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HOMECOMING 2012 A SUCCESS

*Take a look back on the
"Connect 2012" Homecoming*

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"Connect 2012" was the theme for this year's Homecoming activities as the college community celebrated the successful completion of its \$26 million comprehensive campaign. A week-long schedule of events featured concerts, fireworks, reunions, recognition of outstanding alumni achievements, and induction of this year's athletic Hall of Fame members.

The annual homecoming banquet was held in the recently-opened George M. Smart Athletic Center, the focal point of the fund-raising campaign. President Mark Gordon told the crowd of new initiatives at the college including a collaboration with Rhodes State in Lima to provide a completion program for registered nurses looking to complete a bachelor's degree in nursing; installation of a state-of-the-art three-dimensional printer in the art and graphic design departments; and plans to move forward with a marching band starting fall, 2013.

Alumni Achievement Award honorees recognized were William Foster, Gary, Ind., class of 1969; Beth Besaw, Defiance, class of 1992; Gary Zupancic, Wimberley, Texas, class of 1975; and Betty (Davis) Amey, San Antonio and formerly of Defiance, class of 1985.

Foster graduated with a degree in music education in 1969. He continued his education and earned a master's in music in 1978 from Roosevelt University, Chicago. Foster worked for the Gary Community School Corporation as a music teacher from 1969-2004 and now serves as an adjunct music professor at Valparaiso University and hosts a radio show called the "Billy Foster Jazz Zone" on WGVE 88.7 FM in Gary, Ind. He has performed as a professional musician for more than 35 years and, in addition to performing with others, has led his own groups for much of that time including Billy Foster and Audio, Billy Foster Trio and the Billy Foster Jazz Unit. Foster and his wife, Renee,



Alumni reminisce at the Webster Street Festival



Family of the late Fred Warncke attend the memorial service

have two grown children and live in Gary, Ind.

Besaw was a natural systems major when she graduated from Defiance College in 1992. She served as a research assistant to Dr. Bernard Mikula at DC before continuing on to receive her doctorate in medicine in 1997 from the Medical College of Ohio, now the University of Toledo Medical College. Besaw has served as a family physician partner with Defiance Family Physicians since 2000 and is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American Medical Association. Besaw and her husband, Paul, have three children and reside in Defiance.

Zupancic was a 1975 DC graduate in political science and history and continued his education with the Stephen F. Austin State University where he earned his master's in communication in 1993. He was a producer, director, and writer with various Houston, Texas, television stations including KUHT-TV and KTHV-TV and also for the Johnson Space Center (NASA) where he was a cameraman for astronaut training videos. While in television, he wrote scripts for such dignitaries and luminaires as Texas Gov. Mark White, First Lady Barbara Bush, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Edward Albee, NASA directors and astronauts, and numerous local politicians and captains of industry. He currently serves as the public information officer for the Wimberley Independent School District. Zupancic and his wife, Debra, reside in Wimberley, Texas.

Amey received her bachelor's degree in education with a focus on K-12 art in 1985 and her master's degree in art education from St. Francis College, Fort Wayne, in 1989. Amey taught grades 1-6 at Northeastern Local Schools for 10 years before taking a position at Defiance College as an art educator. She then served as a freelance artist for 10 years before retiring in 1996. She has had two poems published in Poetic Voices of America, written booklets on watercolor and teaching elementary art; and has shared her talents with many communities, organizations and churches. Amey resides in San Antonio.

Schauffler Legacy Award winners were Kim Shinabery, Denver, class of 1981, and Terri (Maile) Gelzer (posthumous), class of 1974.

Shinabery began her career as the director of Christian education for the Sylvania United Church of Christ and also served on the Grace Community Center board. In 1987, she relocated to Denver and began work on what would be her master of religious studies degree from the University of Denver and a master of divinity from Iliff School of Theology, Denver. She eventually returned to Iliff to receive her doctor of ministry in 2005.

Shinabery also served as an adjunct faculty member for Defiance College's Design for Leadership program in 1987 and continued through 2001. In 1999 she accepted a position as chaplain of a treatment center, a position she held till 2007. She was a volunteer for the Rainbow Alley Drop-in Center for youth before accepting her current position as an adjunct faculty member for the University of Phoenix. Shinabery resides in Denver.

The late Terri (Maile) Gelzer was an advocate for youth and children in urban Cleveland. She held various positions after her graduation from DC including teaching



Hall of Fame inductees receive their "brick"



President Gordon (right) with Outstanding Alumni recipients



President Gordon (center) with Kim Shinabery and David Gelzer

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pre-school, directing after-school programs and working or volunteering for inner city churches. In 1999, she accepted the opportunity to develop and direct a children's program at West Side Catholic Shelter. Gelzer dedicated almost 10 years to the children's program before accepting a position as Christian education director at St. Paul's UCC in 2008. She was working to become a pastoral/ordained minister before her passing. Gelzer is survived by her husband, David, and two grown sons.

Hall of Fame inductees included Darlene (Smith) Kaufman, Ottawa, Ohio, class of 1988; Ernie Doherty, Cape Canaveral, Fla., class of 1971; Tom Held, Defiance, class of 1985; and Tyrone Gilbert, Cincinnati, class of 1980.

Held played both basketball, as a guard, and baseball, as a pitcher, for two years each. He was All League, All District, and MVP in baseball and was recruited in the 20th round of Major League Baseball's 1983 draft. Held majored in computer business education and received his master's degree in education administration from the University of Toledo. He is a high school teacher and baseball coach at Defiance High School and works as a Challenge Day coordinator. Held and his wife, Deanna, have three children and reside in Defiance.

Gilbert was a member of DC's track and field team in sprints, triple jumps, relays, and long jumps for four years, captain for three, MVP for three, All League for four, and All District in the top three for all four years. Tyrone led the track and field team in scoring during his four years and held the school record for the triple jump from 1976-1985. He also played football from 1976-77 as a wide receiver. Gilbert was an accounting major and went on to the University of Cincinnati where he earned a master's in special education. He currently holds the position of special education teacher for the Cincinnati Public School system and coaches girls and boys junior high basketball. Gilbert and his wife, Constance, have two children and reside in Cincinnati.

Kaufman was active in track all four years, participating in shot, discus and javelin. She was picked as an MVP twice, served as captain of the team, earned the Western Buckeye College Conference and NAIA District 22 record in discus and was picked as a Female Athlete of the Year. She earned her degree in elementary education and then went on to teach at Wapakoneta Middle School and then St. Mary's Schools. Kaufman and her husband, Dean, have three children and reside in Ottawa.

Doherty played baseball as an outfielder where he was a homerun leader, captain, All Ohio, All Star Team, All League, and All District. On the football team, he played as a tight end and was also part of the 1969 undefeated team, an All Ohio, All Star Team, All League, and All District. He majored in political science and was active in the Theta Xi fraternity. After working for many years in the insurance industry, Doherty now serves as a cruise ship director in Florida.

During Saturday's homecoming festivities, DC seniors Emma Starks and James Buari were crowned 2012 homecoming queen and king. ♦



Alpha Xi Delta members welcome alumni



2011 Queen Tara Miller (center) with Queen Emma Starks and King James Buari



Alumna Joyce Anderson has her photo taken with a football trio