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UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

# Muslim Student Association seeks to bring understanding to campus

EMMA KAPP  
Staff Writer

In today's world, discord is rampant in the news. Stories of disagreements and misunderstandings rule the airwaves and social media feeds. However, the University of Dayton Muslim Student Association is doing its part to bring hope and positivity into the lives of others.

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) is a national non-profit organization founded over 50 years ago, according to its website. Chapters exist around the nation and share the common goal of creating a positive impact on college campuses.

The organization is not only meant to be a resource for Muslim students, but for the student community as well.

"We are able to set up weekly speakers or prayer leaders for Friday prayer and allow for Muslim students on campus to stay connected with their religion, remaining close to God," said Rehan Syed, a junior entrepreneurship and marketing major and treasurer of MSA. "We're also working to reach out to all of the non-Muslim students on campus to show a positive representation of Islam and the values we stand for."

UD's chapter is sponsored by Campus Ministry and has put together several initiatives this academic year. The organization handed out treat bags to all students in recognition of the Muslim holiday Eid al-Adha in September. To continue the celebration, members visited a local, underfunded mosque and gave more treat bags to Muslim children in the community.

"The response was amazing, and the children were so happy," said Anam Hussain, co-president of UD's Muslim Student Association. "This really touched us as an organization, and we plan on doing this



Hussain, along with other MSA members, promoted their "Muslims for women's rights" event outside of KU by handing out colorful roses to those passing through campus. Photo courtesy of Anam Hussain.

as a yearly event."

During the third week of November, the group held table hours and asked students walking by to reflect on gratitude. Students were then invited to write what they were grateful for on a sticky note and attach it to a poster. For every sticky note received, the MSA donated a quarter to families in need. Hussain was pleasantly surprised at the response.

"The UD students and faculty loved this event and we had students competing to write more things so that we would donate greater amounts of money," she said. "It was fantastic!"

MSA's most recent event was inspired by movements for women's empowerment. Many stereotypes and false assumptions exist about the Islamic view of women's rights, so this event was designed to correct these misinterpretations. The MSA team handed out roses

with facts about the rights of women in Islam attached to the stems. Facts included information about Muslim women's right to own property and how Islam was one of the first religions to allow women the right to divorce. Hussain says they handed out around 125 roses.

"It was really cool to see so many people 'stopping to smell the roses' while also learning something about Islam in regards to equality and women's rights," she said. "The impact and the smiles were amazing."

Hussain is proud of what the organization accomplished in a semester but is looking forward to doing more. She says the group is planning a traditional event to be held in March or April.

The Muslim Student Association faces more societal challenges than other student organizations. According to a recent study from Pew Research Center, 69 percent of Americans say there is "a lot" of discrimination against Muslims in the U.S. This prejudice can lead to

people hardening their hearts, closing their ears and not being willing to learn. The MSA continues to work toward peace and understanding among students of different backgrounds.

"A lot of students do not know much about Islam, and our goal is to properly inform them about our religion and show that we have a lot more in common than many people realize," Syed said.

Hussain agreed and emphasized her desire for the organization to become more of a resource to students on campus.

"We want the MSA members to be the examples of Muslims that UD students think of when they hear the word 'Muslim' instead of what negative media outlets try to spread with ignorance and hate," she said. "We want the MSA to be a group that anyone can email if they have questions."

For more information about the Muslim Student Association at UD, please visit [https://www.udayton.edu/ministry/student\\_religious\\_orgs/msa.php](https://www.udayton.edu/ministry/student_religious_orgs/msa.php).



In November, members of the MSA participated in their "what are you grateful for?" event on campus, consisting of students writing what they were grateful for on a sticky note. The organization then donated a quarter for each sticky note written to local families in need. Photo courtesy of Anam Hussain.



# All you need is love: Panelists unravel notions of love near Valentine's Day

JALEH SHAHBAZI  
Contributing Writer

On Feb. 7, 2018, the Humanities Visibility Project, led by president William Van Winkle, held a panel discussion titled "Visions of Love" in honor of the season of love. The purpose of this panel discussion was to display different perspectives on love from a variety of academic fields.

Van Winkle began the event by leading with opening remarks, "Humanities are at the center of everything that we do. Humanities are all about who we are as humans. They're about how we think, what we believe, the cultures that we live in, and that affects all of us regardless of our areas of study."

The guiding of the evening's discussion was then transferred over to Dr. Shannon Toll, assistant professor in the English department, who specializes in Native American literature.

Toll's opening remarks conveyed hope that the event would allow for fun in discussing the concept of love and encouraged the audience to look at love through a complex cultural lens. The humanities faculty who participated in the panel and contributed their expertise on their visions of love included Dustin Atlas, assistant professor of religious studies, Kathleen Costales, assistant professor of languages and Ernesto Velasquez, assistant professor of philosophy.

The panel began by answering the question, "What can you say about love from your respective discipline?"

Velasquez spoke first and talked about how there's a lot to say about love, and most often when it comes to love and philosophy, Plato's Symposium is generally used. Velasquez wanted to stray away from this perspective and instead elaborated on a less well known view of love from a Spanish, female philosopher, Chela Sandoval. Sandoval's notion of love is one that punctures or challenges things, which is different than romantic love, Velasquez notes, but she says love is a political technology, one that should be used as a tool when there is injustice in the world.

Atlas, from the perspec-



Pictured left to right are panelists Ernesto Velasquez, Dustin Atlas and Kathleen Costales. The trio unraveled various aspects of love and left the audience with a deeper understanding of the emotion. Photo courtesy of Christian Cubacub.

tive of Jewish religious studies, explained that if love is to be looked at from his respective field's point-of-view, then the first question that has to be asked is "What is love doing and how is it being used?" He mentioned how supremacy groups recently have been renaming themselves as "love groups" rather than hate groups, and he commented that "love is often overstressed in places of exclusion."

Costales, from the view of Spanish literature, notes that love is a constant, yet changes

over time. She explains that love is ever present in Spanish literature, just as in all other cultures, but, in Spain, love is viewed as a troublesome. Costales both entertained and educated the audience by sharing an old Spanish phenomena of medical books diagnosing "love-sickness" as a disease. This disease was only diagnosed in men, and the medical treatment for such a disease was written to be "wine and prostitutes."

As the panel took its course, the concept of love in relation to an ideal life was discussed.

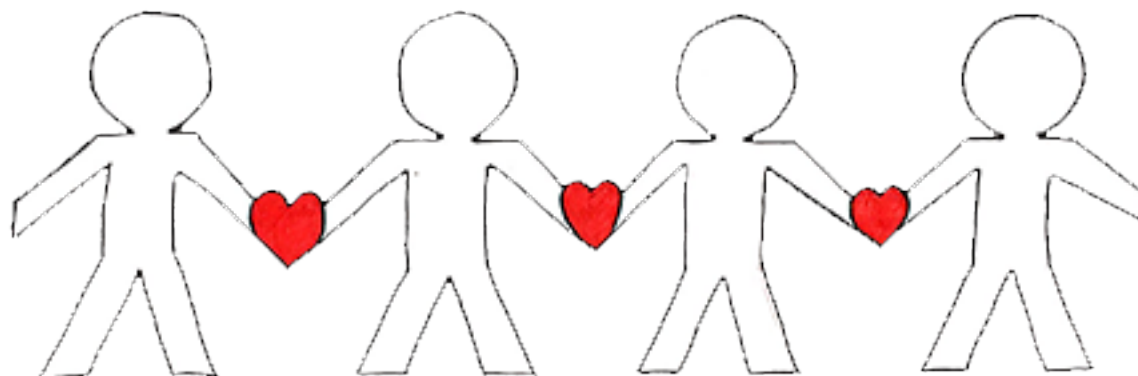
"When we think about love and the good life, we should think about a good life for whom?" Velasquez retorted. "How do we move our minds from ourselves and our lives to questioning critically what the good life is?" In frustration for those who have been put under the boot of injustice where love of humanity is lacking, and the "good life" is not an option for all. Velasquez questioned, "What kind of life is that where people are marginalized and others have certain privileges?" Atlas briefly

chimed in, saying he believes society feels too entitled to the "good life."

The discussion went deeper when the panel discussed the possibility of someone being able to love themselves fully."

Atlas responded by stating self-love, for the most part, is really not a good thing, because of patriotism and religious obsession with sexuality and love. He made the bold claim that if you want to love yourself and perhaps find yourself to "burn your phone." Why? According to Atlas, there is an over emphasis on connection that, in reality, people should be trying to disconnect as much as possible, because these days one has to "fight very hard for solitude."

Velasquez also commented on this question by mentioning it's not clear how one can love themselves or find themselves in this day and age. He explained the main way to do that is reflecting and using what you learn from that reflection on personal growth. He also said that people learn to love themselves through engaging and having experiences through having something to reflect on.



Graphic by Mary Guida/Art Director

# Campus Events

## February 13 - February 27

**Feb. 13**

Busy Person's retreat, location to be determined (12 a.m. – 12 a.m.)

**Feb. 14**

Ash Wednesday masses in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception (8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m.) Other locations and times available, visit <https://udayton.edu/calendar/2018/02/ash-wednesday-masses.php> for more information

Valentine's Day

**Feb. 15**

Mathematics Colloquium in Science Center Room 323 (3:35 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

**Feb. 16**

Panel: "Non-Western Concepts of Hospitality" in Sears Recital Hall (10:10 a.m. – 11 a.m.)

**Feb. 17**

Center for Social Concern's off-campus SERVICE Saturday (8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

**Feb. 18**

Les Freres Meduses performance in Sears Recital Hall (7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.)

**Feb. 19**

Inside the Cell: The Experience of Solitary Confinement exhibit in KU Torch Lounge (12 p.m. – 3 p.m.)

**Feb. 20**

Table of Plenty in Liberty Hall Room 08 (12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.)

**Feb. 21**

Friends of Africa reception in KU Torch Lounge (3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.)

**Feb. 22**

Mathematics Colloquium in Science Center room 323 (3:35 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

**Feb. 23**

Theatre, Dance and Performance Technology and the Human Rights Center presents "unfinished" in Black Box Theatre, Fitz Hall (8 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.)

**Feb. 24**

Center for Social Concern's off-campus criminal justice plunge (12 p.m. – 7 p.m.)

**Feb. 25**

SGA public meeting in KU East Ballroom (6 p.m. – 8 p.m.)

**Feb. 26**

Dayton Jazz Ensemble & University Jazz Band performance in KU Ballroom (8 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.)

**Feb. 27**

Concert Band performance in KU Ballroom (8 p.m. – 9 p.m.)



# Memo mania: A student's guide to the Nunes memo

SEAN NEWHOUSE  
Contributing Writer

With approval from President Donald Trump, Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee released an unclassified GOP-authored memo on Feb. 2. The memo alleged misuse of power by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and FBI in their handling of the investigation into Russia's meddling in the 2016 presidential election.

The memo was released with objections from House Democrats on the Intelligence Committee, led by ranking member Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA). They wrote their own memo and tried to release it on the same day as the Republican-drafted one, but the Intelligence Committee voted along party lines to delay its release.

On Feb. 5, the House Intelligence Committee unanimously voted to release the Democrat-authored memo, but Trump denied the request on Friday, February 9, citing security concerns.



Devin Nunes, Chair of the House Intelligence Committee, wrote the unclassified GOP memo. Photo courtesy of Wikimedia. Commons

The Democratic memo's release was opposed by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who is overseeing the Russia investigation after Attorney General Jeff Sessions recused himself, and FBI Director Christopher Wray, both Trump appointees. The two offi-

cials also opposed the release of the Republican-authored memo.

The Republican memo detailed what the authors claim was an improper use of a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant that permitted electronic surveillance of Carter Page, a former campaign foreign policy advisor to Trump who resigned amid questions about his connections to high-level Russians.

FISA warrants are issued by the U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC), a body that permits intelligence agencies to monitor foreign spies in the U.S.

The memo notes in the DOJ and FBI's application for a FISA against Page that they included unverified information from the Steele dossier, which was written by former British intelligence officer Christopher Steele. According to the memo, Steele told a DOJ contact he was "desperate" that Trump not get elected.

The dossier was funded by the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee through Fusion GPS, a research

firm. It alleged compromising information about Trump in relation to the Russian government. It was shared with news organizations and the FBI.

Most news organizations chose not to publish the dossier, as they largely could not verify its content. However, BuzzFeed controversially made the dossier public in January 2017.

The FISA warrant against Page was renewed three times. Probable cause must be shown for the FISC to renew a warrant.

Another finding from the memo is that George Papadopoulos, also a Trump campaign foreign policy advisor, triggered the FBI's investigation into Russian meddling in July 2016.

Papadopoulos, who pled guilty to lying to the FBI about his contacts with Russians, drunkenly told Australian diplomat Alexander Downer in London in May 2016 that he knew Russia had embarrassing information about Hillary Clinton, according to the New York Times.

House Intelligence Chairman Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA), a member of Trump's transition team, was the memo's key proponent. This was not the first time he has made headlines.

In March 2017, he held a press conference announcing he would

be going to the White House to give President Trump information regarding government surveillance of members of his campaign staff. The Washington Post later reported he had been on White House grounds the previous day.

Nunes did this without informing his fellow committee members. He was accused of revealing classified information related to the Russia investigation, however, he was cleared of any wrongdoing in an ethics investigation.

Understandably, there is a lot of confusion and political drama surrounding the various Russia investigations, most notably the one led by former FBI Director Robert Mueller. Nonetheless, the investigations are pertinent to the very foundation of American democracy.

Department of Homeland Security officials confirmed in Senate testimony that Russian hackers targeted 21 state election systems in the 2016 election. This should be concerning to anyone, regardless of political affiliation.

No one knows for sure what will come next, not even the experts. But these partisan memos will certainly inform the public's understanding and interpretation of Russia's role and influence in the 2016 presidential election.

**UD•POLICE•**

UD Public Safety now has its own YouTube safety channel titled, "University of Dayton Public Safety." We encourage all students to subscribe. Soon we will announce contests where students can create their own safety videos and have them published on our channel.

Chief Chatman presented three UD police officers with outstanding commendations this week. The "life saving" commendation and uniform pins were presented to Sgt. McIntosh and Officer Bernhardt. The duo administered CPR and deployed an AED to an elderly man with no pulse, which resulted in a successful conclusion to a life-threatening situation. Officer Joe Wilhelm was recognized for arresting a habitual OVI (Operating Vehicle while Intoxicated) offender near the campus.

**CHATMAN'S REPORT**

Graphic by Ria Gordan/Staff Graphic Designer

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# Students get in the Daytona spirit during annual lottery week

CLAIRE SCHMIG  
Staff Writer

In just 12 short weeks, Dayton2Daytona, know as “Flyer Nation’s Favorite Vacation,” will be in full swing with UD students enjoying a summer trip with their classmates, the D2D committee brought the true spirit of Daytona to campus during its lottery week from Feb. 5 to Feb. 9.

The week was filled with opportunities for students to win first hotel spots, free trips and more. UD students got into the Daytona spirit this past week, participating in Dayton2Daytona’s annual #LotteryWeek.

Dayton2Daytona has been a UD tradition for over 30 years. The celebration brings together 2,000 upperclassmen students for a week of pool parties, concerts, club events and general relaxation, according to D2D’s website.

But these coveted prizes didn’t come easy. Students had to show their love for D2D through sheet signs, trivia night and wearing creative beach attire around campus.

Winners of the sheet sign competition won a first hotel spot, but everyone who entered was placed in the raffle for a free trip. Winners of the trivia night received a first hotel spot. And the winner of the beach attire Instagram competition won a free trip.

The winners of the sheet sign competition were seniors Malloory Masturzo, Claire Cullen, Julia Carroccio, Malia Harvey, Theresa Isemann. Their sheet sign honored the recent launching of Elon Musk’s SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket into space. Attached to the rocket was Musk’s 2008 Tesla Roadster, complete with a passenger in the car, a mannequin nicknamed Starman. Not only was the group fascinated with the unique launch, they’re huge fans of Musk.

“We’re a group of friends trying to spend as much time together as possible before we graduate,” said Masturzo. “This sheet sign was something we all worked on and it was a great excuse to spend a couple hours with our best friends. Daytona



The winning sheet sign in Dayton2Daytona’s lottery week featured inspiration from Elon Musk’s Tesla and astronaut mannequin launched into space with the SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket, pictured left. Students also showed off their best Daytona gear on campus and on social media platforms. Photos courtesy of D2D committee.



is something we’re looking forward to immensely, it’s our last hurrah before we part ways.”

Despite the five inches of snow and bitter cold temperatures UD experienced, the D2D committee was determined to keep the excitement alive for lottery week.

“Last semester we were lucky enough to have beautiful weather during Halfway2Daytona and everyone was in great spirits,” Ellie Parks, one of the D2D executive directors said. “Although we weren’t so lucky for lottery week, we’ve done a good job with our promotions to get people signed up and excited for the trip.”

Parks believes the committee’s close-knit relationship attributes to this year’s success. The committee is dedicated to working collaboratively to accomplish their goals and ensure everyone has the best trip possible.

“My favorite part of being on the committee is working with

everyone but also becoming friends with them,” said Maggie McGauran, vice president of marketing for D2D. “It’s so fun getting to plan a trip that everyone can enjoy and will look back on years down the road.”

Parks added that it is not really work. It’s fun for her to plan a five-day trip with people’s best friends.

With great surprise, the Ocean Breeze Hotel, also known as “first hotel,” will be open for students to enjoy the pool deck. Early in the year, the hotel was scheduled to be under renovations during D2D.

Although lottery week was the last main event for students to win free trips and a first hotel spot, there are still fun giveaways to come in the remainder of the semester. Stay on the lookout for Daytona-specific giveaways. Think: gift cards and free cover charges.

To find out more information about this year’s Dayton2Daytona trip, visit [dayton2daytona.com](http://dayton2daytona.com).



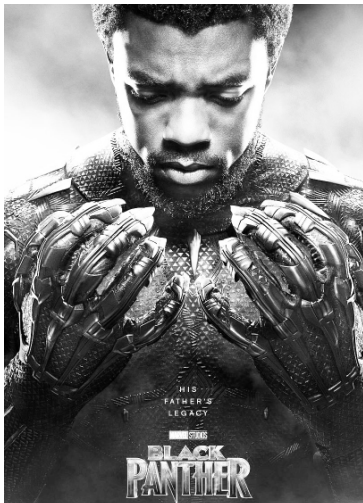


# Spring movie preview: Your guide to the box office this semester

BRETT SLAUGHENHAUPT  
Movie Columnist

The new year started off with a bit of a slump, but the spring season is looking to be full of hits both critical and commercial. Chalk it up to a “Get Out” effect or just the fact that studios are trying to release as many Event-with-a-capital-E films as they can in one year, but it’s getting harder and harder to write off any time of the year as being slow for film.

## FEBRUARY



**“Black Panther” (February 16)**  
Not only is this going to be one of the biggest February releases, but this is also going to be one of the biggest releases ever. It already has rave reviews across the board - unsurprising for a Marvel film, but this is so much more than a Marvel or superhero movie. This is a reckoning. Ryan Coogler is one of the most exciting filmmakers working today, and he has put together a cast of both strong men and women sparking a new surge in the superhero-fare.

Also out this month...

February 9: There is a reason Clint Eastwood’s career has spanned decades as he continues with an interesting twist on the ‘ripped from the headlines’ genre with **“The 15:17 to Paris,”** **“Fifty Shades Freed”** concludes the trilogy and those darned animals be crazy in **“Peter Rabbit.”**

February 16: Aardman Animations continues with their endearing vision in **“Early Man.”**

February 23: Some may consider **“Annihilation”** too intellectual for audiences in Alex Garland’s follow-up to **“Ex Machina,”** love’s bounds are tested in the fantastical teen romance **“Every Day”** and Rachel McAdams is an Oscar nominee who really deserves better in **“Game Night.”**

## MARCH



**“A Wrinkle in Time” (March 9)**

Three films directed by women in the history of Hollywood have amassed a budget of \$100+ million. Ava DuVernay is the first black woman to do so. Based on the classic Madeleine L’Engle novel of time traveling children and their accompanying peculiar - Mrs. Who, Mrs. Which and Mrs. Whatsit - as they try to find a missing father who could be the key to saving the universe, this looks to be a visual treat full of adventure and excitement.

Also out this month...

March 2: Bruce Willis does his thing (that thing being killing people) in Eli Roth’s **“Death Wish,”** **“Alpha”** is essentially “The Covenant” meets “Marmaduke” and Jennifer Lawrence’s charisma is truly put to the test as she tries to maintain a Russian accent for 2-plus hours in **“Red Sparrow.”**

March 9: Showing off his comedy and action chops is David Oyelowo in **“Gringo,”** in what is probably the most literal title comes **“The Hurricane Heist”** and 10 years after the original comes **“The Strangers: Prey at Night.”**

March 16: It looks to be a big weekend with the coming-of-age and coming out film **“Love, Simon,”** Oscar-winner Alicia Vikander takes over for Jolie in the updated **“Tomb Raider,”** and it’s definitely-not-“Munich” starring Rosamund Pike in **“7 Days in Entebbe.”**

March 23: Wes Anderson returns to the world of stop-motion animation in **“Isle of Dogs,”** **“Midnight Sun”** is a film that exists and helped along by a large

Asian market **“Pacific Rim: Uprising”** has a second chance at life. **“Sherlock Gnomes”** will be the first of two twists on the classic character 2018 has to offer and **“Unsane”** finds Claire Foy playing against type in the best way for Steven Soderbergh’s first horror film.

March 30: **“Acrimony”** reminds us that Taraji P. Henson is criminally underserved as an actor, Spielberg goes for the one-two punch with the visual feast of **“Ready Player One”** and weirdly enough God is still not dead in **“God’s Not Dead: A Light in Darkness.”**

## APRIL



**“Tully” (April 20)**

Jason Reitman, Diablo Cody and Charlize Theron come together again in a film that premiered to rave reviews at Sundance. Although their first film, “Young Adult” didn’t quite hit the mark with its black-as-night humor, this one looks to be as cutting with a bit more warmth. Described as being about “motherhood in 2018,” it follows a mother of three as she attempts to survive her daily life. That is until a nanny, the titular Tully played by a fresh-faced Mackenzie Davis, comes to save the day. It looks to be another great showcase for Theron’s dramatic abilities and hopefully elevates Davis to a level she deserves.

Also out this month...

April 6: **“Blockers:”** because parents getting involved in their children’s sex lives is not weird. **“Chappaquiddick”** follows Ted Kennedy’s involvement in the infamous car accident, spouses Emily Blunt and John Krasinski team up in Krasinski’s directorial debut in the creative horror **“A Quiet Place”** and **“You Were Never Really Here”** is a powerful return for director Lynne

Ramsay. April 11 debuts **“Beirut”** a film starring Jon Hamm that premiered at Sundance to middling reviews.

April 13: A gender-swapped remake of the 1987 comedy **“Overboard”** and **“Truth or Dare”** a seemingly forgettable teen horror flick starring Lucy Hale.

April 20 will go down in the history books as being the best ever with the release of Dwayne Johnson’s absolute bonkers **“Rampage,”** the film every dude pretends to love is getting a sequel with **“Super Troopers 2”** and you bet I cried during the trailer for Helen Hunt’s **“The Miracle Season.”**

April 27 has the release of **“Traffik,”** a thriller starring Paula Patton.

## MAY



**“The Avengers: Infinity War” (May 4)**

It’s been 10 years strong for the current Marvel Cinematic Universe. Six years ago in the first Avengers film, we were introduced to the big baddie Thanos, and all of that will finally come to a head in what is sure to be their biggest film, yet. Superheros will die, and ties will be tested. And we still have the follow-up film to look forward to in 2019! Marvel always gives us consistently solid films, here’s hoping Infinity War is where they decide to truly become great.

Also out this month...

May 11: **“Breaking In”** plays like a cross between “The Purge” and “Taken” and spouses Melissa McCarthy and Ben Falcone collaborate for a third time with **“Life of the Party.”**

May 18: Everyone’s favorite raunchy superhero returns in **“Deadpool 2”** and in a film I

hope everyone received amazing paychecks for is **“Show Dogs.”**

May 25: It’s time for the Jedi to - wait, let’s go back 50 years when Han Solo looked like Alden Ehrenreich and Lando Calrissian looked like a God in **“Solo: A Star Wars Story.”**

And all this will lead us into another big summer full of big blockbusters, such as “The Incredibles 2” and other movies that don’t matter as much as “THE INCREDIBLES 2,” baby!

As always, consider spending your money locally at Dayton’s independent theatre The Neon, located one mile from UD’s campus, Little Art Theatre in Yellow Springs or at Plaza Theatre in Miamisburg.

Photos courtesy of Wikipedia and Wikimedia Commons

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CHEY WARD  
Staff Writer

# THE ARTIST

## CHRIS MILLER

“The perfect spot to live in life to live is right in between absolute evil and absolute good.” Art has allowed one UD student to live in his perfect moment. His musical hobby has not only been an entertaining pastime it has allowed him to become a more reflecting, understanding and appreciative individual.

Chris Miller, the journalism focused communication major, has developed a hobby for writing and performing rap music which ties in nicely with his music technology minor. Over the years Miller has gained confidence and new gadgets that have allowed him to

pursue his musical passions.

Similar to most students that have learned to play an instrument, Miller’s musical career started in the fifth grade. He played the trumpet and eventually developed his skills through jazz band. Creating sounds with technology instead of instruments did not come to him until after high school.

Miller admits that while jazz music and the trumpet got him

thinking about involving himself in music, his love of words was more impactful.

“I’ve always been into reading books,” Miller said. “Reading really made me want to explore my artistry more.” His passion for written words has meshed well with the emphasis that rap music places on lyrics.

What he says is just as important as how he says it, Miller believes.

“The words are what makes rap special; it’s not long verse. You have to put as much as you can into one word or sentence to make it worthwhile.” He understands the importance of words but looks to other things to help him decide which words to choose.

UD’s environment has allowed Miller’s musical interests and talents to grow. He reflected on the universities influence on his music.

“It opened me up to accepting a lot of different opinions and perspectives,” Miller said. “But I realized we’re all the same in some way and with that, there comes individuality and relatability. I try to put these themes in my music.”

Other emotional undercurrents have recurred in Miller’s raps. He says that he tries to mix his beats up as much as possible and makes his raps interesting by pairing subject matter with beats that don’t seem to go together. His rapping has allowed him to get in touch with his own emotions as well as understand others’ feelings.

One thing that has been central



Photos courtesy of Chris Miller.

to his music is a sense of balance. He raps about the good and the bad and relates it back to human beings.

“I talk a lot about how who you are may interfere with who you want to be.” These are things that Miller enjoys reflecting on, but he also embraces emotions that he hasn’t necessarily felt himself.

In his three-part rap love story, “It Is What It Is,” Miller explores the different phases of a relationship. He wanted to reflect the happiness and pain that comes along with the ups and downs of a relationship. Taking on the persona of someone that had been in love and been through a bad breakup allowed him to step into someone else’s shoes, much like professional rappers do.

Many different artists have influenced Miller in various aspects of his personal and musical development. Tyler the Creator, a self-made California rapper made Miller believe that rap could take him places. Artists like Mac DeMarco and Childish Gambino have helped him develop an individual style and think outside the box. He

looks to Eminem and mimics his masterful lyrical abilities. Overall, one individual made the biggest impact on him.

“Kid Cudi has inspired me in terms of my life because he raps about being in your own way and that is something everyone has to deal with.”

Whereas his message can be reached by a wide audience, his process is very unique. Miller first records in his car. Leading up to the moment when he gets to his car to record, he makes his beat, writes his lyrics and contemplates his delivery.

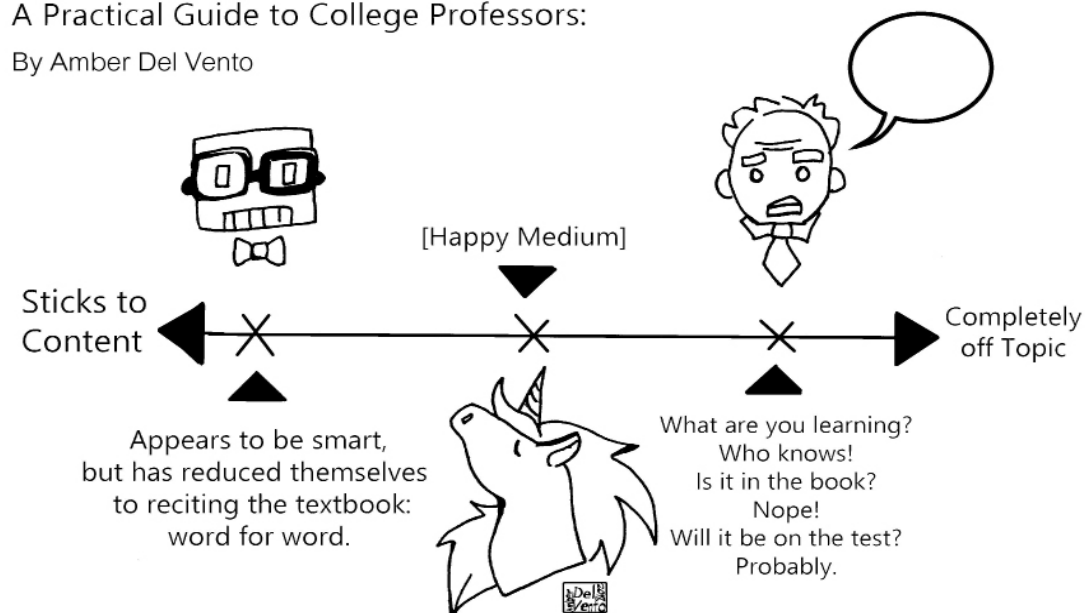
Miller’s creative process has changed as his personal musical tastes have changed. He starts a beat with lush piano and string sounds and then overlays a drum beat. He only writes his lyrics after the beat is firmly in his head so that the words and sounds match up with each other.

To listen to Miller’s music, you can check out his YouTube channel. “The Moment.” If you would prefer to listen to him perform live, stop by ArtStreet on the third Friday of each month for Campus to Canvas.



### A Practical Guide to College Professors:

By Amber Del Vento



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# PORCH PROFILE

# The Women of 323 Kiefaber

JULIA HALL  
Print Editor

**FN: How did you all meet?**

Bridget Farnan: Well, me and Kayla were on the same floor freshman year.

Laura May: And, then, Alex and I became best friends because we were on the same floor freshman year, too. But Ali is like our newborn child. Ali Mahrer: Yeah, I just moved in here this semester.

LM: Then, Bridget and I are in the same sorority, so we also met freshman year.

BF: I met Alex through Laura, and the rest is history.

**FN: What's your most embarrassing moment at UD?**

Alex D'Angelo: Freshman year I was texting, and I tripped over the curb at the bottom of Stuart Hill and ended up on my back.

LM: She was texting me.

(Laughter ensues)

LM: Then, she proceeded to text me again telling me what happened. I was like, 'okay.'

Kayla Berry: I was in the gym one time, and I was doing weighted lunges. And I was going backward and was doing one too many. I slowly fell backward and couldn't get back up, and I fell in front of everyone. It was great. Then, I tried again and did it a second time. Then, I was like, 'It was just not meant to be leg day.'

LM: I feel like I fell down a lot of stairs, but a pretty embarrassing moment is a full-eight minute video of me re-enacting all of "Frozen." That was funny.

**FN: What is everyone's weirdest quirk?**

KB: (To AM) I did hear you singing Quinn in the shower the other day.

AM: Oh, Jesus Christ, I'm so sorry.

KB: She didn't know I was here.

LM: Bridget is a little too obsessed with the Kardashians.

BF: I wouldn't count it as a quirk.

AM: You aspire to be one. Are you Stormy?

BF: She's the freaking world



Alex D'Angelo, Ali Mahrer, Bridget Farnan, Laura May, Kayla Berry. Photo courtesy of Julia Hall/Print Editor.

because her mom is freaking awesome.

BF: I think our biggest quirk is that we all say 'sorry' constantly.

LM: It's annoying, honestly.

BF: I don't really count this as a quirk, but I count it as a failure in my education. But, I can't really distinguish the difference between a cucumber and a zucchini.

LM: True story. It's fine.

AD: I think my biggest quirk is that I am too much of a mom.

LM: I can't say the word breakfast (breakfast), so. I can say it if I think about it, but if I am in the middle of a conversation.

KB: I go to the gym too much.

**FN: Do you have any house traditions?**

LM: Dancing on tables.

BF: Yes.

AM: I witnessed that last weekend when Alex was on the counter.

LM: It is normally to the song, "Drinking Class" by Lee Brice.

NM: That was sophomore year. We were just going nuts studying, and we had hairbrushes out and everything. Our fourth roommate must have been like, 'I am going to sleep.'

LM: Also, Alex likes to run through the snow, especially the first snowfall. I don't know...what else?

AM: I don't know — I'm new here.

KB: We are notoriously bad at taking roommate pictures. When we tried to take our Christmas photo we were all wearing black.

LM: We killed Christmas.

**FN: Where do you see each other in ten years?**

AM: Bridget will be stalking the Kardashians.

LM: Ali will be still quoting "Toby's Going Away."

AD: Kayla is going to be developing some serious renewable energy.

LM: But still on the powerlifting.

KB: I'll have my own gym by

then too. Laura is going to be making sustainable lingerie for Victoria Secret.

LM: I hope not. Here is what I want to do in 10 years: I want to have five dogs on the Outer Banks, and hopefully working for a sustainable company. If not, then the next Taylor Swift.

BF: I want to be on a farm.

AD: Raising chicken nuggets.

BF: No.

LM: Raising chickens for nuggets.

BF: No, I want to be on a farm, but I don't want to do any of the work. I just will look cute out there, and make my husband and kids do all the work.

LM: Oh, Jesus Christ. I think Alex is going to be out West, also saving the planet — doing a much better job than me. Has just as many dogs, probably more with a husband and kids, even if she denies that. But it's going to happen.

AM: I want to get out of Ohio. I have been here for 21 years. I need to get out of this state.

**FN: What advice do you have for underclassmen?**

AD: It goes by way too fast, so make all your moments count.

BF: Step out of your comfort zone. Meet new people. Get involved, although I'm not involved.

AD: Are these things you wished you'd done?

BF: I have some regrets, okay? Anyway, go somewhere. Travel abroad, even if it is for a semester or six weeks. Broaden your horizons.

KB: We are here for school, but appreciate your friends and keep them close.

LM: If you haven't invested in a nice speaker, you need to do that. Appreciate your porch. Hopefully, you get one. If you didn't, then you suck at PATH points. Get some nice chairs. Don't be afraid to laugh as loud as you can.

AM: Don't be like me and get a semester ahead because it sucks, and it's stressful.



# Band Beat: Seniors make up garage rock band “Freight”

CARI ZAHN  
A&E Editor

Fostered in Founders Hall three years ago, a friendship formed between two students that eventually led to the creation of an on-campus band. Freight was officially formed at the end of the members’ junior year, but an interaction between two strangers set it all into motion a couple years prior.

Guitarist and vocalist Tim Schroeder was relaxing in his room, singing and playing guitar when fellow Founders resident Ethan Steinmetz, whom Schroeder had never met, asked to join in on the jam session. The duo befriended a drummer who lived across the hall, and by the end of their junior year, Freight was complete with bassist and music producer Adam Knox, keyboardist and lead vocalist Matt Huntington and drummer Matthew Stevenson.

Freight’s sound can be described most generally as “rock music,” but they often incorporate funk and jazz. Inspired by artists such as Jimi Hendrix, Cake, Led Zeppelin and The Beatles, the band works together to create original songs. Though Schroeder typically writes the lyrics and main chord progressions, the songwriting process is truly a group effort. After Schroeder sets down the base of the song, the rest of the members add in their instruments, mess with the form and make sure it sounds tight. Steinmetz also wrote lyrics for a yet-to-be-re-



Photos courtesy of Freight.

leased song.

All of their music is recorded and mixed by the band, with each instrument taking a different room of the house to get the tracks laid down.

The band’s name was born the first time Huntington hung out with the band. They were going to rehearse on the first floor of Fitz Hall, and intended to use an elevator to move their equipment. They noticed the elevator they were trying to use was labeled “freight,” and remarked that they couldn’t use it. Huntington suggested that they name the band

“Freight,” and the elevator would be theirs to use.

Much to the chagrin of Schroeder, who had been collecting band names for years, “Freight” came into existence and remains the name of the band today.

University of Dayton students can catch this classic garage rock band playing a couple times a month at various locations around the city. In addition to participating in last year’s Battle of the Bands, the band frequents Dog Breath Tavern in Kettering and have played a few shows in the ArtStreet Cafe

on campus. The band also played a show at Jimmie’s Ladder 11 on Friday.

Though a band full of UD students would certainly appeal to their peers, Freight has received good feedback from adult listeners in the area. The music theory students in the band tend to use that as an influence for their music, and recommend it to those in the music department.

“We do really nerdy stuff that appeals to them, but you don’t need to be into that,” Knox said.

Daytonians especially will appreciate the band’s single, “12

Bar Crawl,” which features lyrics about twelve area bars. The band attempted to do the bar crawl themselves, but the order in which the bars are mentioned in the song does not lend itself to a productive path.

“It’s a terrible order,” Steinmetz said. “We did it on a Wednesday, so we only made it through six or seven.”

When the band performed at Dog Breath Tavern, they improvised an extra measure of music to add the name of the bar in.

That was not the band’s only experience with improvisation, as evidenced by a set they played at ArtStreet. The band didn’t plan on doing any sort of encore, and they played through their entire set of songs before someone yelled for them to play one more song.

Wanting to appease the crowd but without any more material, the band discussed group-huddle style and then decided to attempt a half-written song that they had only talked about and never played through. It was a special night for them because Huntington, who was not playing with the band at the time, surprised them by showing up and supporting them at that show.

*Freight is currently working on an album, and though they haven’t set a release date and plan to take some time to polish it, you can listen to their already released songs on Spotify, iTunes, Google Play, YouTube and Amazon Music.*

ROSE RUCOBA  
Staff Writer

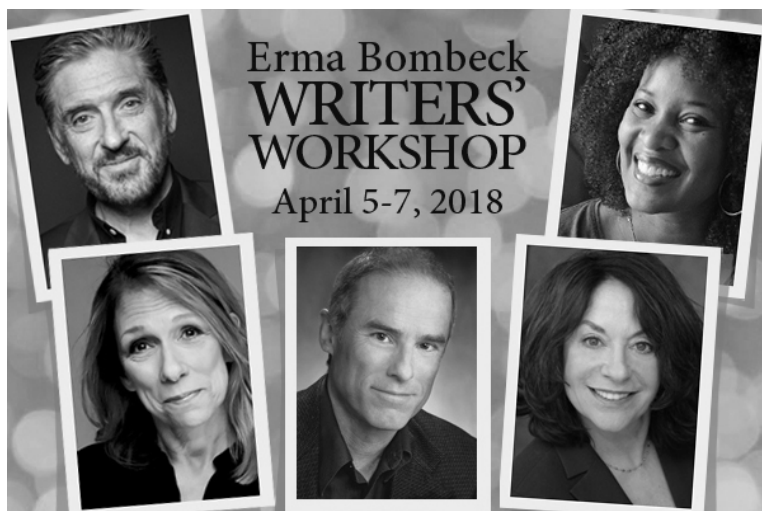
Who would have thought that Monica Piper, the head writer of the children’s television show, “Rugrats,” John Grogan, the author of the novel, “Marley and Me: Life and Love with the World’s Worst Dog,” and Liza Donnelly, an award-winning cartoonist for The New York Magazine would all be in Dayton together at the same time?

Believe it or not, they are! This April, all three writers, and many more will participate in the renowned Erma Bombeck Writer’s Workshop, speaking as designated keynote speakers.

The workshop will take place on April 5-7 at the Dayton Marriott hotel.

There is also a special pre-workshop event on April 4 at the Centerville Library at 7 p.m. that is free and open to the public, but advanced registration is required.

The three-day event attracts



Photos courtesy of Teri Rizvi

distinguished writers from all over the country and gives them the opportunity to improve their writing, share their ideas and take part in the only workshop in the country that focuses on humor and human interest writing.

Erma Bombeck, after whom the workshop is named, graduated

from UD in 1949. She went on to write a variety of humorous columns for hundreds of newspapers and authored 15 books.

During her time at UD, Bombeck received some life-changing words of advice from one of her professors, Bro. Tom Price.

“You can write!” Bro. Tom Price

told her.

These words inspired Bombeck to pursue a life of writing.

Teri Rizvi, executive director of strategic communications, started the workshop in 2000. It was meant to be a one-time event in celebration of Bombeck’s family donating Bombeck’s papers to UD, but it was such a success that they decided to offer the workshop again.

Over the past 18 years, it has evolved into quite the prestigious event, having a reputation for selling out. This year, the workshop sold out in less than five hours.

“It’s taken on a life of its own,” Rizvi said.

This year will mark the tenth year that the workshop has been offered. It will include approximately 350 writers from across the country, five keynote speakers, numerous workshops, and Pitchapalooza: American Idol for Books, an event where writers can pitch ideas to judges and receive advice or get recommended to an

agent.

Rizvi encourages students to take part in the event, whether by volunteering at the workshop’s various events or by participating as a writer in the workshop itself through the student scholarship that UD offers.

Senior, Julia Hall, who attended the workshop on the student scholarship a few years ago, said that the experience changed the way she thought about her writing.

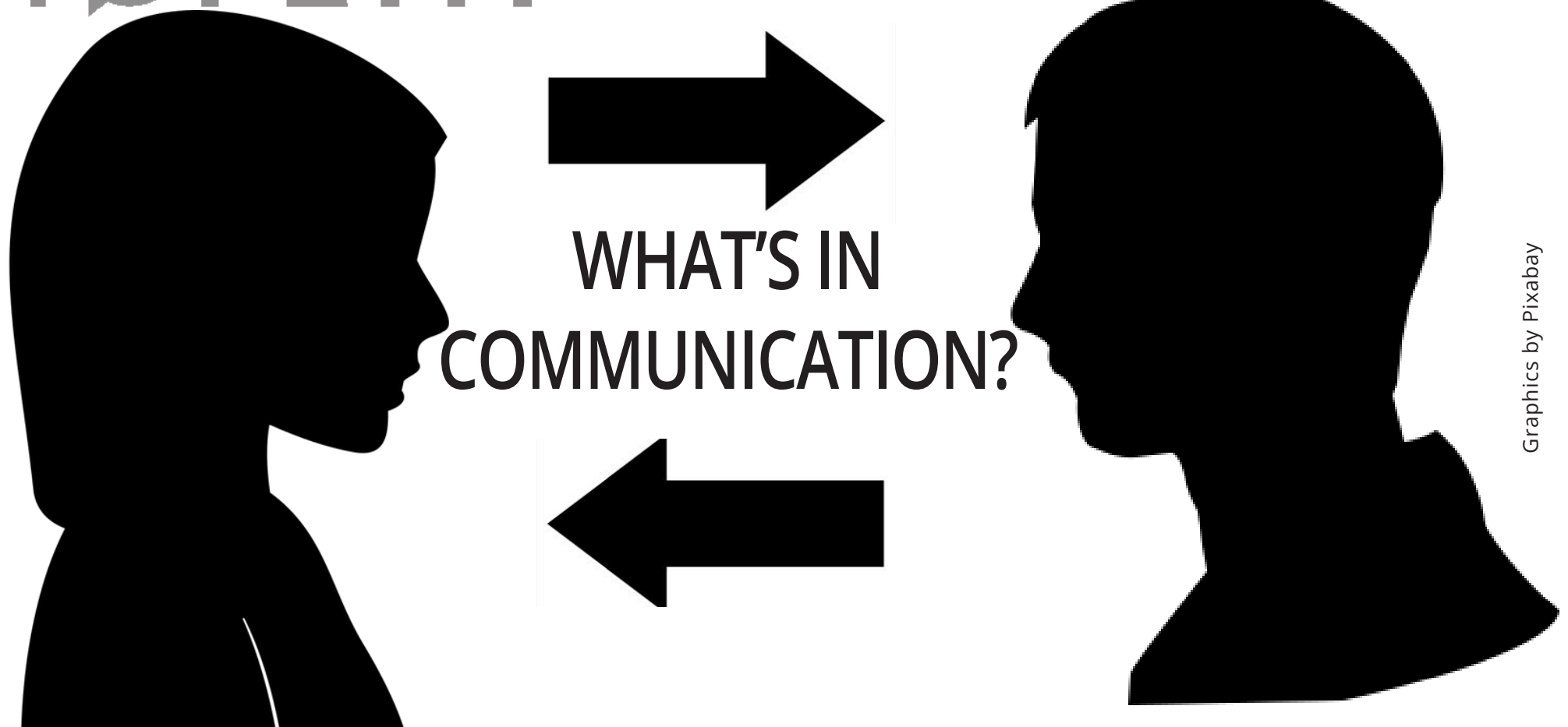
“When I attended a few years ago, I was submerged in a wave of whimsical, funny writers and speakers who pushed me to think of my own approach to writing and editing with an entirely new lens,” Hall said.

Rizvi really hopes that more students will participate this year.

“I really just think it’s a fabulous opportunity for students. I would have loved something like this when I was in college,” Rizvi said.

forum

**"Wise men speak because they have something to say.  
Fools because they have to say something."  
-Plato**



## Behind Dayton's most ubiquitous class on campus Comm 100

JALEH SHAHBAZI  
Contributing Writer

Oral Communications 100 is a class every student at the University of Dayton has to take, but why?

For most students, it'd be a happy day if the university announced that the requirement has been dropped, but would that be a rational way to feel or think? Is it reasonable that most all the students at UD agonize over the idea that they have to take an oral comm class?

Nearly all undergrad students are between the ages of 17 and 23, a seemingly broad age gap when college is nearly a third of your life, as mentioned by Meghan Dale in an article published by the Canadian government. Students ache over taking a class in which they have to present and, god forbid, actually talk to each other, but that's valid. Talking to people you don't know, with different ideas, who will more than likely argue with you is uncomfortable and unwanted. There is no doubt that not taking that class would make you happy short term, but what about long term?

What does this class give a student in the long run, if anything at all? And why does the university put so much emphasis on taking this one, silly class? Why won't they just let us focus on our individual majors and let us worry about who we are as people in our own time and way? We can figure out who

we want to be and what ways we want to interact with society without some university telling us what to do, right?

When we say "communicate," the way to express fully what it means is best said by Dr. Emily Richardson, specializing in Interpersonal Communications, "Most people see communication as a one-way event, or a dissemination of information; however, it really is a transactional process that invites all the dynamics and complexities inherent in human beings into the interaction with the goals of mutual respect and understanding." She then explains that, "This of course, does not mean agreement, but instead, we should see communication as an opportunity to move beyond the surface-level discourse to shed light on ways to grow as competent and empathetic people."

Let's take a look at the world. Everyone says it's in disrepair. Everyone says our country, our world, is going down the void—in which all institutions exist—the toilet. We've now had political correctness here in America for decades. "You can't say this, you can't say that, and don't you dare bring up this subject or your independent beliefs about it" and people are angry, and rightly so... and some not so rightly so.

There are people in this world, in this country, in this institution, that feel like they have been silenced, and they have. It is unfair and unjust to say that, in the past members of our society have not been welcome and, in many instances, not been allowed to speak

about certain issues or their personal beliefs about these issues, and that is wrong. Due to recent events, such as our past presidential election, that social structure is starting to collapse, and that's a good thing. But it's making some people very angry and that anger is mostly unjustified.

Suppression of expression does not solve a problem. It's almost like trying to commit thought genocide, as if we're going to eradicate all feelings of bigotry and hatred by exterminating people's expression of such thoughts. Facing this communication problem head-on is emotional and in many cases upsetting. Hell, it's hard to listen to somebody you disagree with, but we're never going to solve anything if we don't communicate with each other.

Suppression does not equal eradication. Suppression does not mean a cure. It just means silence. This idea is analogous to medicine. If a person has a sickness, they often express symptoms, and it's very rare to know if someone is sick if they do not express symptoms. Likewise, if there is bigotry and hatred, it is hard to know that it exists unless it is expressed.

What happens when the sickness is found? Does the doctor cure the symptoms or the root of the disease and how are they able to do that? Again, what happens when bigotry and hatred is found? Does society suppress the expression or get to the root of the bigotry and hatred and cure it? How would they even be able to do that in the

first place?

The same way a researcher of medicine has to get deep down inside and explore all the ins and outs of a sickness, the same goes for attempting to "cure" hatred and bigotry. When these ideas that are controversial and test our emotional boundaries are discovered, it's hard to be detached and be removed from our beloved emotions, but being able to acquire such a skill is invaluable.

Being able to listen to a person, to really hear them, and reply with honesty, respect, understanding and compassion—no matter their views or opinions on the world and especially on you as a person—is a skill. If obtained, the person possessing this skill is worthy of being considered a hero to the world, and this is the true north of the moral compass needed to solve: not only our day-to-day problems, but our world problems as a whole.

The University of Dayton understands this, and is the reason why every single student that walks through its halls must delve down into the world of the uncomfortable and often unknown and come out better, not just as an individual that will now have much more pleasant interactions with a wider range of people, but as a very important part of a whole. They're not just making you better for your lifetime but for all future generations that will succeed you. And what in the world could be more important than that?

Graphics by Pixabay





# Dear Posey,

My roommates and I are quite stressed. We have a dear friend who is a Prince Charming inside and out. Last year we discovered he had feelings for someone who bordered on an evil witch. After she turned him down he was heartbroken but decided to remain friends.

Recently we discovered he's hanging out with her again (alone!) and that his feelings are still there. We're worried that he'll get hurt again. How can we make sure he gets the fairytale ending he deserves without trying to decide what his happily ever after should or shouldn't be.

Love,

The Grimm Brothers

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Dear Grimm Brothers,

How utterly delightful it is to have friendships like yours—I believe that it is relationships of trust and care and genuine goodwill that make life grand. Cheers to you and yours for nurturing that seed, for growing it, and letting it live out in the light of the sun and the moon and the stars.

The weight you bear beneath all those white-knuckles is love. And in that love that is fierce and true, you find yourself wanting to protect your dear friend. It's instinct. It's natural. It's so wholly human. The only problem is that what you're protecting him from is possibility. From the possibility of a changed mind. From the possibility of reconciliation. And yes, even the possibility, maybe even the likelihood, of a twice-broken heart. You're trying with all your might to shield him from the intangibility of potential. All you'll be able to hold onto is worry and smoke from a fire you can't put out. Let go, as hard as that is. Let go, but don't go far.

This all is not to advise you to ignore your hunch. Your intuition is something to acknowledge and honor and trust. I hear you, and I have been where you stand. I know that the alarm bells in your mind ring just as loud and often as the false fire alarms in Marycrest. It's just that I've found that in the moment, our heart-hunches don't seem to matter much to those whom they concern. It's far better to hold up a mirror than to shine a red light. He can't know until he knows.

One more ask: in lieu of casting a spell on the would-be witch, consider practicing some sort of compassion for even the most unlikely of ladies. It's hard, and it is not automatic, and it is often grueling. But it's worth it. Liberate her from the broomstick. It's no place to be.

And fairytales? Yes—absolutely, undoubtedly, as sure as the promise of lilacs come summertime. But fairytale endings? I'm not so sure that's a story I've bought into quite yet. Maybe it's more like

a process of becoming—lots and lots of cycles of becoming and shedding and becoming once more, over and over again. So, dear Brothers Grimm, I'd ask you to let the mundane magic of the becoming into your story. Take a step into the mystic. Bring your friends along, too. Ask them all to stay awhile.

A closing certainty: Prince Charming is going to get where he's going. And he's so very lucky to have you there for the going of it all.

Bibbidi-bobbidi-boo, from the bottom of my own crooked heart.

Love,  
Posey



# Aliens and us: why they may not even exist at all

Contributing writer Drew Kluender considers the fear of the unknown, alien existence, and how to define the undefinable

DREW KLUENDER  
Contributing Writer

Your mind is a very powerful thing. Not only is it able to process the world around you, but also able to make up its own ideas about the information it gets. Aliens are one of these things. They aren't real and never will be!

When you imagine an alien. What do you think of? Maybe a nice little fella like E.T.? What about a guy like Predator? Whatever the differences are, I think you could agree that everyone has

It often seems that our ideas of aliens have been birthed by our fear of the unknown. Now, what do I mean by this? Humans greatest fear is the unknown. If you don't believe me, think about what scares you. It isn't something that you know will happen and is predictable. It's not the 40-year-old man that works in accounting and goes to the same happy hour every Friday. It's not a squirrel

We then move our eyes into the night sky and see space, endless uncharted land, a desert of unknown. There are invisible bounds on Earth that limit our fears from growing because we have become familiar with our world. Our fears finally have some wiggle room in open space to be the scariest thing we could imagine, ourselves.

Most of the time we think of aliens as this beast that is a better version of ourselves. They are stronger, faster, more intelligent and work better together. (The only downside is they're pretty damn ugly). For example, look at the movie "Predator." The alien is purely a version of a human with enhanced features. Our greatest fear is not from something we have seen with our eyes, but something our brain made up, the unknown in ourselves.

Right now, you're probably thinking something along the lines of 'This guy is insane why the hell is he talking about aliens.' So, I'll try to pull the argument back in and explain it in another way. The claim I am making in the last

paragraph or two is this: We fear aliens because we fear the unknown. We fear the unknown in ourselves and this has morphed into our fear of aliens. Consider it in this fashion. We really have no idea why we do what we do, why we think what we think, why we do things irrationally or why we have flaws. Many people have put out theories, but we can never be 100 percent sure why we are what we are.

Think of it this way: There is a box of unknown and stemming from it are two separate boxes: space/the universe and ourselves. Both have this aspect of unknown in them, so we, therefore, fear both. Our brains have then morphed the two into a single fear creating the idea of aliens we have today.

You may have a little rascal in the back of your head saying, "What about the good aliens, Drew?" This is a very good point, I say to the rascal, and I answer it with this: There is another dimension to the unknown we harbor. It can turn into fear, but it can also turn into something else. Aliens can either be good or bad. I focused mainly on the bad in this article. However, our brain does the same thing it did with fear to hope and good. The brain will turn the unknown into good aliens or superheroes. Aliens are therefore not the only thing our brain makes from the unknown.

To end, I would like to make a sincere apology to Clark Kent, E.T. and any other alien reading this article. You aren't real and never will be.

---

**"Aliens are not a living breathing thing and will never be. They are a figment of our imagination."**

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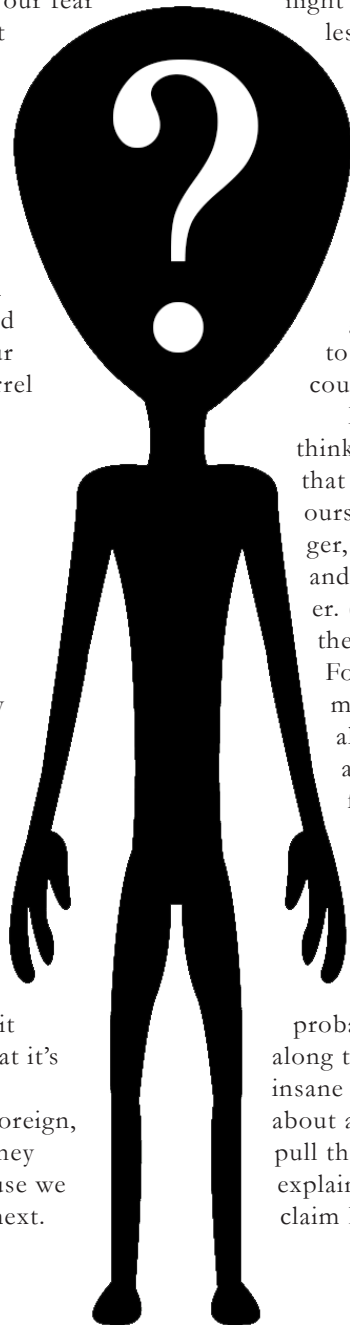
some type of being they think of when the topic of aliens come up. We think of them as real life living things. Maybe not living now, but a possible reality. Aliens are not a living breathing thing and will never be. They are a figment of our imagination.

Yes, you read that right. Aliens are a concept dreamt up by us humans. We all have a certain interpretation of aliens; however, our idea is only perceptual. We haven't ever actually seen an alien. We literally have NO idea what they could be like. We can't even begin to perceive anything about them. Aliens are therefore just a conception of human emotion. A possible and realistic conception, but still only a conception.

in the middle of the woods that you know will run away when you walk towards it.

You fear the unpredictable and the uncertain. You fear the squirrel that doesn't run away when you walk at it because you now have no idea what it is going to do next. You know the squirrel can't hurt you, yet you fear it because you don't know what it's next move is!

We fear the exotic, the foreign, the nameless, not because they could hurt us, no, but because we don't know what's coming next.



Graphic by Pixabay

## A STRUGGLE FOR WATER

### WHY IS THERE A STRUGGLE AT ALL?

Cape Town is running out of water—yes, running out of water! BBC published an article listing the top ten cities most likely to run out of water after Cape Town. The Dayton Daily News has reported that lead has been found in 134 service lines. In another piece, they reported that over a dozen local schools have had elevated levels of lead in their water.

While the replacement of pipes and testing appears to be ongoing, the cleanliness of our water resource—one that is necessary for survival—has become a pertinent issue. The news lately has been plastered with stories regarding our ability to maintain access to clean water.

The thing is that water should be a renewable resource. The rain, the aquifer, surface water, evaporation, transpiration—we've all had our third grade water cycle lesson. However, the imposition of humans can damage our resource. Chemicals and other substances spill into our groundwater. Outdated pipes make water unusable. What could be a clean, consistent resource has become something that we have to be critical and careful of in order to use.

At UD, the concept of running out of water seems outrageously shocking, particularly considering that we are a campus situated atop the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer, and the confluence of three rivers meets in the midst of the city. We live in fancy apartments and large houses with faux granite countertops and washer and dryers. We have dining services and large refrigerators. We live in a space where necessities are met and frivolities are abundant. We do not often worry about having access to clean water.

The pertinent dangers that have exposed many to the worries of maintaining clean water seem irrelevant to our campus because these concerns are not directly maiming us. However, they are impacting us. And we are impacting them. Everything that we purchase, throw away, refuse to compost, and article we do not read contribute to the mess that is ensuing: a world without clean, fresh water.

So many initiatives on campus encourage sustainable practices: Hanley Sustainability Institute, The Rivers Institute, Sustainability Club, Environmental Labs...the list goes on and on. However, it is up to every person to become their own conscientious person. To consider the impact of their actions. To inform themselves about these issues. To know what is happening and how they can adjust their own actions to reduce the harm that is occurring to our planet and those that occupy it. As students, we have the capacity to make our own, independent choices. We have the space to make up our own minds and explore issues and read. This campus provides the space to create real change. We simply must choose to do so.



## NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

## Philly phan uses writing for post-win vandalism



CONNOR HANSON  
Staff Writer

Unbelievable. Surreal. Impossible. A dream. There's no way that the Philadelphia Eagles just won their first Super Bowl in franchise history. Yet here I am, a lifetime Eagles fan writing about it.

This is honestly ridiculous. Every year we go into the season thinking, "Hey maybe this is our year, maybe this is the year we finally get the monkey off of our backs and actually win this whole thing." But after the whole Chip Kelly debacle, any hope of a Super Bowl in the near future was cast to the wind.

Then walked in coach Doug Pederson, hopeful franchise-quarterback Carson Wentz and all the brand new faces, and hope was restored to the dreary city of Philadelphia. And now here we are, only two years into the new Eagles regime with a Super Bowl victory,

and the whole city is going bonkers because we finally did it.

And we didn't just do it; we won as the first ever number-one seed to be ranked as an underdog in every playoff game. We also did it against the modern-dynasty New England Patriots, the same franchise that tore out the hearts of Philly fans everywhere 13 years ago.

See, that's the thing. This was a tall order for any team in the league. But the Eagles did it after losing an MVP-candidate quarterback (Wentz), one of the best left tackles in all of football (Jason Peters), one of the best third down backs and punt returners in NFL history (Darren Sproles), an All-Pro caliber middle linebacker (Jordan Hicks), a franchise kicker (Caleb Sturgis) and a special teams ace (Chris Maragos).

So, when you lose any one of those players, except maybe a special teams ace (sorry Maragos, I still love you), your team is in hot water and is going to struggle filling that void, let alone win a Super Bowl missing an integral piece.

Just look at Green Bay for example: Down goes Aaron Rodgers, and there goes their playoff chances, much less a chance of a Super Bowl. Look at any team without a strong left tackle: The quarterback gets no time in the pocket, and the run game suffers. Or look at any team without a kicker: Talk about an absolute



Philadelphia's mascot serves as the literal bird the city flips to haters when their team achieves once-in-a-generational success. Photo from Wikimedia Commons

struggle to get points on the board.

But Philadelphia isn't like those teams. You see, there's a certain saying in Philadelphia, and (contrary to popular belief) it isn't, "Dilly Dilly," but it's, "All We Got, All We Need." And you could not find any better mantra for this team.

Every position rose to the

occasion when those injuries occurred. At the end of the season, the Eagles had the best offensive line in the league, according to Pro Football Focus rankings, a rookie kicker with a record-breaking year, one of the best running back committees in the league and a backup quarterback that went on to dominate in the playoffs and win

the Super Bowl MVP award.

Also, don't even get me started on the whole underdog role that the team proudly accepted. Those dog masks might be the best thing to ever happen to the city of Philadelphia, minus the creation of the Philly cheese steak and now this Super Bowl.

And have you seen videos from the parade on the Wednesday following the Super Bowl? Absolutely wild. This team, its players and its fan base are something else, and it's not just the Bud Light that was promised if they won a Super Bowl.

This team and its fan base are something special and the proof is in this season. Whether it's having a home game all the way out in Los Angeles, going from last to first in the NFC East or overcoming a truckload of adversity during the season, it's something special. I don't know what it is, but something is brewing in Philadelphia and something tells me there might be more to it than what we just saw this year.

So, yeah, that whole Super Bowl thing actually happened, or at least I think it happened. I honestly wouldn't be surprised if this was all a dream. But if you do see me, please don't pinch me because this is the best dream ever. Go birds.

## Up next at UD Arena:

Sat. Feb. 17, 7 p.m.

**Men's Basketball  
vs Fordham**

The Flyers return home for the first time in 10 days to take on the perpetual bottom-feeders of the A-10.

Sun. Feb. 18, 2 p.m.

**Women's Basketball  
vs Fordham**

It's senior day for women's basketball! Come out to the arena to show your support for Jenna Burdette, JaVonna Layfield and Alex Harris in their second-to-last game at UD. The Flyers are on a 14-game win streak, but defeated Fordham by just one point last time the two teams met

Tue. Feb. 20, 9 p.m.

**Men's Basketball  
vs Saint Louis**

The Arch-Baron Cup (ABC) returns to UD Arena for this showdown between the Flyers and Bilikens. What's a Biliken, you may ask? Well maybe this year you will finally learn. So head to the arena for this inexplicably late start time to witness two underwhelming teams duke it out for a trophy (the ABC) that only exists in the imaginations of the tweeters that invented it.



A staple of Flyer basketball, the Red Scare also boasts one of the most diverse displays of the sobriety spectrum this side of Morgantown. Photo by Griffin Quinn/ Staff Photographer



## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Community support highlights vital Flyer win

STEVE MILLER  
Sports Editor

You know something is undeniably cliché when it becomes cliché even to preface the phrase with a disclaimer about how cliché it is. And all UD students know that the only cliché on campus more cliché than the word itself also begins with the letter C.

But just like stereotypes, clichés exist because of an inherent truth. Community, like it or not, was on full display at UD Arena Jan. 31, when Dayton's women's basketball team knocked off Duquesne to remain unbeaten in conference and secure first place in the Atlantic 10.

"This is an unbelievable crowd," coach Shauna Green grabbed the public address microphone and thanked the 3,224 supporters who had come to the arena mid-week.

"The students we had tonight—we need you to keep coming back."

Each time the buzzer sounds at UD Arena concluding a game, Green performs the same routine:

"Thank you all for coming out. You guys are great," the sentiment normally flows. "We really need your support on [insert next home date here]."

But that night was different. Her sentiment, while always sincere, was more triumphant. The lower bowl was at near capacity, the student section was loud, and the crowd as a whole was passionate throughout the game.

"If we can have that environment every single night at the arena...it's gonna be really hard [for opponents] to come to the arena and win because it's such a huge boost for us," Green said in a press conference afterward.

With such high stakes for the victor—first place in the conference and a potential tie-breaker down the road—Dayton Athletics, Red Scare, and the players themselves promoted the game heavily on campus and in the surrounding community.

"We knew that it was going to be a huge game, and the women's team also reached out wanting a big crowd," said Chris LaReau, president of the Red Scare executive board.

"So, it was definitely a joint effort between ourselves and the athletic department to promote the game."

Like any good community neighbors, the fans delivered on the request.

The student section, normally barren for the women's games, was rocking with eager Flyers, many of whom were student-athletes.

"We were excited with the amount



Shauna Green thanks the crowd following Dayton's victory over Duquesne on Jan. 31. Photo courtesy of Roberto Dela Rosa/Online Editor

of students that came out to the game," LaReau said.

"We had a good amount of regular students at the game, but we did have a lot of student athletes who came to the game with their teams to support, which is always great to see."

While the game may have been the first time many students got to witness Dayton's women's team roll to a high-pace victory, it was a familiar sight for the consistent contingent of supporters known as the Flyer Pep Band.

The band, who plays at every home game and travels with the team to tournaments, enjoyed the better-than-usual turnout.

"The success isn't just about the team winning, but it's about showing the community and the students what Dayton women's basketball is all about," said Kayla Pariser, a senior piccolo player in the pep band. "So in addition to the W, it was a win to have more student support there."

Pariser, and her fellow bandmates, have revelled in the recent success of the women's team. And the relationship between the band and the players might be an even truer display of community than Wednesday.

"The band strongly supports the women's team and vice versa," she said. "Last year when we went to the A-10 Tournament with them in Richmond, when they won we actually got to go on the court and take pictures with the trophy with them."

"We do feel like we have a strong relationship with the women's team. And it makes us feel like we're a more significant part of [their] games."

The band, the fans, the students, anyone who comes out to UD Arena will end up leaving with the same feeling because of how the team cherishes their supporters. And that's not to say there are few, because even average opponents who play in Dayton are met by at least 2,000 of the Flyer faithful, albeit mostly non-students.

"I think that, again, that's what makes this place special," Green said.

But regardless of their normal crowd size, having an extra thousand for a critical game seemed monumental.

"All our normal fans were awesome, and then the extras that were there was just, I don't know, it was loud," said senior point guard Jenna Burdette, who scored 18 points in the win over Duquesne.

"At some point I couldn't even hear myself screaming on the floor."

That's why when Green took the mic after the win, her message felt fulfilled.

"The product has been good for

years consistently, and I think they're fun to watch," Green said.

"And I think they deserve people coming and supporting them for all their hard work."

It's not just the product, though. It's the authentic class with which Green and the players carry the program, and their true thanks they ensure is heard by their supporters that keep fans invested in the team's success.

"I think it's really nice when the coach acknowledges the community the support, and the students," Pariser said, who's band ceases playing for Green's postgame thanks after every contest. "It makes you feel more connected to the team, not like the team is on a pedestal."

Three thousand people that day got to experience that bond and feel connected to a significant win.

"The women's team definitely feels like a community-centered team," Pariser said. "They want members of the community and student body to be a part of their success."

What's funny about clichés is that, even though they're taboo on paper and in speech, passionate writers want to return to them because of their truth.

And the women's basketball team hopes their fans find the same desire after experiencing the fun truth of a Flyer win.

"I'm so appreciative to everyone who comes out and takes the time," Green said. "And I hope they just keep coming back."



Following Dayton's victory in the 2017 A-10 Championship Game, the Flyer Pep Band celebrated on the court with the team. Photo courtesy of Kayla Pariser



## BASEBALL

## King optimistic about inherited roster

## Players welcome

ETHAN SWIERCZEWSKI  
Staff Writer

Last May, the Dayton Flyers' baseball squad found themselves in the midst of a transition as it was announced that former coach Tony Vittorio would be stepping down after 18 seasons at the helm. Vittorio's 461 wins makes him the winningest coach in program history, forming a winning culture around the team as a testament to that success.

But as one era ends, another begins.

Jayson King was hired in June by the university and tasked with replicating and reigniting the success the Flyer baseball team has enjoyed over the past 18 years. The team had a .375 winning percentage in Atlantic 10 Conference play last year, but with several key players returning this season, the Flyers will be looking to bounce back.

Despite his inability to bring in his own recruits this season, King believes success can start now with the current team.

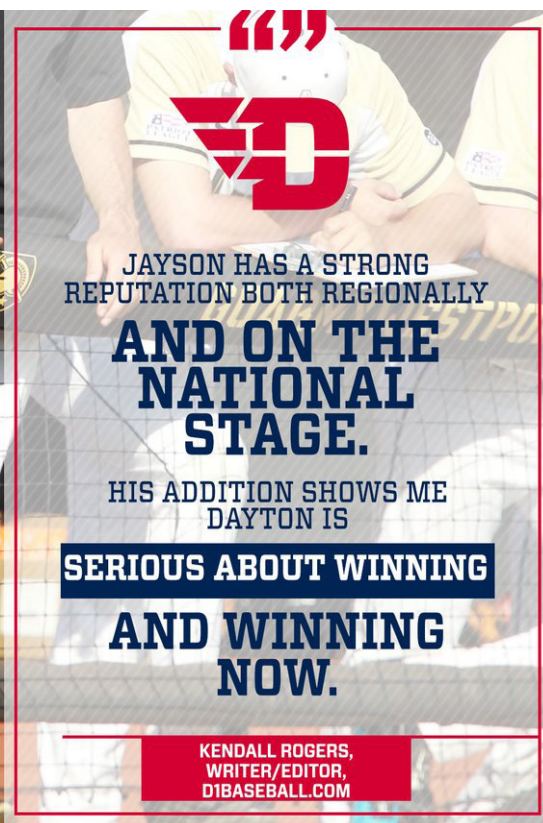
"I'm inheriting a roster ... Everything is here to be very successful. I don't see a lot of real challenges [with the players] that I'll have to overcome. It's just a matter of getting the guys to believe."

King's success as a college coach speaks for itself, and his credentials give both players and fans every reason to be optimistic. He has 675 wins to his name as a coach at both Franklin Pierce University and UMass-Boston, accounting for a .610 winning percentage over that same period.

King's domination as a coach in NCAA Division II play included 10 conference championships and seven trips to the College World Series. At Dayton, he is determined to build off of his prior success, looking to rekindle and expand the Flyers' winning ways in both the short and long-term.

"For this season, our goal is to compete every pitch," King said. "We want to win the conference and advance to the regionals; that's the ultimate goal ... If you don't have high expectations and lofty goals, you're never going to reach anything that special."

With high expectations in mind, King is looking to build and strengthen the team in every category offensively and defensively as the



season approaches.

"We really want to be a well-rounded team," he said. "We're all pretty greedy as coaches, as far as the development-side. If you don't have all those bases covered, there's going to be a breakdown."

The Dayton squad will face several talented teams both in-and-out of conference this spring. Rivals VCU and URI finished first and second, respectively, in the conference last season, and the Flyers will have a three-game series with each this year.

Notable non-conference matchups include Miami (OH) and Virginia Tech. King believes each and every matchup this season will be competitive.

"The players that we have are more than capable of doing very well in the conference and outside of it," he said. "It's a matter of playing aggressively and focusing on the little things. If we compete hard and do those things, everything will fall into place."

The team as a whole has bought into King's positive attitude and dedication to well-rounded play.

"We just come in everyday and give it everything we got," said redshirt sophomore outfielder Brandon Smith, who led the Flyers last year with 12 home runs. "The coaches give everything they have, we give everything we have, and we just meet each other in the middle."

Junior Austin Cline, whose five wins led the Flyers' pitching staff in 2017, agrees with his teammate.

"They're going to give us 100 percent," he said. "We're going to give them 100 percent. [Under King] We're much more tight-knitted."

The Flyers open their season away on Friday at the University of South Carolina Upstate. King is excited to get out of the cold weather, but even more optimistic about the fast-approaching season.

"I really do like these guys we have," King said once more. "We're going to have a very competitive team and we're going to have a lot of fun playing the game."

Head Coach Jayson King's re-energizing attitude has Dayton's baseball players confident in the new season. Both captains emphasized that the importance placed on team culture in the clubhouse has had a positive effect on the players and the program.

"It has been a huge culture change for the program and its very much in a positive direction," said redshirt-sophomore outfielder Brandon Smith, who led the team with 12 home runs last season. "I'm very excited about the season. There are big changes throughout the program and it's very exciting"

"Last year we fed off of negative

GRANT LITTLE  
Contributing Writer

things [in the locker room] and this year I want to come out and get a good start and have people feed off of success, this year," said junior Austin Cline, captain and ace of the pitching staff. "The biggest thing [about the new coaching staff is] they are another one of the boys. They are going to give 100 percent to us and we are going to give them 100 percent and I think we are a tighter knit group."

But just because team chemistry is improving, the Flyers understand their performance on the field needs specific upgrades as well.

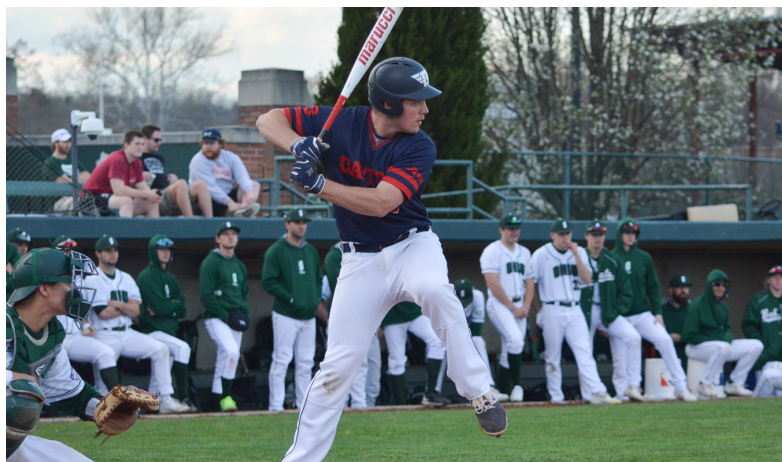
"We have to limit free passes," said Smith, who is a team captain this year. "Last year, I think we had around 350 walks. That is a huge number. Our batting average was low last year too. Overall, as a team we need to improve from last year. I think this year will be much different."

"The team as a whole needs to stay consistent," said Cline. "We are going to hit a patch at some point along the road and we don't need to fall off the tracks. We need to do good things and stay with that [positive] attitude."

Last season, the team compiled an overall record of 25-30-0 and 9-15-0 in A-10 play with a young roster. The 2018 Dayton baseball team is still quite young. The squad is composed of 12 freshmen, 14 sophomores, 7 juniors, 4 seniors, and a red-shirt sophomore and senior. Despite the youth, the coaches and players are optimistic about the upcoming season, believing they possess both the personnel and experience to make significant improvements.

"As a team, we have all grown up a little bit," Smith said. "We were very young last year and we are still young this year but we all have more experience now. This season should be a very different story from last year to this year."

The Flyers start the season in the Wofford Tournament in South Carolina on Feb. 15. They also co-host the Dayton/Wright State Classic March 9 through 11. The A-10 home opener will be played against George Washington on March 30. The Flyers will have 22 home games this season at Woerner Field.



Top: After serving on Army's coaching staff last year, Jayson King looks to bring his winning pedigree to UD.

Bottom: Brandon Smith led UD in HRs last season. Photos courtesy of UD Athletics



## MEN'S SOCCER

## Barrios cherishes Colombian heritage, not stereotypes

GRANT LITTLE  
Contributing Writer

Cali, Colombia, 1998. The United States Drug Enforcement Agency and the Colombian police have imprisoned all the ranking members of the Cali Cartel. The capture of the cartel's leaders ends a 22-year struggle with the cocaine business in Cali. The end of the Cali Cartel stopped the large cartel wars and constant cocaine issue in Colombia. However, American entertainment media continues to play on the stereotypes of Colombia's past.

Every day, Colombians face discrimination and disdain toward their country from non-Colombians because of the cocaine stereotypes. One Colombian faces these problems on our campus.

Federico Barrios is a student at the University of Dayton and a goalie on the men's soccer team. He lived in Cali, Colombia, for most of his life. But now, he faces the stereotypes portrayed by American entertainment on a daily basis. Barrios wants North Americans to know the truth about Colombia.

"I heard about [the cartels], but I was born way after it was done," Barrios said. "So, I didn't experience the drug war per se, that was mostly my parents. But I've been associated with it; people always make jokes about [Pablo] Escobar when they hear Colombia or cocaine. I'm used to it."

Colombia has become safer and has eliminated the majority of illegal drugs in the country. Barrios' experiences serve as a counter argument against North Americans who believe Colombia is portrayed correctly in films and TV shows.

Barrios' mother is a psychologist and his father is a neurologist. He lived in Cali until the age of 15 before coming to the United States by himself because he was recruited to play soccer at Montverde Academy in Orlando, Florida.

The Colombian started playing soccer around the age of three or four, and also played tennis and golf and participated in equestrian growing up. In high school, he decided to focus on soccer because equestrian, tennis and golf seemed like hobbies to him.

"Soccer was the real thing," Barrios said.

He decided to play college soccer

during his senior year of high school when he was recruited by several universities. When he visited the University of Dayton, he knew he wanted to play at UD. He hopes to play professionally in Major League Soccer in the U.S. after college.

Barrios constantly deals with the stereotypes North Americans have created regarding Pablo Escobar, the Cali Cartel and the drug war.

"Escobar and the drug war are

drug problem has passed.

"When I talk to the Europeans, they don't associate [Colombia] with cocaine — they do but not as much as Americans."

The drug war is not a popular subject for Colombians. They realize there was a problem, but the citizens and the government have worked together to fix the problem.

Daniel Lara-Agudelo, a Colombian viewer of *Narcos* explained a

according to Daniel Mejía, director of Research Center on Drugs and Security at the Universidad de los Andes.

The country's government also has successfully limited the amount of violence related to cocaine and crime organizations, according to The Washington Post. The Colombian government ended the Colombian Conflict in 2016. The conflict was an asymmetric war that started in

of Colombia because he believes they are overlooked by people all over the world, and especially in the United States.

"We are the only country in South America [that borders] two different oceans. We have every climate you can think of, we are known for our soccer players around the world," he said. "Cali is the capital of salsa music, and the Nobel Prize winning author Gabriel García Márquez is from Colombia."

The goalie also said his favorite aspects of his home country are the warmth and friendliness of its citizens and the food.

Colombia has urban attractions such as Cartagena, Medellín, Cali and Bogotá. Cartagena also is known for its beautiful beaches and its castles from the colonization period. Cali is the party capital of Colombia with its tradition in salsa. Bogotá and Medellín are in the mountains and have beautiful scenery, according to Barrios.

The Huffington Post shows the Colombian government has significantly reduced cocaine production and the violence due to cartels in its article "It's Not Just Counter Narcotics: Plan Colombia's Balanced Approach Made It a Success." The country's drug-related economy also has been diminished through government efforts.

In 2016 and 2017 there was an increase in Colombian cocaine production. The demand for these products comes primarily from the United States and Europe. Although there was an increase in production, according to Colombia's Defense Ministry, the government destroyed more than 200 square miles of coca in 2016. By simultaneously attacking supply and demand, the government continues to make progress despite the recent spike in production.

Barrios appreciates the efforts of the Colombian government and its success combating cocaine. He also extols the beauty of Colombia and its attractions and hopes people will be able to abandon stereotypes and see the country as a home to regular people, much like the U.S., rather than a country that only produces cocaine.

"They don't know [about Colombia] ... the government is doing a great job to change the image [of the country]," Barrios promised. "The only risk about Colombia is you will want to stay."



Federico Barrios poses with the Colombian flag. Photo courtesy of Griffin Quinn/Staff Photographer

stuck with us [in the eyes of North Americans]," Barrios said.

This reputation has been built by American news and entertainment. Julianna Martinez, assistant professor at the Department of World Languages and Cultures at American University, Washington, D.C. explained this.

"[American entertainment] change[s] facts to suit their North American audiences and focus on making them feel good about themselves," she said.

Barrios, along with others of Colombian heritage, faces many stereotypes portrayed in the Netflix series *Narcos*.

"*Narcos* only shows the war part [of Colombia], something that happened over 30 years ago they don't show the commentary on the good stuff, good places and accomplishments," he said.

He believes this is a particularly North American misconception because other nations recognize the

misconception when interviewed by the Agence France Presse.

"People have to realize that Pablo Escobar was killed over (two) decades ago," Lara-Agudelo said. "And the violence, while it does still occur, is nowhere near as bad as what happened back then."

"Colombians know there is still a minor problem but it is nothing like what it was in the past," Barrios explained. "The government has eliminated a great percentage of [cocaine] production."

Colombia reduced coca cultivation from 618 square miles to 185 square miles between 2000 to 2013. The estimated value of the country's drug-related economy declined from \$7.5 billion in 2008 to \$4.5 billion in 2013. A large portion of cocaine consumed worldwide is still produced in Colombia and about 55 percent is sold in North America. The other 45 percent of Colombia's cocaine production is exported to Europe through Venezuela and West Africa,

the 1960s. Crime organizations, paramilitary groups, far-left guerillas and the Colombian government were fighting for power. After revising a peace deal, the Colombian government and the far-leftist groups were able to agree on peaceful terms and end the war that plagued the country for over 50 years.

Medellín, Colombia was where Escobar ran most of his cocaine operations. The city has become a bustling center of industrialization after the demise of the drug wars. Now, it serves as a capital for fashion and the arts. It was named the "Innovative City of the Year" by The Wall Street Journal in 2013.

Cali and Bogotá have industrialized and have become booming metropolitan areas along with the other cities, similar to Medellín. Colombia has evolved greatly since the 1980s and the change is not recognized by North Americans.

Barrios wants North Americans to know about the positive attributes