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Ohio, to watch the Yankees' minor-league team, the Columbus Clippers.

Michelle will actually be much closer to Columbus this fall when she begins her freshman year at the University of Dayton, Ohio. She said that her father is already remorseful about their impending separation.

"He's not dealing too well with it," Michelle remarked. "I've always been daddy's little girl. It's unbelievably bad.

Melanie Wiesner said that sporting activities have also been a uniting element for her and her father, Wayne. She often helps him out when they work on her brother Danny's race car; in fact, she said, her dad prefers that she and Danny, 17, buy car parts or tools for Father's Day gifts.

"He loves to work on the car. That's how we bond," said Melanie, 19, from St. Francis de Sales Church in Geneva. She, Michelle and Heidi will all graduate from Geneva DeSales High School

this month. Heidi and her father, Paul, have such a solid relationship that Heidi nominated him for a "Father of the Year" award on radio station WACK-AM in Newark three years ago. According to Heidi, the nomination was based on "how he and I get along and spend time

together." Heidi must have been convincing: Her dad won.

"I was, like, flipping out. I didn't expect it," Heidi recalled.

Heidi said that she and her dad also find Father's Day a good time to express their emotions.

"I don't tell my dad how I feel all the time, so I buy a card. He gets a little teary-eyed," she said.

Melanie, also, views Father's Day as an ideal opportunity to

Senior Michelle father, Rod, at their Clyde home May 29. They have converted a closet in the home into a Yankees memorabilia emporium. The two make frequent trips to the Bronx to see the Yankee's play and to get autographs. They have about 500 autographs to date. speak from the heart.

"I always get my dad a card, one of those emotional ones. I don't always express my feelings easily, so I write them down. And it gets to him," Melanie said.

Coming next week: Teens & Crime

Quick list of GIFTS

Father's Day, June 21, is approaching rapidly. Did you forget? Or are you still stuck for gift ideas? Take some tips from teens at St. Vincent DePaul Church in Churchville

Shealyn and Hannah Stenglein said they've given some traditional and not-so-traditional

gifts to their father, Bill, in the past. Hannah has often bought shirts and ties for



her dad to wear to work. Yet she and Shealyn also enjoy

baking his favorite pies the night before Father's Day.

"He likes apple and cherry and blueberry," noted Shealyn, 16.

Hannah pointed out that children's budgets don't always allow for an extravagant display of gifts. So she suggested one form of gift-giving that doesn't cost a penny.

"I've given him a whole bunch of IOU's — for mowing the lawn, making dinner. I've given him a 'hug and a kiss' IOU, too," said Hannah,

14.

Daniel O'Sullivan lists wallets, ties, shirts and tool sets among the Father's Day gifts that he has given for his dad, Dan.

"I just look for something he likes," Daniel, 15, remarked.

Teens may also shop for something they think their dad needs. But this doesn't always

work, as Emily and Adam Jacobs discovered one Father's Day with their father, Richard.

"We used to give him socks because he wore out his old ones. But it didn't work out because he'd still wear the old

ones," remarked Emily, 16. Adam, 15, added that he tends to now get his dad a more "safe" gift, such as a tie.

Perhaps the most important Father's Day gift of all, Shealyn pointed out, is a heartfelt expression of appreciation regardless of the form in which it

"We get him a card and tell him how much he's helped us grow as a person," Shealyn said. "It's important to let him know how he's affected us. It's better to give him something more personal.



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