon to Columbus, Ohio, to photograph a couple who will make bicycle dreams come true (Page 56). Our graduate assistant Tom Corcoran ’13 channeled his experience on UD’s football team to uncover mysterious figures from the Flyers’ 1938 squad (Page 61). To find their work, just look for bylines followed by the student’s graduation year. They leave their marks everywhere, including proofreading these pages.

Last summer, my assignment to senior Erin Callahan was to poke her head into every academic office and ferret out people and programs for potential stories. She returned from civil engineering with a name: Pete Ogonek. What started as a 500-word student profile blossomed into her feature “Rowing Machine,” starting on Page 30. Not only does she tell a good tale, but she also filled a very large hole left when the editors decided a previously scheduled feature just wasn’t ripe enough to run.

I barely had time to panic about a blank page when Erin filled it with a story of determination and excellence.

I’d like to think this entire magazine shows just that. The traits are often found in those we interview and photograph, in the stories we tell and the University we love. But our staff — both professional and student — demonstrate determination and excellence every day. A favorite part of my job is working with these students, feeding off their energy and teaching them what I love most about this craft. Our working relationship is not perfect; there are frustrations over missed deadlines, killed stories, or the obstinate use of the serial comma. But when I page through the final product, and know all that has gone into it, I am very, very proud.

I hope you are, too.

—Michelle Tedford ’94
Editor, University of Dayton Magazine
Come March, we know where we want to be: at the big dance. To get there, our student-athletes are completely committed. Every game they come to play. There’s no holding back.

Our student-athletes are just as committed in the classroom because, come May, we know where the seniors will be: at graduation.

In 2014, we became the only Division I school whose men’s and women’s basketball teams made the NCAA tournament and achieved a 100 percent Graduation Success Rate.

**NOW THAT’S ELITE.**
In 1927, snow covered campus and the shrine to Our Lady of College Park, located in the gazebo on what is now the library lawn. We could have used her intercessions Nov. 18 as we dodged unseasonably early snowflakes from a storm that blanketed campus but left it similarly lovely.

Despite the turtlenecks and quilted pants, we promise it’s spring, circa 1905, when the St. Mary’s baseball team was ready to shake off the winter gloom and hit the mound.