

Dates to Remember

Sept. 24th
Last Day to
withdraw with 80%
tuition refund

October 10th
Mid term Grade
Reports

INSIDE TRACK

September 2008

FAMILY DAY WILL BE "SPECIAL"

On October 4th, from 3:00pm to 6:00pm, Arkansas Tech University will once again host "Family Day." Join us on the Wilson Lawn and bring your lawn chairs & blankets for a fun afternoon of activities followed by the football game.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

(PLEASE BRING LAWN CHAIRS AND BLANKETS)

- Family cookout from 3:00pm – 4:30pm (Free hotdogs and soft drinks)
 - Cotton Candy, Sno-cones, and Popcorn
 - Face painting for kids of all ages
 - Visiting with Tech faculty and staff
 - 20% off at the Tech Bookstore (Campus hours 1:00pm—5:00pm)
 - Concert featuring 38 Special beginning at 4:00pm
 - Half-priced football tickets (3:00pm – 5:30pm only) \$4.00 general admission, \$2.50 for students, 5 years and younger—free (regular price is \$8.00 and \$5.00)
 - Arkansas Tech vs. North Alabama with kick-off at 6:00 pm at Thone Stadium
- Family Day is sponsored by the Division of Student Services, Tech Foundation & Alumni Association, Student Government Association, Student Activities Board, and the Residence Hall Association.*

38 SPECIAL TO PERFORM

On October 4th at 4:00 pm, Arkansas Tech University will host 38 Special! After more than two decades together, 38 Special is still playing more than 100 shows per year. While most associate the group with its arena-rock '80s pop smashes, these days the band's harder edge is what is immediately noticeable. Donnie Van Zant, the brother of late Lynyrd Skynyrd front man Ronnie Van Zant, and Don Barnes co-founded the band in its hometown of Jacksonville, Florida, nearly three decades ago. In its early days, the band built its reputation with its brand of Southern boogie and blues-rock, before transforming into a more arena-rock-friendly style. In its second decade, the band scored big with a slew of hits, including such rockers as "Caught Up in You," "Hold on Loosely," "If I'd Been the One," and "Rockin' into the Night." Since 1975, the band has released more than 15 albums and from the start, they've toured relentlessly.



TUTORING CENTER OPEN FOR FRESHMEN

If your son or daughter is struggling with Algebra, English, Biology, or virtually any other General Education class, tell them to check out the Doc Bryan Tutoring Center. Located in Doc Bryan 247 (just above Doc's Place), the Tutoring Center is open Monday-Thursday from 6-9 p.m. and offers free tutoring in the following subjects:

- Beginning, Intermediate, and College Algebra.
- Foundational Comp, Comp I, and Comp II
- Intro to Biology
- Intro to Physical Sciences
- World Civilizations I and II
- American Government
- Spanish

Mike Bogue, Coordinator of the Bridge to Excellence (B2E) mentoring program, supervises the center, which is staffed by one Graduate Assistant and nine trained student tutors, all of whom sport a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Given the need for such a center for freshmen, Mike hopes students will take advantage. "I think right now we're one of the best kept secrets on campus," Mike says. "But I hope by the end of this semester, we'll be one of the best known student resources on campus."

For more information, contact Mike Bogue at (479) 968-0334 or email him at jbogue@atu.edu.

ARKANSASTECHNEWS.COM

Would you like to know what is going on at Arkansas Tech University? Then there is a website for you. Go to www.arkansastechnews.com to find out the latest and see what everyone is talking about. There you will find current information, pictures of recent events, and stories from around the campus and River Valley.

STAY THE NIGHT: LOCAL HOTELS' CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are interested in staying in Russellville during Family Weekend, you need to make your reservations as soon as possible. There are a lot of activities going on that weekend, such as the national Fishing American Bass Anglers (ABA) Southern Regional Championship and the Arkansas Valley Soccer Association (AVSA) is sponsoring their Fall Recreational Tournament that same weekend. Below is a list of Russellville hotels. Be sure to mention ARKANSAS TECH/FAMILY DAY because a number of hotels will give a discount when the stay is related to a University event.

- **American Best Value Inn and Suites**
(479) 968-5511 | 204 Lake Front Dr Russellville, AR 72802
- **Best Western Inn**
(479) 967-1000 | Interstate 40 Exit 81 And Hi Russellville, AR 72801
- **Budget Inn**
(479) 968-4959 | 1206 E Main St Russellville, AR 72801
- **Comfort Inn**
(479) 968-2424 | 2714 E Parkway Dr Russellville, AR 72802
- **Days Inn**
(479) 968-1404 | 204 Lake Front Dr Russellville, AR 72802
- **Economy Inn**
(479) 968-4400 | 2200 N Arkansas Ave Russellville, AR 72802
- **Fairfield Inn by Marriott**
(479) 967-9030 | 120 E Harrell Dr Russellville, AR 72802
- **Hampton Inn**
(479) 858-7199 | I 40 Exit 81 Hwy 7 Russellville, AR 72801
- **Holiday Inn**
(479) 968-4300 | Highway 7 North And Interstate Russellville, AR 72801
- **Holiday Inn**
(479) 968-1240 | 705 S Elmira Ave Russellville, AR 72802
- **Motel 6**
(479) 968-3666 | 215 W Birch St Russellville, AR 72802
- **Park Motel - Russellville**
(479) 968-4862 | 2615 W Main St Russellville, AR 72801
- **Relax Inn of Arkansas**
(479) 968-6332 | Highway 64 E Russellville, AR 72801
- **Super 8 Motel**
(479) 968-8898 | 2404 N Arkansas Ave Russellville, AR 72802

THE TRANSITION TO COLLEGE: HELPING YOUR STUDENT ADJUST

Certain times in the school year are universally challenging to college students. Parents who understand and are knowledgeable about the freshman year are better prepared to assist their students. Below are some typical challenges faced by freshmen.

September

- Everything is new and exciting but also a little bit scary.
- Students may be upset by minor things.
- They may demonstrate a lack of interest, concentration, and motivation.
- Their sleeping and eating patterns might change.
- Academic and social problems can become magnified.

October

- Students begin making the adjustment to college.
- They are experiencing greater comfort, making friends, adapting to the various educational approaches, becoming involved, and establishing routines.
- There are still some challenges such as roommate problems.
- They may be wondering: "Do I fit in here?"
- Their first test grades are returned.
- They have mid-term exams and their grades are posted.
- Experiencing some consequences for decision making.

November

- Academic pressure due to procrastination, workload, and lack of ability.
- Roommate problems and floor tension.
- Problems from increased alcohol consumption.
- Panic, fear, and cramming as many papers/projects are due before the Thanksgiving holidays.
- Excitement and/or anxiety regarding going home for Thanksgiving.
- First series of campus-wide illness. (cold, flu, strep, etc.)

December

- Anxiety over preparations for finals.
- Excitement and/or anxiety regarding going home for the holidays.
- Sadness about leaving new friendships and/or love relationships.
- Roommate challenges continue.

What Can Parents Do?

- Be understanding as your son or daughter adjusts.
- Listen to your son or daughter.
- Stay interested in their lives.
- Express unconditional love and support.
- Let them solve their own problems.
- Remind them of other transitions and successes.
- Encourage them to be involved in the [Bridge to Excellence](#) mentoring program.

FACEBOOK, MYSPACE, ETC.

Safety concerns with online social sites

Arkansas Tech University has made student safety a major priority and that extends beyond reminding students to lock their doors and not to walk alone after dark. Another area of concern is **online safety**.

Ask your student about Facebook, MySpace, and other social networking websites. Ask if they participate and if so, what sort of information they post.

Arkansas Tech is cautioning students against publishing personal information on these sites. Revealing an address, telephone number, date of birth, or schedule can put an individual's safety and identity at risk.

Other hazards associated with online communities? Prospective employers are now also visiting these public sites, and in some cases, rescinding job offers based on information they discover. As the popularity of online social networking continues to increase, ATU will take measures to remind students to stay safe, and we are asking parents to be partners in this process.



BRIDGE TO EXCELLENCE

Has your student met their Bridge to Excellence Mentor yet?

Bridge to Excellence (B2E) is a Freshmen mentoring program that has proven results. After five years of collecting data on the program's participants and non-participants, we have found the following:

For every 100 first-semester freshmen, **89** will return for the spring semester if they participated in B2E by meeting at least one time with their mentor. For every 100 freshmen who **did not** participate in Bridge to Excellence, only **72** return for the spring semester

Please encourage your student to meet with their mentor.

If your student can't remember who their mentor is, have them contact Mike Bogue at jbogue@atu.edu.

UNDECIDED? NO PROBLEM!

Is your student unsure about his/her major and career? Consider suggesting career development. Career Development Specialist, Brian Henderson will provide a series of personality assessment tools will be used to help your student find his/her ideal major or career based upon interests, motivational traits, personality, values, abilities, aptitudes, personal work style, and work environment preferences. Have your student contact our Career Development office at (479) 968-0278 or email

bhenderson3@atu.edu for more information.

September 2008

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As part of your membership in the ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY Parent Association, you will receive regular correspondence from the Office of Retention Services including updates on campus events and late-breaking news.

For more parent information, please visit our website at ...

<http://www.atu.edu/parents>

