



Valdosta State University Parents and Families Association E-News for Spring Semester '09

Contents:

- 1.) New Student Health Center Opens
- 2.) Student Union Progression
- 3.) Important Dates and Information
- 4.) Athletics
- 5.) Campus Activities and Events
- 6.) Relay for Life
- 7.) Georgia Hall

1. New Student Health Center Opens



(Photo from Valdosta State University) (New Student Health Center)



(Dr. Schloss; Ribbon Cutting)

The new Student Health Center is now open and available for student services. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place February 23rd to formally open the new \$8 million facility. The new facility is approximately 20,000 square-feet larger than the previous student health center, which was 6,900 square feet. The facility contains a two-story lobby and waiting room, 18 exam rooms, three nurse stations, two observation rooms, a pharmacy, clinical lab, radiology suite and administration suite. This new piece of architecture replaces “Farber Health Center” which was built in 1961.

2. Student Union Progression



Construction of the new Student Union has been underway ever since the groundbreaking on September 24th. The majority of the framework has been built, but there is still much more to be done before the opening in January 2010. The Student Union will be 113,604 square feet and will be located where the former Student Union and Old Gym once stood. The building will contain the offices for Student Life, Student Government, the Campus Activities Board, and the Dean of Students. The building will also house the Bookstore, game room, meeting rooms, a multi-purpose room, and a 350 seated movie theatre. There will also be a food court containing Starbucks, Nathan's Famous Hotdogs and the Loop Pizza Grill.

3. Important Dates and Information

- March 16-20: Spring Break
- March 30- April 2: Registration for 2009 Summer and Fall Semester
 - March 30 7:00 AM: Grads, Seniors, Honors, and Athletes
 - March 31 7:00 AM: Juniors
 - April 1 7:00 AM: Sophomores
 - April 2 7:00 AM: Freshmen

***April 17: 11:59 PM Summer Registration Ends**

***April 24: 11:59 PM Fall Registration Ends**

- May 1: Last day for Spring 2009 classes
- May 4: Dead day- Exam Prep
- May 5-7: Final Exams
- May 9: Commencement Ceremonies

4. Athletics

- **New Athletic Field House Opens**

The new athletic field house made its grand opening on February 16th, followed by a dedication ceremony on March 1st. The new facility houses the football team, weight room, training room, meeting rooms, computer labs, laundry facilities, lockers and the women's soccer facility. The construction of the athletic field house cost approximately \$5.8 million, which was paid for by student fees. The athletic department has also put in over half a million dollars in furnishings for the buildings. The new field house replaces the offices, weight room, training room and locker rooms that were located in the Old Gym, which was torn down to build the new student union.

- **Men's Basketball and Women's Basketball**

The Men's basketball team had an impressive year, carrying a record of 22-5 at the end of the regular season, clinching the East Division title. The blazers entered the Gulf South Conference Tournament as the #1 seed, where they defeated Arkansas-Monticello in the first round, followed by Delta State for the semi-finals. The Blazers then battled Arkansas Tech in the championship game but could not manage to take home the title. However, the Blazers have another shot of claiming a championship, where they will battle for the South Regional title as the No.6 seed. The Blazers take on No. 3 Claflin on March 14th in Lakeland, Florida.

The Women's basketball team finished the regular season with a record of 20-7, good enough to qualify for the Gulf South Conference Tournament in South Haven, Mississippi as the No.2 seed. The lady blazers defeated Arkansas Tech in the first round and advanced to the semi-finals where they fell to Delta State in overtime with a score of 55-52. Fortunately, the ladies received a bid to the NCAA Division II regional tournament as the No.8 seed. The ladies will face rival Delta State (No.1 seed) yet again for the first round on Friday, March 6th at 7:00 pm.

For complete tournament coverage for both teams, visit <http://www.ncaa.org>.

- **Baseball and Softball**

Blazer baseball is about halfway through their regular season holding a record of 18-8. The men opened up their season on February 1st and still have 32 regular season games left to play. They will take on their first conference game Saturday, March 21st against Alabama Huntsville in Alabama. The men will open up conference play action at home April 2nd against West Georgia. Visit <http://www.vstateblazers.com/mbaseball/schedule.php> to view the schedule of upcoming games.

Softball opened up its season February 1st, and is off to an impressive start. The ladies are on an 11 game winning streak and have only lost three of 24 games played so far, carrying a record of 21-3. The ladies defeated Nova Southeastern University on March 7th who is currently ranked 2nd in the nation. Softball is ranked 12th in the nation and have 24 regular season games left to play. For a complete look at the remaining schedule, visit <http://www.vstateblazers.com/wsoftball/schedule.php>.

- **Golf**

The golf team will host the Southeastern Collegiate tournament this weekend March 13th through March 15th beginning at 1:00 pm. The team has competed in two tournaments this spring thus far. The first tournament took place in Lakeland, FL for the Matlock Invitational tournament where the men finished 8th out of 15 teams. The blazers then made an appearance at the Pirate Invitational that took place in Savannah, Ga where they tied for 1st place.

Visit <http://www.vstateblazers.com/mgolf/schedule.php> for the complete schedule.

- **Men's and Women's Tennis**

Men's tennis has only lost one match since the season opened February 4th. The men have defeated Georgia Southwestern, Georgia College, West Alabama, Auburn-Montgomery, and Tennessee- Martin. The team suffered their first lost against Armstrong Atlantic Saturday, March 8th, 5-1. There are still several matches left to be played with five of them being at home.

Visit <http://www.vstateblazers.com/mtennis/schedule.php> for dates and times of upcoming matches.

Women's tennis opened up their season February 8th and carry a record of 4-1. They are currently 1-0 in the conference with a win over West Alabama. The ladies have also beaten Georgia College, Auburn- Montgomery, and Tennessee- Martin. Like the men, the ladies fell to Armstrong Atlantic 4-1. Several matches are yet to be played, four of them being conference games. To view upcoming matches, visit <http://www.vstateblazers.com/wtennis/schedule.ph>.

5. Campus Activities and Events

- **VSU Theatre & Dance Season**



The 2008-2009 seasons kicked off with a variety of styles and performances. The first production was held September 18-14. There will be two more productions throughout the year with evening performances at 7:30 pm and matinees on Sundays at 3:00 pm. These two productions include "On the Verge", March 26th through April 1st, and Footloose that will take place April 16th-22nd. Advance registration is strongly recommended. For more information regarding tickets and season memberships call 229-333-5973. VSU students must stop by the Box Office to make reservations. Box Office hours are from Mondays through Saturdays, 2-5 pm. For more information, visit <http://www.valdosta.edu/comarts/thaseason.shtml>.

- **Department of Music**



The Valdosta State University Department of Music is a fully accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music, with a faculty of 27 artist teachers and over 150 music majors. The Department of Music presents over 200 musical performances for the public each year. The department offers a full range of instrumental and vocal performing ensembles, including the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra. To see a listing of this year's performances, visit <http://www.valdosta.edu/music/calendar/>.

6. Relay For Life

Student Life will be hosting Relay for Life April 24th, from 7pm to 7am on the front lawn of the VSU campus. This event aims to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost to the disease, and to raise awareness about the disease. Relay for Life is open to all students, faculty, staff, departments, and organizations on campus. Everyone on campus is encouraged to get involved. For more information about helping out in the fight against cancer, visit <http://www.relayforlife.org/vsu> or call the Student Life office at 229-333-5674.

7. Georgia Hall



Georgia Hall, a residence building on campus, was torn down during the summer of 2008 to be rebuilt. The photograph above represents the progression of the newly renovated building ever since. Georgia Hall will be a 489 bed suite-style hall that replaces the former building which housed 200 students in a traditional, double-loaded corridor facility. Each resident will have a closet, an extra long twin bed, desk, and chair. In addition, every resident will have his or her own cable and data jack. The two residents will share a full bathroom with a sink. Georgia will house only freshmen and is scheduled to open fall semester of 2009. For more information on the progression of the building, visit <http://services.valdosta.edu/housing/georgia/>.