

a force

ON THE NATIONAL DAY OF HELPING

The Defiance College community gathers in Columbus for the second annual Make A Difference Day event



DC students, staff, and alumni (including Phil Mallott '78, right) joined forces for Make a Difference Day in Columbus.

by Cindy Shaffer '03, Director of Planned Giving

Defiance College was a force to be reckoned with on Saturday, October 25, as alumni and family members, current DC students and staff gathered in Columbus to participate in the second annual Defiance College, Columbus Area Make A Difference Day event. This year's project was to assist with the Ohio Special Olympics State Bowling Tournament held at Holiday Lanes on Columbus' east side.

Make A Difference Day is the most encompassing national day of helping others -- a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Created by USA WEEKEND Magazine and supported in part by Newman's Own Foundation (Paul Newman), Make A Difference Day is an annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of October in towns and cities throughout the United States.

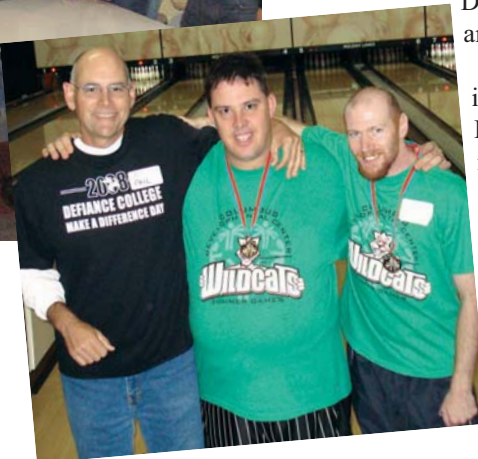
Alumni, spanning the class years of

1978 through 2006, joined athletes from the DC men's basketball team and members of the soon to be chartered Alpha Phi Omega co-ed national service fraternity to assist the Olympians and to offer special words of encouragement to the athletes. The activity was planned by the Defiance College Columbus-area Alumni Network leadership team of Jeremy Ball '04, Leanne (Schlenker) Moninger '01, and Francine "Fran" Wahrman '90, with support from Alumni Network Coordinator Gretchen McGinley.

"It's so easy for these students to get caught up in athletics, school work, and their social lives that it's easy to forget the big picture," said DC basketball coach Kyle Brumett in addressing the gathering. "This event is an opportunity to be reminded that this is what life's about."

The day began with brunch at the Lanes and provided an opportunity for alumni, staff

and students to get to know one another in a relaxed setting. Soon after, bowling balls were rolling and pins were flying amidst the cheers of participants and spectators. Defiance College volunteers were noticeable in their black Make a Difference Day shirts designed by Christin (McCabe) Mashburn '04, so much so that one parent was over heard saying "These Defiance College people are everywhere you look!"



DC staff members in addition to Coach Brumett who participated in the day were: assistant coach Tom Heil; Katie Litle '04, coordinator of McMaster Leadership Programs; graduate assistant for basketball, Kyle Resnick; Cindy Shaffer '03, director of planned giving and Jamie Stoegbauer,

director of student activities.

Mark your calendar now for the fourth Saturday in October to join the Columbus Alumni Group in 2009! ♦

BECOME A FORCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

If you would like to organize a DC Make A Difference Day Event in your community for 2009, please contact David Plant in the Alumni Office at 419-783-2572 or email him at dplant@defiance.edu for assistance.