

Sports dominate gallery

By Amanda Joering

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BELLEVUE - Hilde's in Bellevue looks more like a dream rec room than a fine art gallery.

Featuring art by 23-year-old Cincinnati resident Tyler Hildebrand, the gallery is set to celebrate its grand opening Saturday, Oct. 6.

Though Bellevue already has some art galleries, Hildebrand said his goal is to make his gallery different.

It has a flat screen television on the wall to watch sports games and a Cornhole set that Hildebrand said will be put to good use in the backyard. "I want this to be an everyday place where people can bring their families, hang out and watch the game,"

Hilde's grand opening

The grand opening of Hilde's is 4-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6 at 306 Fairfield Ave.

Hildebrand said.

Hildebrand's work includes paintings of city scenes, celebrities and sports figures.

When he took his painting of Cincinnati Bengals players to their training camp to have it signed, Hildebrand said Chad Johnson liked the painting of him so much he asked to keep it.

"It's just a hometown pride thing, I guess," Hildebrand said about his piles of Cincinnati Reds and Bengals paintings.

After graduating from Ringling School of Art and Design, Hildebrand said he wasn't sure what he wanted to do.

After deciding to open his own gallery, Hildebrand said he knew Bellevue would be the perfect spot.

"Everyone is talking about Bellevue," Hildebrand said. "It's becoming a neat little district down here with a hometown kind of feel."

Jody Robinson, Bellevue's downtown coordinator, said it's places like Hilde's that brings the city tagline,



AMANDA JOERING/STAFF

Hilde's owner Tyler Hildebrand works on the gallery's storefront mural of local sports heroes.

"Where people and creativity mix," to life.

"This gallery is really adding to the environment here of arts and culture," Robinson said. "Tyler is really putting his whole heart into this, which makes it really exciting."