

To the family of:

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SUMMER SESSION

Begins Monday, May 18, 2009

FALL SEMESTER

Begins Monday, Aug. 24, 2009

MAJORS MOSAIC

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009

InfoCision Stadium and Summa Field is on schedule and should be ready for the Zips' home opener against Morgan State University on Sept. 12.

VISITORS GET SNEAK PEEK AT NEW STADIUM

Several hundred alumni, fans and just curious folks got a close-up view of the new InfoCision Stadium and Summa Field that's rising at the corner of Exchange and South Union streets. The April 4 hardhat tours of the live construction site drew many former Zips football players.

"It really serves to make the campus complete," Brian White, a financial analyst from Cincinnati and former Zips lineman told the Akron Beacon Journal. "They built beautiful new dorms, the field house and recreation center, but there's always going to be something missing when you have a campus without a football stadium."

That all will change Sept. 12 when the Zips open their 2009 football season at the 30,000-fan capacity facility. The \$61 million multiplex occupies an entire block on the campus' southeast quadrant, and construction crews are on schedule to complete the facility by game day.

The hardhat tours took visitors into the stands and stadium grounds, and pointed out some of the main features and amenities of the structure. When completed, InfoCision Stadium will include private suites,

club seating, open-air loge seats, a state-of-the-art scoreboard, a team shop, 10 concession stands, and much to the relief of many visitors, more than 20 restrooms.

When the football season ends, the activity will continue at the multiplex. Two levels of academic space are included in its design, and the facility is intended to serve the general community as well as the University. High school athletics, marching band activities, summer athletic camps, concerts and other special events are welcomed. The club level of the press box also will be available to the general public for meetings, receptions and similar events.

"My first impression when I walked in was 'WOW,'" Billy Sullivan, a construction estimator from Niles and UA alumnus told the newspaper. "I think the sky is the limit for Akron."

NOT YOUR TYPICAL SPRING BREAK TRIPS

On March 14, the University sent two teams of 84 students, faculty, staff, spouses, friends, and even one parent to alternative spring break destinations.

One team, comprised of 18 students, two staff members, and a parent, traveled to the Dominican Republic to work with an organization called Orphanage Outreach, which provides opportunities to orphaned, abandoned, and disadvantaged children. While in the Dominican Republic, the team taught English to approximately 240 students at the local schools, completed numerous work projects for the orphanage where the volunteers stayed, spent time playing and befriending the 20 orphan boys who lived there, and experienced more of the culture through a day trip to a border town market, grocery store, and the beach.

Carolyn Falzetta, the parent who participated, wrote, "I loved watching the enthusiasm with all of the work projects and the joy of teaching and watching our group interact with the students."

"The whole trip was amazing, and it really opened my eyes to a culture and a country very different from our own," said Emily Bennett. "I got to meet some outstanding people... We made a difference in their lives. Each time that I have been feeling the pressure of school this week, I remember that and it keeps my head above the water."

The second team was made up of 54 students, two faculty members and their spouses, two staff members and one of their spouses, a graduate assistant, and a member from the community. They boarded a bus and traveled 18 hours to spend their spring break in New Orleans. This was the fourth year The University of Akron has sponsored an alternative spring break trip to assist in the ongoing relief efforts on the Gulf Coast. The team worked on three different houses as part of the Rebuilding Together organization's Rebuild 1000 project. Rebuilding Together's goal is to rebuild 1,000 homes in the Gulf Coast area ravaged by Hurricane Katrina.

The team painted walls and ceilings, tiled floors, cut and installed wallboard, and performed other tasks to help families finally return to their homes after nearly four years. One student expressed his experience this way: "I saw how a group of people can change a person's life through fixing up his home, along with bringing hope to a community still recovering from Hurricane Katrina four years later. We should be very proud of everything we did that week."

In addition to all of their hard work, the team also enjoyed a cultural day on Friday and was able to spend some time exploring New Orleans. During the trip they stayed at Camp Hope, which is an old middle school that was converted to host as many as 700 volunteers at once. One sign of the progress being made in the area is the closing of Camp Hope this May as it returns to its original role as a middle school.

Over the past four years, students, faculty and staff from The University of Akron have served Katrina-ravaged communities in Mississippi and Louisiana. Much has been accomplished, but so much more is yet to be done. Both of these alternative spring break trips were once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for everyone who participated, and after this experience, many have talked about returning next year. Service-learning trips like these are great opportunities to help others, learn, and grow as a person and a citizen of our country and our world. We will return to the Gulf Coast again next March to serve those in need. For more information, contact the Department of Student Life at 330-972-7098.

KRISTIN KULLANDER
COORDINATOR, SERVICE-LEARNING

RON McDONALD
DIRECTOR, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL PROJECTS



PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Congratulations on becoming a UA Parent! We care about your student's health and well-being at The University of Akron!

The mission of Student Recreation and Wellness Services is to help all students learn, develop and succeed through innovative recreation and wellness opportunities that encourage healthy and balanced lifestyles.

Student Recreation and Wellness Services provides a safe and fun environment that offers a variety of facilities and programs, including group exercise, basketball and racquetball courts, Ohio's tallest indoor climbing wall, cardio and weight equipment, leisure and Olympic size pools, an indoor track, intramural and outdoor adventure services, and many sport clubs. Our commitment to your student's well-being continues with services such as massage therapy, fitness assessments, and wellness screenings.

As lifestyle behaviors are formed during the college years, Student Recreation and Wellness Services also offers health promotion presentations that include stress management, alcohol education and healthy lifestyles.

Student Health Services works to assist students in meeting their educational and personal goals by addressing their health concerns during their time at the University.

Services are available to all enrolled students Monday through Friday except on campus-observed holidays. All residential and commuter students enrolled full or part-time are eligible. Visits with our health care providers are by appointment, and we encourage students to make appointments between their classes and to bring their Zip Card student ID cards.

Although there is no charge to visit with one of our health care providers, there are nominal fees for various tests, medications, and treatments if prescribed. Student Health Services does not require or bill health insurance plans. However, we encourage all students to carry some form of health coverage and keep verification of that coverage with them.

In accordance with Ohio state law, your student's health records are confidential. Every effort is made to ensure this policy. Student Health Services may not share any health information about any of our patients, aged 18 years or older, with anyone, including parents or guardians, without the student's written authorization. Open lines of communication between you and your student are the best means of sharing information.

GWENDOLYN R. BLACKSHEAR, M.ED., CHES
COORDINATOR, HEALTH PROMOTION – STUDENT RECREATION AND WELLNESS SERVICES

CHECK IN HERE!

The Academic Advisement Center (AAC) in University College is one of the most popular places on UA's campus! Each year, more than 15,000 University College students visit the AAC, located in Simmons Hall 205. To facilitate the service to students, the AAC worked with UA's Information Technology Department to implement an innovative automated check-in system similar to the kind of technology our students use everyday as they text, e-mail, and use their credit and debit cards.

When a student comes to see an adviser at the AAC, they check-in by swiping his/her Zip Card to register the visit. The student's University of Akron identification number is automatically entered into the system, and the advisers immediately receive notification of the student's arrival and the reason for the visit. The adviser can then research the student's academic history and prepare for the appointment.

The new check-in system also displays the student's photo so that the adviser can associate the student's academic record with a name and a face. This is a valuable aid to our advisers because they strive to promote student success and academic excellence on a personal, one-on-one basis.

The new check-in system is still in its infancy, but the AAC is currently working to expand the use of the technology. For example, to utilize a student's time better, the AAC is developing an automated notification system so that when a student comes in and registers to see an adviser, a time frame for an adviser's availability is immediately calculated. The student can then choose to leave the AAC and receive a text message notification when the adviser is available so the student can use any wait time productively.

The AAC can also use the check-in system to accurately track students who take advantage of the services of our advisers. Because students are encouraged to meet with their adviser frequently, they can now utilize the innovations in the AAC and meet with their advisers using technology that they use everyday!

RUTH NINE-DUFF
OFFICE MANAGER, ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT CENTER



New card swipe login for AAC.

TIPS TO SHARE WITH YOUR STUDENT FOR A SUCCESSFUL SEMESTER:

- Keep your appointments with your academic adviser
- Go to available study sessions
- Don't wait until the last week, day, or minute to complete your assignments
- Be aware of your "social" calendar of events! Don't over commit!
- Get enough rest
- Beware of the amount of caffeine you're drinking
- Eat nutritious meals
- Exercise regularly – Student Recreation and Wellness Services is here for you!

VISIT OUR WEBSITES OR GIVE US A CALL!

Student Recreation & Wellness Services:
www.zipsrec.uakron.edu
330-972-2348 (BFIT)

Student Health Services:
www.uakron.edu/health
330-972-7808

The Counseling Center:
www.uakron.edu/counseling/
330-972-7082

BUILDING ON THE FIRST YEAR

Congratulations! Your student has finished up his or her first year in college. This is truly a significant accomplishment, but it is just the beginning. The key to any successful college career is sustained success throughout the entire college experience.

Now that this first year has come to an end, encourage your student to consider the progress he or she has made on the following keys to success:

Getting Involved

For many college students, the first year focuses primarily on surviving and adjusting to the college environment. As a result, they may not spend as much time investigating the diverse opportunities available both inside and outside of the classroom. College research shows that when students are more engaged on their campus, they are more likely to persist and graduate. Encourage your student to look into the many options The University of Akron has to offer for involvement. With more than 200 student organizations, honoraries, and clubs, there is definitely something for everyone. In addition, UA offers a wide array of Study Abroad programs, service-learning experiences, and opportunities for undergraduate research. Students can also get involved by participating in leadership opportunities, such as being an orientation leader, resident assistant, or peer mentor.

Taking Advantage of Available Resources

At this point in a student's academic career, he or she should be proficient with Zipline, UA's online registration and information center. ZipLine provides students access to their academic, financial, and registration information, and is a portal to campus e-mail and useful links to many other on-campus services and resources. By the end of their first year, students should also be familiar with Springboard, the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS), and UA e-mail.

In addition to online resources, we hope your student has taken full advantage of the expertise of academic advising during this first year. The student/adviser relationship is one of the most critical in your student's development and success. The adviser serves in a mentoring role, educating students about academic offerings and requirements, and directing students to beneficial co/extra-curricular opportunities.

It is recommended that students meet with an academic adviser at least once per semester.

The University of Akron also offers a wide array of academic support services ranging from tutoring in individual courses to assistance in the math and writing labs. There is no additional cost associated with these services. Please remind your student that these services are always available when needed.

Exploring Academic and Career Options

The second year of college is a crucial period in the academic career because students will begin to make serious choices about academic majors. Some students may have already declared a major and are preparing for their Inter-College Transfer (ICT) to their degree-granting college, while others may still be deciding on options. Regardless of their situation, students will want to work closely with their academic adviser. The adviser will assist with the ICT process, suggest courses, further explain requirements, and give guidance on majors and career options.

If your student is still exploring academic and career options, she or he may want to consider enrolling in Career Planning (1100:117). This two-credit elective course provides students a structured way to explore their interests, skills and abilities in relation to existing and emerging career fields. Students can also learn more about the majors and minors offered at UA during Majors Mosaic on Oct. 7, 2009. During this event, faculty and students from a variety of academic departments will be available to discuss their programs, and informational sessions are offered on topics, such as choosing a major and taking advantage of internships and experiential learning opportunities.

Exploratory students should also consult with the Counseling, Testing, and Career Center and the Center for Career Management to explore their career aspirations further. In fact, the Center for Career Management has designed a four-year career development timeline titled, "Developing Your Career the ZipWay," which students can follow to create an individualized career plan.

DR. JENNIFER HODGES
ASSISTANT DEAN, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

For more information about the resources mentioned in this article, please use these links:

Department of Student Life: http://www.uakron.edu/student_life/

On-campus Events: www.eventsatua.com

Service-Learning and Civic Engagement: <http://www.uakron.edu/colleges/univcoll/ServiceLearning.php>

Undergraduate Research: <http://www.uakron.edu/gradsch/cugsr/index.php>

Education Abroad: http://www.uakron.edu/academics_majors/undergraduate_programs/study_abroad.dot

Zipline: www.zipline.uakron.edu

Academic Advisement Center: www.uakron.edu/advising

Academic Assistance: <http://www.uakron.edu/colleges/univcoll/Assistance.php>

Counseling, Testing, & Career Center: <http://www.uakron.edu/counseling/career.php>

Center for Career Management: <http://www.uakron.edu/ccm/students/careerdev.php>