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DAYTON, Ohio, April 4, 1972 --- Miss Deborah Ann O'Brien, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. O'Brien, Jr., 8500 Shirley Lane, Louisville, Kentucky, is one of 97 university seniors throughout the country to be selected to the 1972 Class of Danforth Fellows and therefore will receive a Danforth Fellowship for graduate work of her choice. The University of Dayton biology major, one of the most active students on the UD campus, has selected and been accepted to the Harvard Medical School as a graduate student in physiology.

Carrying a perfect 4.0 academic average in her major and an overall average of 3.86, Miss O'Brien was one of 1500 applicants of which 300 received interviews for the fellowships made available by the St. Louis, Missouri, foundation. She will graduate magna cum laude from UD on April 23.

The Danforth Fellowships are designed to encourage outstanding college graduates who show promise for distinguished careers in college teaching in order to help meet the critical need for such people.

Selection of Danforth Fellows is made annually by a national panel of educators, primarily on the basis of the evident intellectual power of the candidate, and his commitment to humane values and their place in higher education.

Over 1,800 Danforth Fellowships have been awarded since the program was established in 1952.

Miss O'Brien, who is a graduate of Angela Merici High School, Louisville, is a member of the Student Life Council, one of the top boards at the University of Dayton, and the Student Affairs Committee of the University's Board of Trustees.

She also was a member of the Student Life Task Force of the University's Planning for the Seventies program and is one of the original organizers of the Experimental College at UD. Miss O'Brien is a member of Beta Beta Beta Honor Society and has maintained upperclass scholarships at UD.