

Fun + fitness
A new zumba club on campus to incorporate international-style dances — pg.3



the Clarion

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Sports Feature

Stephen Holland is the “athlete of the week” — pg.8



Benefits policy at Sinclair has yet to include domestic partners

Mark Fahey
Assistant Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

Employees with same-sex partners do not enjoy the same privileges as their married colleagues at Sinclair Community College.

Twelve out of the 13 state universities in Ohio give employees the option to register their committed partners as dependents for health, dental and other benefits. Out of the 12 community colleges in North America that have been honored as Vanguard Learning Schools, Sinclair is one of only two that do not include domestic partners in their benefits package.

Miami University and Ohio University became the first state-supported Ohio universities to offer benefits to same-sex partners of employees in 2004. The move toward enacting the change at Miami began 13 years earlier with the formation of a three-person task force.

“The folks who were on that committee were leaders, they were powerful professors and respected faculty on campus bringing this forward as an important issue,” said Andy Zeisler, co-president of the Miami University LGBT Alumni Association. “It was a socially progressive thing to do... a commitment of the university to make it a welcoming place. It spoke volumes about how they look at their faculty and employees.”

Miami and Ohio University’s decision, followed later that year by policy changes at Cleveland State University and Youngstown State University, was made during a period of vigorous debate about LGBT rights in Ohio and around the country, including an Ohio constitutional amendment outlawing same-sex civil unions.

“But the precedent’s been set now, that’s all history,” said Paul Anderson, one of the members of the original Miami task force. “Sinclair can now do this without facing the kinds of questions and problems that Miami’s faced.”

Changes at Sinclair

Sinclair is proud of its commitment to equal treatment and non-discrimination, according to Gwen Jones, Sinclair’s Diversity Officer. “Sinclair has come a long way since its beginning,” she said.

Yet some faculty members say the school has been slow to adapt to the shifting social conventions of LGBT rights.

Until 2009, when Dr. Mary Gaier and the Diversity Committee led an audit to update the school’s non-discrimination policy, Sinclair had no policy to prevent discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. In comparison, Miami started including sexual orientation in non-discrimination materials as far back as 1984.

There is no explicit explanation for the exclusion of domestic partners in the college’s current benefits policy, the idea simply hasn’t been “fully vetted to date,” said Mary Gaier, head of the Health Care Committee for faculty and staff and vice president of organizational development at Sinclair.

“I wouldn’t know any reasons,” she said, “but I would just say that it’s not necessarily what’s moving forward or what the Board is looking at right now.”

Like the recent change to the non-discrimination policy, a change to the benefits policy would require a decision by the Sinclair Board of Trustees. Gaier said that the request to bring the issue before the Board could come from several sources: the faculty, the faculty senate, the staff senate or simple emails and contact with the president’s cabinet members.

Karl Hess, the president of the Faculty Senate, said that a request from the Senate would have to go through Gaier’s Health Care Committee. According to Gaier, one person brought the issue before the group, but it did not move outside the committee.

“There were so many things that were going on with the health care committee and containing the cost of health care, etc., that

“The discussion is no longer just about race. Diversity has become a more complex discussion than it used to be. I think that today, in this day and age, this discussion is being had at many institutions. It’s a modern day, 21st century question.”

— Gwen Jones, Diversity Officer

we didn’t get back to it,” she said. Although the topic has been raised by at least one member of the Faculty Senate, Hess says that the issue has not been prominent among the faculty.

“This is something that we’re just beginning to talk about,” said Hess. “I think that the majority of the faculty haven’t thought about it a lot. I think we’re very much at the beginning of even thinking about it. A lot of people, I don’t think, have an opinion – it’s just not on their radar.”

Practical benefits

Proponents of partnership benefits argue that extending benefits to all committed employee partnerships, regardless of gender or legal recognition, is both beneficial to the institution and crucial for promoting a fair work environment.

“[The] argument is a practical one... to attract a certain caliber of employees,” said Deborah Badonsky, a professor in the Paralegal Department. “People say ‘if I have the choice to go to Sinclair or a college or university that has same-sex benefits and I have a same-sex partner, that would influence my choice.’”

Anderson said that before their 2004 policy change, Miami had been losing highly qualified faculty and staff because it didn’t have benefits for their partners.

“The message is also clear to students that Miami welcomes the LGBT community, so students can come to a university that clearly understands and has demonstrated its support for the faculty and staff,” he said.

Financial and political hurdles

Financial concerns are one reason that some institutions may be hesitant to offer benefits to partners, said Badonsky. “It’s easy for me as a faculty member to say ‘do the right thing,’ because I don’t

need to figure out how we’re going to pay for it,” she said.

“Sometimes it is a concern about expense, how many additional lives would be covered,” said

Carol Mangino, the assistant director for human resources at Lakeland Community College in Cleveland, whose faculty requested that same-sex partner benefits be included in their contract in 2008.

At Lakeland, the policy resulted in a less than 1 percent increase in the lives covered, which Mangino said was nearly negligible. “It was a very smooth process,” she said.

“Quite a few schools had already done it by then.” Gaier said that Sinclair would have to fully investigate the financial impact of a new policy before any change could be considered.

“The legacy of Sinclair is about both respect for diversity and of careful financial stewardship and prudent decision making,” said Gaier.

It is also possible that Sinclair faces a political hurdle that some other schools avoided. Sinclair is supported by the levy, and it could be politically dangerous for the school to move on any potentially controversial issue that could affect voters’ decisions at the ballot box, said Badonsky.

“We live in a conservative environment,” she said. “My sense is that the faculty is fairly conservative and some students are conservative, so I think that’s maybe a concern.”

Commitment to diversity

“The discussion is no longer just about race. Diversity has become a more complex discussion than it used to be,” says Jones. “I think that today, in this day and age, this discussion is being had at many institutions. It’s a modern day, 21st century question.”

Jones pointed out that some of the diversity initiatives being instituted at Sinclair today were recommended by a committee nearly 10 years ago.

“Things take a long time, it doesn’t happen overnight,” said Jones. “And that’s true at all colleges and universities, it just doesn’t happen as quickly as we’d like it to.”

Brite-Signal Alliance President Matthew Gutierrez said that he thinks that it is important that the decision to include all partners in benefits comes from the “top down,” so students, faculty and staff know that their administrators care about creating an inclusive work environment.

“Being told one thing as far as diversity and inclusion and all that, and then to have policies dictate another, it seems very hypocritical,” he said. “And if the administration is going to stay stagnant on it, then it is absolutely our responsibility to speak up for it. Sinclair Community College has a duty and obligation to their students, but they have a duty and obligation to the people they employ too.”

He said that he hopes that the dialogue about the issue will continue, and that it is something that the administration will seriously consider.

“I think the college is certainly open to knowing and understanding and protecting the rights of individuals,” said Gaier. “Could we do more? I don’t know, but let’s find out.”



Illustration by Jonathan Hammond

Latin American Club to share cultural heritage

“I don’t see a dividing line between Latin America and the United States. To me, it’s just another part of the American experience.”

—Derek Petrey, associate professor and director of the Honors Program

Leah Baxley
Reporter
clarion@sinclair.edu

A new club focused on Latin America culture and heritage is starting at Sinclair during Spring Quarter.

The goal of the club is “to share cultural heritage and learn from each other,” said Derek Petrey, associate professor in Spanish and director of the Honors Program.

“I don’t see a dividing line between Latin America and the United States,” he said. “To me, it’s just another part of the American experience.”

Petrey wants the club to be a place for students to get together and host different events, such as

movie showings or guest speakers.

Additionally, he said that a mentoring program may also be started in order to reach out to high schools with high Hispanic and Latino population in order to work beyond any language barriers to encourage them to attend college.

However, he is leaving these decisions entirely up to students who become part of the organization.

“The students will drive that,” he said.

Petrey, who has a degree in Latin American cultural studies and studies Latin and Portuguese, is currently working on organizing the club. As of right now, he is gathering names and contact information to organize the clubs first meeting during Spring Quarter.

The idea for the club came from three groups of students who approached Petrey about a club.

The first group of people who approached him were students attending Sinclair who are from Latin American countries, such as Brazil and Ecuador.

“The club is a place for them to get together and affirm their culture,” he said.

The second group of people who approached Petrey were students who are American citizens but share the common Latin American heritage.

The third group consists of those who are just interested in learning about Latin America.

But Petrey said that all are welcome to take part in the club.

“Many of our campus clubs are open to

anyone,” he said. “We know that a student who is engaged on campus is going to do better.”

Different clubs on campus have addressed Latin American. But the new club will have a more specific Latin American focus.

Latinos United was active from 2003 to 2006. During that time HOLA, which stands for (Hispanics or Latinos Association) was also active from 2003 to 2004.

He said that HOLA had difficulty finding an advisor and was a fairly small group, so it went inactive as an organization.

“I think the difference with this new club will be to try and reach out to different groups,” he said.

Anyone interested in learning about the Latin American Club or becoming a part of the list of those interested in joining can contact Petrey directly by phone at 937-512-2092. Email Petrey at Derek.petrey@sinclair.edu or by stopping by Building 10 Room 341.

campus calendar

April 2

- **Spring classes begin**

April 3

- **Coffee and Conversation**
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Building 8, Ponnie Kendall Center basement

April 6

- **Fire Science Graduation**
1:30-3:00 p.m.
Blair Hall Theater

April 10

- **Coffee and Conversation**
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Building 8, Ponnie Kendall Center basement

April 14

- **DPO Piano Competition Registration**
Building 2, Blair Hall Theatre Lobby

April 17

- **Coffee and Conversation**
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Building 8, Ponnie Kendall Center basement

April 19

- **Sinclair Theatre Presents The Complete Works of William Shakespeare**
10:00 a.m.
Building 2, Blair Hall Theatre

April 20

- **Sinclair Theatre Presents The Complete Works of William Shakespeare**
7:00 p.m.
Building 2, Blair Hall Theatre

marketplace menu

Monday

- Chili Con Carne
- Beef Vegetable Soup
- Roasted Corn Chowder
- Buffalo Mash
- Burger Bar—choose your Burger, Angus, Turkey or Veggie
- Boiled Red Potatoes
- Wild Rice
- Squash Blend
- Veggie Medley
- Beef and Broccoli Stir Fry over rice
- Calzone, Spinach, Ricotta
- Ciabatta Club Melt
- Wraps
- Steak Caesar Wrap

Tuesday

- Chili Con Carne
- Beef Vegetable
- Tortellini Soup
- Cinnamon Roasted Pork Loin
- Casserole, Primavera
- Potatoes, Mashed,
- Orange Sweet Potatoes
- Casserole, Green Bean

Wednesday

- Chili Con Carne
- Florentine Chicken Soup
- Tortellini Soup
- Meatloaf
- Turkey Ranch Panini
- Mashed Potatoes With Corn
- Baked Beans
- Fresh Broccoli Spears
- Sauteed Green Beans & Peppers
- Teriyaki Chicken over rice
- Meat Lovers Calzone
- Texas Tenderloin
- Wraps
- Steak Caesar Wrap

Thursday

- Chili Con Carne
- Florentine Chicken Soup
- Cream Of Mushroom Soup
- Cajun Pasta Plate

- Peas & Carrots
- Sweet & Sour Chicken
- Flatbread, Turkey, Smoked
- Grilled Reuben
- Wraps
- Steak Caesar Wrap

- Lasagna, Mexican, Zucchini
- Mexirice
- Brown Rice
- Chipotle Corn Custard
- Green Beans Amandine
- Lemon Chicken over rice
- 300 Calorie Salad
- Buffalo Blue Cheese Chicken Melt
- Wraps
- Steak Caesar Wrap

Friday

- Chili Con Carne
- Chicken And Okra Creole Soup
- Cream Of Mushroom Soup
- Baked Fish
- Chef's Choice
- Rice Pilaf
- Dill Red Potatoes
- Roasted Corn & Tomatoes
- Steamed Veggies
- Closed on Friday
- Chicken Bacon Ranch Pizza
- Turkey Burger Sliders
- Wraps
- Steak Caesar Wrap

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weekly sudoku

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow. In a 9 by 9 square Sudoku game:

- Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
- Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
- Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

Every Sudoku game begins with some squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is due to how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

			2					9
	9					7		
3					5	6	1	2
5	8							
		1			9	3		
							5	6
6	4	7	5					9
		9					8	
	1				7			

Sudoku Tips: Start by looking for numbers that occur frequently in the initial puzzle. For example, say you have a lot of 5's in the initial puzzle. Look for the 3x3 box where there is no 5. Look for 5's in other rows and columns that can help you eliminate where the 5 might go in that box. If there is a 5 in column's 1 and 2, then there can't be a 5 any-

where else in either of those columns. You know then that whatever leftmost 3x3 box that is missing a 5 must have it go in column 3. If you can eliminate all the possibilities in that box except for 1 square, you've got it down!

Answers on page 7

weekly crossword

Across

- Dodger shortstop after Leo Durocher
- "I kiss'd thee ___ I kill'd thee": Othello
- Mediterranean arm
- 24-hora period
- Where sheets are spotted
- Suppositions
- Coat of a kind
- Chick chaser
- Adjective showing confidence
- Cost of membership
- Raced on a lake, perhaps
- Many "Twilight" series readers
- Racket
- Pharmaceuticals co. division
- Upside list
- Horse with a high tail carriage
- Past, in the past
- Accommodates
- 2011 Hiroshima Art Prize winner
- Take off the top
- "Hogwash!"
- "The Supremes ___": 1966 #1 album
- Really messed up
- Glossy-coated tree dweller
- Crusty entrées
- Notice on the links?
- "Be right with ya"
- Where chads became famous: Abbr.
- Stanza rhyme scheme
- 1880s White House monogram
- "Basic Instinct" co-star
- Cassis cocktail
- Drug delivery mode
- New alums, last yr.
- Outward impressions

Down

- Insect sensor
- Emmy winner Falco
- Ocean flier
- Used with skill
- Suffix with Ecuador
- Aquatints, e.g.
- Gets upset
- Subj. involving bread?
- What a collective noun usually lacks
- Pea pod, e.g.
- Celebrate, in a way
- Radish, for one
- Shooting site
- Reduced
- Ski resort near the Great Salt Lake
- Reverse
- Tough jobs
- 25% of doce
- Revels in the moment
- Conclude with an emotional demonstration, perhaps
- Shouted
- Practices
- Benefit
- Good stock
- Mineral-rich European region
- Google ___
- Increase
- Ford subcompact since 1976
- Malcontent
- Hail damage marks
- Area plants
- "... get one ___"
- Former U.K. carrier
- Le Havre handle
- Some school competitions
- One often turned up in a club
- '70s radical gp.

Answers on page 7

Contacts

Newsroom
Room 8027
(937) 512-4577
email: clarion@sinclair.edu

Advertising
phone: (937) 512-2744 fax: (937) 512-4590

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the Clarion

Editor: Talya Flowers
Sports Editor: Giustino Bovenzi
Assistant Editor: Mark Fahey
Graphic Designer: Jonathan Hammond
Assistant Graphic Designer: John Swain

Reporters: JonVelle McCray, Steve Schwerin, Leah Baxley

Advertising Representative: Chris Voudris

Adviser: Sandy Hilt

Photographer
Jonathan Hammond

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tartan spotlight



photo by Mark Fahey

meet Tom Roberts

Mark Fahey
Assistant Editor

What makes him interesting?

As a grade school student at St. James Catholic School in Dayton in the late '60s, Tom Roberts looked across the street at WAVI, the first talk radio show in the Dayton area, and said "that's what I want to do. I want to do talk radio."

Roberts studied Communication at Sinclair from 1972-75, and earned a degree from the University of Dayton in Communication Arts. He planned to work in broadcast media, but instead politics took over, he said.

Robert's brother, a campaign worker for Major Coleman Young in Detroit, had returned home while Roberts was in high school and inspired him to get involved with the Young Democrats of Montgomery County and the Democratic Voters League, a primarily African-American political group that worked to "organize the black wards and precincts around democratic issues."

Roberts became "engaged in helping people understand the issues," and was hired by the Montgomery County Clerk of Courts in 1972. He became bailiff for a local judge in 1978, and in 1986 he became a representative in the Ohio House of Representatives, where he would serve Ohio for 14 years. In 2002 he was elected a state senator for Ohio's 5th District, and in 2009 he was appointed to the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, where he still serves as one of five commissioners.

Roberts said he was most proud of his work with community organizations and his legislative accomplishments, which include a bill that addressed predatory lending in Ohio and a bill that helps rehabilitate and prevent abandoned and contaminated industrial sites in Ohio.

"All of my public policy issues that I'm proud of came out of issues in this community," he said.

Since 1997, Roberts has been the advisor for the Sinclair Ohio Fellows, a program that was created in the late '70s to foster the principles of servant leadership promoted by William Greenleaf. The program is approaching its 35-year anniversary.

"The Greenleaf model is for the leader to empower others, to help them take control of their lives," he said.

The group is organized events for the Season for Nonviolence, which runs from the date of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s death on Jan. 4 until the date of Mahatma Gandhi's death on April 30. Robert's mother was from Montgomery, Ala. and an uncle of his had taken photographs of King.

"We felt very close to Dr. King and the Montgomery bus boycott movement," he said. "I think that if we would have at least listened to what Dr. King was saying in his world house vision, then we'd be better off today."

Roberts said that although he became a politician, his communication background helped him a great deal, putting him at ease when he did radio and television interviews.

"I am getting to do my radio and television broadcasting," he said. "But not as much as I want to."

Every Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. Roberts does a radio show on a local station with Michael Ecton (WDAO 1210 AM) and talks about political issues in Columbus and Washington.

Roberts also enjoys reading, especially about early American history, getting together with his large family (four children, 20 nieces and nephews, and a grandson) and going to local comedy shows with his wife.

"I enjoy socializing, networking with people. I want to learn to socialize and network, but to do it in less stressful ways, just to enjoy what's out there," said Roberts. "Probably the best job I've had in my life is right here at Sinclair. Where can you go to enjoy music and beads [Sinclair's Mardi Gras event] and get paid to do that?"

Do you know a member of the Sinclair community with an interesting or unique quality? Send your suggestions to clarion@sinclair.edu.

Zumba club to offer international-style dances

Leah Baxley

Reporter
clarion@sinclair.edu

To integrate fun and fitness into your workout, Latin inspired zumba will be offered as a club at Sinclair.

Zumba is a "dance fitness party" that incorporates Latin dances and rhythms into one exercise and fitness program, said Nilofar Gagan, certified zumba instructor and student worker in the Student Leadership Association (SLA) office.

"Dance is a place where everyone can join together as a group," she said.

The club is still in the process of forming, Gagan said. So far 20 people have expressed an interest in the club. The first meeting Gagan hopes will be during Spring Quarter. The club will have one meeting every two weeks.

"Everybody is invited," she said.

She said that she is hoping that the club will encourage healthy interaction between faculty, staff and students.

She also said that she is hoping the club will benefit participants for two reasons:

"The first reason is you need exercise," she said. "The second reason is just to have fun."

Exercise is the main benefit of zumba, but it also provides good blood flow and depending on their body weights, participants can lose 300 to 1,000 calories.

For the club, she is working on incorporating more



photo by DJ SKNO

Nilofar Gagan, certified zumba instructor, gained the inspiration to form a club during a previous SLA zumba event.

Bollywood-style dances. Bollywood integrates a mixture of Indian folk dances with hip-hop moves.

"You know Hollywood, but you don't know Bollywood," Gagan said. "It's all about the belly."

Gagan is ready to start the club with the sole purpose of allowing participants to communicate with one another and feel exhilarated from the exercise.

"Get fit and at the same time meet new people," she said.

The idea for the club came to Gagan during a zumba sponsored event that was held by SLA. She said she had already applied for her license and was thinking about where she could hold zumba events.

And then the thought occurred to her to hold the events on campus.

Patricia Broderick, a Sinclair student and Gagan's coworker in the SLA office, heard about the club and is now interested.

Broderick began doing zumba

at first by watching zumba on television and then she eventually took a class for it.

In order to accommodate student's schedules, Gagan is planning on having the club meet between 4 and 6 p.m. starting next quarter.

"[Although the Physical Education Department] offers zumba right here on campus, it's expensive," Gagan said. "I think it is too high for students."

Through the club, Gagan said she will be spreading the word about her own studio. And she is currently searching for a building.

During the SLA-sponsored Multicultural Health Fair on April 11, Gagan will be performing zumba moves. The event, which will also be a club day will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the basement of Building 8.

Anyone interested in joining the club can contact Gagan by email at nilofar.gagan@my.sinclair.edu.

Sinclair's Lifelong Learning changes lives



photo by Talya Flowers

John Myers practices his punching skills during a self defense course offered by Sinclair at the Franciscan Center for ages "60 and better."

Talya Flowers

Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

For every age and no matter the stage of life, healthy living and learning should never stop, according to Anne Holaday, coordinator for Lifelong Learning.

And to prove this point, Sinclair Community College has partnered with the Franciscan Center to offer health and wellness classes through the College for Lifelong Learning.

"It is all about socialization," Holaday said. "It gives people a chance to be with other people and share things. Being with other people is a proven health benefit."

Sinclair and the Franciscan Center began their partnership several years ago, Holaday said. Few classes were offered at first, but now more than 15 classes are offered at the Franciscan center.

The students, ages "60 and better," are offered many health and wellness courses. From a variety of exercising and self-defense classes to no-tutu ballet, zumba, belly dancing and self-defense classes with a cane.

"Sinclair has the largest Lifelong Learning program in the state of Ohio," Holaday said. "We want to help people continue to learn, be the best asset to the community and help them lead a more fulfilling life."

Denise Cozart, 73, a former teacher, is now enrolled in an Asian Arts class.

"That class has given me a lot of balance," she

said. "Because when I first came here if I walked around the corner too fast I sort of went off balance and now I don't do that. I am less prone to falling and that is one of the biggest benefits of the class."

The Asian Arts class focuses on self-defense, but Cozart said the main objective of the course is to get away from the attacker.

"With self-defense, you use the least amount of force to get away," said Debra Stewart, director of the wellness program.

Cozart said the class has given her the confidence she needs to be prepared if she is attacked, and in a few months she will be testing for her brown belt.

It is important to know how to defend myself because it is good not to be a victim," Cozart said.

When she is not learning self-defense moves, she is taking a core aquatics class. She credits this class for strengthening her core and improving her overall health.

And Cozart said she will continue to take the classes through Sinclair because she has seen an improvement in her memory, circulation and sleeping pattern. But she said the biggest benefit of the classes is being around her comrades who understand and encourage one another to push themselves and never give up, while maintaining a fun atmosphere.

"You can only stay home and watch TV for so long before you go crazy. We need to be out trying new things and having fun," Holaday said.

For more information contact Holaday at 512-5184.

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The mockingjay pin, a gift from a friend in District 12, is Katniss' special token for the Hunger Games.

SCHOLASTIC

RULES OF THE 'GAMES'

CHARACTERS



Katniss Everdeen
(Jennifer Lawrence)

Katniss Everdeen: The main character of the "Hunger Games." Katniss lives in District 12 with her mother and sister, Primrose. Her father died in a mining accident when she was 11. Katniss provides for her family by illegally hunting outside the district fence and by trading at the Hob, a black market. When her sister is picked for the 74th annual Hunger Games, Katniss volunteers to take her place.



Peeta Mellark
(Josh Hutcherson)

Peeta Mellark: Katniss' fellow District 12 tribute in the 74th Games. Peeta grew up in the district's merchant area. His parents are bakers, and he once purposely burned bread so he could give it to Katniss and her family, who were on the verge of starvation. Although she is unaware, Peeta has long had a crush on her.



Gale Hawthorne
(Liam Hemsworth)

Gale Hawthorne: Katniss' best friend in District 12, Gale lost his father in the same mining accident that killed Katniss' father. He illegally hunts with Katniss and provides for his mother and younger siblings. He vows to protect and care for Katniss' family when she goes to the Games.

Primrose Everdeen: Katniss' little sister, Primrose has a gentle disposition and a talent for healing.

Effie Trinket: A woman from the Capitol, Effie is the official escort for the District 12 tributes.

Haymitch Abernathy: District 12's only living Hunger Games victor, Haymitch must act as the tributes' mentor, despite a penchant for heavy drinking.

President Snow: The leader of Panem, Snow is a cruel man who keeps tight control over his country.

Cinna: The assigned stylist for District 12, Cinna becomes a trusted friend and ally to Katniss.

Immerse yourself in the world of 'The Hunger Games'

Society as we know it has fallen and has been replaced by the authoritarian nation of Panem.

Residents live in tightly controlled districts and do what they can to avoid dying before their time. Yet death still may find them, simply by the luck of the draw. Because in this new society, the children must compete yearly in a fight to the death — The Hunger Games.

This is the future — and the setting of the dark, dystopian and extremely popular trilogy by Suzanne Collins.

The first book, "The Hunger Games," was released to critical acclaim in 2008 and remained on the New York Times bestseller list for than 180 consecutive weeks. Now, the series' first movie is due out March 23.

In case you haven't gulped down the fast-paced books, here's a primer on "The Hunger Games" to get you up to speed on everything from the main characters to the Games and districts.

— Merrie Leininger, Kim Ossi and Wendy Zang, McClatchy-Tribune

THE REAPING

Once a year, every district child ages 12 to 18 has his or her name placed in a lottery. One boy and one girl are chosen from each district in a televised ceremony. Those selected are known as tributes.

Some children, known as careers, train their whole lives for the Hunger Games. But poorer children are most likely to be chosen because adding your name more than once to the drawing nets you a tessera — a stingy supply of grain and oil. A teen may do this for each of their family members as well, and the entries are cumulative.



Katniss Everdeen awaits the tribute lottery with other District 12 residents in "The Hunger Games."

THE HUNGER GAMES

Once a child is chosen, they are given just a few minutes to say goodbye to family and friends. They are then swept off to the Capitol via train, where they are given a makeover and introduced to the country by television. Those who gain favor from wealthy viewers can receive sponsorships of food, supplies or medicine during the survival game.

The Hunger Games are played in an outdoor arena, of sorts, but the landscape varies each year. It's part of the challenge presented by the head gamemaker. Cameras capture tributes' every move so the whole nation can watch as the children fight for their lives.

Katniss Everdeen prepares to fight for survival in "The Hunger Games."



LEGEND
○ District No.

PAI/SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS/MDT

An interpretation of where Panem's districts lay in relation to each other.

PANEM

Panem is what is left of North America, years after droughts, storms and rising sea levels devastated the food supply. Battles for what remained resulted in an authoritarian government based in the Capitol, in an area presumed to be near the Rocky Mountains, with 13 districts spread out from there.

About 75 years before the first novel begins, a rebellion known as the Dark Days took place. The districts rose up against the Capitol, but they were unsuccessful, and District 13 was reportedly wiped out completely. All the districts are surrounded by fences, and residents are not permitted to travel between them.

Following the Dark Days, the Hunger Games were established as both a punishment and a warning to never again rebel.

THE CAPITOL

The residents of the Capitol are frivolous, wasteful people who live in luxury without want or hunger, but they are still closely watched at all times. They are obsessed with entertainment and fashion, and many have altered their appearance to accord with the latest trends.



DISTRICT 1

Known for: Luxury
Purpose: Provide the Capitol with the most decadent and exceptional goods, including diamonds and gems.
Notable: Wealthiest district outside the Capitol. Considered a "career" district, where children are specially trained for the Games.



DISTRICT 2

Known for: Masonry
Purpose: Supply the bricks, stones and mortar on which Panem is built.
Notable: This is also the district where Panem's Peacekeepers (police) are trained and where weapons are manufactured. Also a career district.



DISTRICT 3

Known for: Electronics
Purpose: Bring innovation to Panem by studying the art, skill and craft of technology.
Notable: Most citizens in this district work in factories making things like televisions, automobiles and explosives.



DISTRICT 4

Known for: Fishing
Purpose: Bring the bounty of the sea to the whole nation of Panem.
Notable: One of the wealthier districts. Also a career district.



DISTRICT 5

Known for: Power
Purpose: Generate the power to keep all of Panem's lights shining brightly.
Notable: Not much is known about District 5, but it is reported to have a low number of tesserae-claiming children.



DISTRICT 6

Known for: Transportation
Purpose: Wherever your destination may be, you couldn't get there without us.
Notable: Among the products made here: hover cars.



DISTRICT 7

Known for: Lumber
Purpose: Bring Panem the finest lumber nature can provide, from the forest to the mills.
Notable: Heavily wooded. Tributes from here are usually good with axes.



DISTRICT 8

Known for: Textiles
Purpose: Make all of Panem look good, from the runways of the Capitol to the cobblestone streets of the lowliest Districts.
Notable: Factories make all clothes, including Peacekeeper uniforms. Urban, industrial area with rundown tenements.



DISTRICT 9

Known for: Grain
Purpose: No nutritious diet could be complete without the grains we grow.
Notable: The breadbasket of Panem.



DISTRICT 10

Known for: Livestock
Purpose: Provide Panem with the freshest, tastiest, most tender meats — from pasture to plate.
Notable: In the 74th Hunger Games, this district sends a boy with a crippled foot.



DISTRICT 11

Known for: Agriculture
Purpose: Keep Panem nourished and strong with the fruits and vegetables we cultivate.
Notable: Almost everything grown goes to the Capitol. Tracker jackers — genetically altered killer wasps — are a danger here.



DISTRICT 12

Known for: Mining
Purpose: Venture deep within the earth to extract the coal which keeps Panem going.
Notable: One of the poorest, most ridiculed districts. Food is scarce, and some residents turn to the black market to feed their families.



DISTRICT 13

Known for: Nuclear technology, graphite mining
Notable: One of the original districts, 13 was reportedly obliterated by the Capitol during the uprisings and is uninhabitable.

SOURCES: "THE HUNGER GAMES" TRILOGY; SCHOLASTIC; WWW.THEHUNGERGAMESMOVIE.COM.



Open mic welcomes artists of all types



Quinn Wilson sometimes performs with his father Denny Wilson. Denny Wilson will be organizing an open mic event at Sinclair for artists of all types.

Steve Scherwin

Reporter
clarion@sinclair.edu

Students at Sinclair wanting to get their feet wet by performing in front of people will now have a chance to perform on campus.

In the basement of Building 8, there will soon be an open mic event on Tuesdays from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. starting on April 3.

The idea comes from Sinclair student and student worker for the Student Leadership Association (SLA) Denny Wilson, whose dream is to provide a venue for whoever wants to perform.

The concept is not just for musicians, performers of all types are welcome.

"A writer can come with their poetry or even a short story, or actors from the Theater Department could come and get some chops at being funny and getting experience engaging an audience," Wilson says.

Wilson says that the idea for the open mic event came from his classroom experience at

Sinclair as he reflected on the importance of performing in front of an audience to his own musical development and career.

"I noticed that some music majors have no way to get experience to perform short of their recitals, and a lot rides on the recital, Wilson says.

Students who are not going to perform can still go to experience live acts, Wilson says.

He hopes that an open mic event will introduce students to other students with similar interest even if their disciplines are not the same. Wilson hopes that music majors will gain from hearing comics or listening to poetry being read.

"Sinclair creates this space for us to be creative. It's symbiotic," he says.

Wilson's vision is also that the stage in Building 8 will lead students to affect the community outside of Sinclair as well. He wants to draw on his past experiences to connect students with venues outside of Sinclair.

"What is really valuable, if you want to be a musician,

is getting more experience playing. We'll get into the club where you can be seen by the owner and we'll bring a crowd," Wilson says.

Wilson grew up in Dayton, where he remembers how bands supported one another. He said that one band would bring their crowd to another band's show and the favor would be reciprocated.

"When I was young, everybody came to everybody's show. The crowds were huge," Wilson says.

Now at Sinclair, he wants to help foster what he once benefited from.

"I want to be active. It is no longer good enough to say that this will be a good idea. But what can I do to serve to get that idea to exist," Wilson says.

The length of the open mic events depends on the number of performers.

"The timeslots will depend entirely on the event. I think the show will start off to be about 2 hours, and maybe it will grow to be about 4 hours," Wilson says.

As an experienced performer, Wilson will be involved with helping acts sound good. He will likely run the soundboard when he can lend his talents to what he hopes will be a community-building event.

"The future that I want to contribute to has to be beyond my rhetoric," Wilson says. "It actually has to be that I am what I say I am, which would mean that I have to be out there doing the job that no one wants to do to facilitate this."

Anyone interested in performing can sign up in the office of SLA in the Basement of Building 8 Room 025.

With new leadership, College Republicans prepare for upcoming election season

Mark Fahey

Assistant Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

The ongoing Republican primaries and the upcoming presidential election have brought new leadership and new life to the Sinclair College Republicans.

"We had to basically resurrect [the club]," said Sarah Scott, the club's president.

The new leadership has been with the club since early February. The group has about 20 students on its mailing list, and they hope to increase membership as the 2012 presidential election draws near.

"Essentially we seek to promote conservatism and the ideals of the Republican Party," said Sam Bain, PR director and liaison to the state College Republicans. "Free market capitalism, economic freedom, individual liberty, life... these are the essential tenets of the Republican Party, and we seek to promote them by having open discussions about what they mean in current issues."

Although the club is focusing on increasing membership, they have already tabled at club events and have done some volunteering for local candidates. In April, members will be attending a College Republicans convention at Kent State with 25 chapters and "hundreds of college republicans from around the Buckeye State" in attendance, said Bain.

Past leaders in the Sinclair

College Republicans have gone on to become active in politics, and several of the club's new leaders have their own political ambitions.

"I'd like to run for office locally myself, ten years down the road," said Bain. "I'd say I've learned a lot, just from being involved with campaigns and being involved with the club, and discussing ideas with other students... bouncing ideas off one another."

"I've worked on so many campaigns it's ridiculous," said Scott. "I love campaigns, and that's what I want to do."

Other students join the club to learn more about politics and to help local candidates.

"I don't know too much about politics and I wanted to get to know more about it," said Anna Shin, the vice president. "I wanted to see the Republican view, and a lot of times we'll see a lot of different opposing views."

The club cannot endorse individual candidates, although they can distribute campaign literature for a variety of candidates.

"We encourage members to go volunteer for their preferred candidate," said Bain. Scott said that two local candidates have already approached them for campaign volunteers.

Kathleen and Jennifer Sooy, the club's advisors and faculty members in Political Science, said that the club was formally established in 2004.

"We were the first political club on campus," said Kath-

leen Sooy, "So there was a long process to get approval from all the appropriate parties."

"We were very supportive of Sinclair having political organizations or clubs so students can learn about political parties and the campaign process," said Jennifer Sooy. "Our point is to promote civic education and involvement in the community, and more importantly to help students learn who they are in terms of their political ideology."

Political club membership at Sinclair tends to wax and wane, and membership is often highest in election years, according to Kathleen Sooy.

Although a Progressive Club was started in 2008, Jennifer Sooy said it "never really got off the ground" and fell apart after the election. The advisors have an open invitation to other potential political clubs to use their constitution to make it easier for them to get started. Scott said she would love to see a Democratic club on campus.

"You need to have a very energetic, mature, committed president to be able to continue participating... continue to recruit, continue to hold functions," said Jennifer Sooy. "We have spirited, enthusiastic, interested officers. All of them have something to offer. We're very pleased with the caliber of the [student leaders]."

"They're very strong, very capable, and certainly very interested," said Kathleen Sooy.

The advisors said that participation and leadership in a

political club not only strengthens leadership skills, but also exposes students to the world of politics and to the complexity of the political system.

"Students [need to] appreciate the intricacy of our system and their role in it," said Jennifer Sooy. "We have to engage

and take responsibility."

"The door knocking that we do, the phone calls that we make, the getting people out to the poles, it may seem like just grunt work," said Bain. "But it's going into a bigger picture of changing history and putting America back on the right path."



College Republicans Anna Shin, Sarah Scott and Sam Bain will be leading the club in 2012.

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public health degree from home.





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your voice

Q. What do you think about the switch from quarters to semesters?

Photos by Giustino Boverzi



Lydell Young
CIS

"I'm not really all that happy with it. I understand that the process may seem faster, but you're messing us up from the get-go now. We don't get that full variety that we once had. People switch majors all the time, so now you're going to be sitting through a class for a longer period of time before switching."



Austin Burkhardt
HVAC

"I think it's a great idea. I live with people at Wright State, so right now they're all on break. Now that we're all going to be on the same schedule, my living conditions will be easier."



Eric Van Doren
HVAC

"I think that for work purposes, quarters might work better. As a student, I like semesters. I don't know how it will work until it actually happens."



Noelle Armstrong
Biology

"It is actually good for me since the school I'm transferring to is on semesters. I don't like it...because you are stuck with it even if you don't like it for a longer amount of time."

Domestic violence law may expire

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Opposition is forming in Congress to the renewal of a landmark 1994 law against, of all things, domestic violence. It is inconceivable that lawmakers could erode progress made in this area for the sake of partisan election-year politics – or, for that matter, what constituency they're hoping to attract. Do batterers vote Republican?

Almost 18 years ago, Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act to provide funding for law enforcement and community organizations to help victims of domestic violence and bring their attackers to justice. The latest reauthorization was introduced by a bipartisan group of co-sponsors late last year, but it failed to get a single Republican vote in the Senate judiciary committee last month. Democrats got it out of committee, but it faces a vitriolic debate.

How times change. Twice before, the U.S. Senate has renewed this law, in 2000 and, during Republican George W. Bush's presidency, in 2005. The votes were not just bipartisan but unanimous. This time it's facing a buzz saw of criticism from social-conservative Republicans.

Men and women are victims of domestic violence, but women are most often the victims. Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska has urged her colleagues to get on the right side of this measure or risk losing women's votes in the

fall elections. Most of her colleagues seem unmoved.

Iowa Sen. Charles Grassley said he objects to provisions that would broaden protection to same-sex couples and to illegal immigrants who are victims of domestic violence. Other Republicans say that expansion would increase bureaucracy and dilute the focus that should remain on helping domestic-violence victims (presumably unless they're same-sex partners or undocumented). The law already covers some illegal immigrants who are cooperating with law enforcement, and it includes a path to green cards for victims who were potentially qualified anyway through marriage to batterers who are U.S. citizens. The renewal would just allow more qualified victims to pursue that path.

Another update would make it clear the law applies equally to men and women who are battered and does not discriminate based on sexual orientation. We can't wait to hear the arguments for not helping men battered by women or victims beaten by same-sex partners.

While it's tempting to frame this as a women's issue, it's really about human decency. As we sadly have seen over the past year, domestic violence crosses lines of income and ethnicity. It can involve male-female or same-sex couples. It is a terrible and growing social problem. Democrats and Republicans once agreed on this. They must renew the domestic violence law.



Drilling won't lower gas prices, but this will

Dan Becker and James Gerstenzang
(MCT)

The drill babies are back, touting Exxon-Mobil's wish list under the guise of cutting the price of gas. But the truth is we're already on the way to reducing what we spend on it.

In this political season, we're hearing the broken-record answers to \$4 gas: Drill baby, drill; build the Keystone XL pipeline; and raid emergency reserves.

None will solve the price problem today or in years to come. Each feeds the United States' oil addiction. Each risks damaging the environment or draining strategic supplies. Most important, this noisy debate over supply misses the point: Nothing will cut gas prices right now. But by reducing how much gas we use by reducing demand we are already on the road to cutting fuel bills.

With 98 percent of the world's oil reserves in the hands of other countries, and an international cartel exerting a powerful hand on prices, the United States cannot control what we pay each day at the pump. Under President Obama, drilling is already up 12 percent. Nonetheless, prices have risen. Even new drilling every place that has the oil industry panting will not provide enough to reduce prices significantly.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration estimates that new drilling on the outer continental shelf would not affect prices over the next decade and would cut them by only three cents a gallon in 2030.

As Oppenheimer & Co.'s top oil analyst, Fadel Gheit, told CBS News, "If we drill in the middle of Manhattan and everybody drilled in their backyard we would not have enough oil to move the global market."

The proposed Keystone XL pipeline is also a dry hole. It would pump heavily polluting low-grade tar sand oil from landlocked Alberta, Canada, to Texas portside refineries. Most of the finished product would be loaded onto tankers and sent to foreign ports, rather than U.S. gas stations. We'd shoulder the potential environmental pain pipeline leaks and refinery pollution for little domestic supply gain.

Tapping the Strategic Petroleum Reserve makes no sense. Iran is threatening to shut the Strait of Hormuz, through which nearly 20 percent of the world's oil passes each day. Do we want to reduce our emergency reserve just before we might need it? Besides, the modest amount that it would add to supply would have only a small and short-lived impact on prices at the pump. It's another non-starter.

In short, we're in a hole. We can't drill or pump our way out. That is why cutting demand is imperative for a country that gulps 20 percent of the world's oil production each day.

Taking the biggest single step we can to cut our oil addiction and global warming pollution too, the Obama administration persuaded automakers to double the fuel efficiency of cars and light trucks. Like increased drilling, the administration's new mileage and emissions standards won't cut

prices today. But unlike drilling, they will help forestall the impact of future price hikes by weaning us off oil.

Cars and light trucks average 29.6 mpg, only about 4 mpg better than 20 years ago. It is obvious the carmakers haven't been burning rubber to improve fuel efficiency. But just wait.

The administration's rules require that new cars and light trucks average 35.5 mpg in 2016. The standards increase to 54.5 mpg in 2025. They will save 12 billion barrels of oil.

To be sure, there are potential speed bumps: The people who make the cars the auto companies and the United Auto Workers union support the stronger rules. But the people who sell them, the National Automobile Dealers Association, have tried to block the standards from becoming final this summer.

The dealers are trying to stand between you and saving money at the pump.

More cars that sip gas rather than guzzle it are headed to showrooms. The rules will lead to more hybrids, which will become less expensive when they are produced in greater numbers. That will bring more Americans just one hybrid away from a once-elusive goal: spending less for gas because they need less of it.

We are cutting our oil addiction. This will inoculate us against future price spikes, halve autos' carbon dioxide pollution, and give us a 50 percent discount at the pump.

That's like finding a vast new oil supply under Detroit.

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Letter to the editor

I am writing in response to Angela Whitfield's letter to the editor.

I truly believe that it is someone's choice to use contraception or not. There are many factors that religion cannot excuse or cannot interfere with. There are medical reasons, personal, or even societal issues with the use of contraceptives. Religious views should be honored but I think as a person of faith you should separate yourself from that faith when it comes to topics such as contraception. It is not a bad thing to use it and it is not sinful to encourage people who are sexually active to be safe. I am a Christian woman and I am also experimenting with Buddhism; these two religions are different from each other. Christian views do not say protection is sinful. It says that sex is to be

used for procreation. So what if you cannot bear a child or you have a disease in which you are afraid you will pass on to that child or any children you bear? Is it wrong to prevent a pregnancy for the sake of the child?

I believe it is a choice. Just as having an abortion, having your child circumcised [like in many African religions], and also preventing a pregnancy so that the child will not suffer is. Do I believe these things are right? I do not. However, it is not my choice. It is a person's own life and mortality they risk when doing so.

Many religious peoples need to understand that encouraging birth control benefits on your health insurance is a blessing to most people. Sometimes you must make a choice. To prevent birth control and pos-

sibly give a child or children a very unhappy or unsafe life or to let the person chose whether or not they want to use contraception. I believe that the child is a separate entity however; you are talking about an unborn child, someone who has not even been thought of yet. So please understand my criticism. There is a boundary line between religious views and personal needs. It should be met. The person who is given birth control benefits on their insurance does not have to use them. Rather they are there in case you should need that. It is not sinful to prevent a pregnancy because the person does not want a child or cannot raise a child.

Brittany Rutledge, English Major.

Letters to the Editor policy

Letters to the editor may be submitted to *the Clarion* in Room 8027 or email: clarion@sinclair.edu. All submissions are subject to editing without changing content.

No anonymous submissions will be accepted. Letters to the editor must be submitted with the author's name and phone number.

The Clarion reserves the right to edit all letters. *The Clarion* reserves the right to refuse any letters for publication, especially those that

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It is the policy of *the Clarion* to acknowledge errors in letters with published correction statements.

Deadline is noon Tuesday for the following Tuesday publication. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Submission does not guarantee publication. Space availability determines publication. When space is limited, articles

may be filed for publication at a later date.

The Clarion
c/o Sinclair Community College
444 W. Third Street
Dayton, OH 45402-1460
(937)512-2744
E-mail: clarion@sinclair.edu

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Sinclair baseball becomes three dimensional

Giustino Bovenzi
Sports Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

Sinclair has won three straight conference championships and avidly focuses on the three C's of Sinclair—success in the classroom, community and on the court (on the field in this instance).

And to keep the triple trend going, head coach Steve Dintaman has linked together with Athletes in Action to add a third dimension to Sinclair's training and performing regimen—the spiritual game.

The team coaching philosophy was centered around the mental game, with the physical portion being displayed on the field. But now Dintaman said the spiritual game gives the players an outlet to talk about God and prepare for each game spiritually.

Taylor Hargrove is the chaplain for Sinclair baseball, primarily working in Xenia at the Athletes in Action international headquarters.

Hargrove offers guidance through Christianity, with the focal point being on learning how to study the Bible. Hargrove said he and the team are going through the book of John as requested by one of the players.

"There's a phrase I stole from someone that goes, 'you can feed a man a fish and feed him for a day, but if you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime,'" Hargrove said in a phone interview. "So we started going through John and I'm trying to teach them how to fish."

He speaks with Sinclair



photo contributed by Steve Dintaman
Taylor Hargrove (right) is the chaplain for Sinclair baseball. He offers guidance through Christianity with a specific focus on helping the team learn how to study the Bible.

players once a week and said that the majority of the team has come to speak with him.

One player that openly speaks about the ties between religion and baseball, is starting pitcher Jon Thacker.

"I used to play and get mad at myself when I made mistakes," Thacker said. "But now I play knowing that baseball isn't about me. As long as I give it my best that's all that matters. I have to play for and with the Lord, and that makes me play even stronger."

Thacker played summer baseball for Xenia Scouts, a Christian organization offered through Athletes in Action.

Hargrove himself is a former baseball player that played for the New York Mets farm system for what he described as a "short stint." He

also said that coming from the game allows him to use the language of baseball to get through to players.

Pitcher Ryan Carter said that Hargrove has helped him do just that by implementing the word of God into baseball.

"He has also helped me realize that there is more to life than just baseball," Carter said.

Hargrove said Athletes in Action would like to eventually reach out to other divisions of Sinclair athletics and could see that happening sometime in the future.

Religion has really become a prominent aspect of sports with Broncos quarterback Tim Tebow being the poster boy.

And even though religion in sports has become a trending topic, Hargrove believes that the bond is here to stay.

Featured athlete of the week

— Stephen Holland —

Giustino Bovenzi
Sports Editor
clarion@sinclair.edu

Stephen Holland has been a Cincinnati Reds fan his entire life. Holland grew up in nearby Trenton just minutes away from where the Reds play.

He said living so close allowed him to attend Reds home games regularly, making it easy for him fall in love with the game of baseball.

Now, that passion for the game has Holland producing for another local team that wears the color red—the Sinclair Tartan Pride.

This season Holland is 2-0 as a starting pitcher for Sinclair. In three appearances, he has struck 18 opposing batters while only giving up one earned run. Those highly proficient statistics add up to Holland sporting a 0.64 ERA.

The right-handed pitcher's most notable victory of the season so far, came against Muscatine Community College during Sinclair's trip to Millington, Tenn. where he threw 5.1 innings of scoreless baseball while striking out 9.

"It was a pretty big game for us," Holland said. "I just went in there and shut em' down. This was actually my first win [as a member of the Pride]."

Sinclair started this season with a record of 11-3, tearing through competition but Holland said even though the season is still in its early stages, the team can't take their hot start for granted.

"From now on we're looking for those conference games," Holland said. "We want to win our conference again, and to go to our regional and win a regional. Our ultimate goal is to go to Oklahoma and go to the World Series."

He said earlier successes as a baseball player haven't always come as easy.

"There have been times where I've just wanted to quit baseball," Holland said.

But the support from his family, primarily his father and grandfather, has helped him continue playing at a high level.



photo by Giustino Bovenzi
Stephen Holland is a starting pitcher for Sinclair.

Although pitching puts the spotlight on Holland throughout games, he said defense is his favorite part of the game. He said he can't wait for the chance to make a play on a ground ball or a hot shot up the middle.

"I like to think of myself as an infielder," Holland said.

Holland is studying Liberal Arts and hopes to transfer to a four-year college to continue playing baseball after his time is done at Sinclair. He said ideally he would like to go play down south, possibly somewhere in North Carolina, but the University of Cincinnati is one of his probable landing spots.

You can see Holland and all the Tartan Pride baseball players as they continue their season on April 4 at home vs. Miami University-Hamilton at 6 p.m. The Pride play all of their home games at Grady's field in Xenia.



photo by Jeff Vander Ark
Holland showcases his skills on the field. His most notable victory was when he threw 5.1 innings of scoreless baseball while striking out 9.

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