

UDecide

Homecoming 2009!

Did you know that many schools debate about whether or not they were the first school to celebrate homecoming? The NCAA, Jeopardy, and Trivial pursuit all recognize the University of Missouri as the official originator of homecoming (Cramton).

While the first official homecoming celebrations were planned around 1910, Harvard and Yale have been inviting their alumni back "home" to watch their football match up since the 1870s (Cramton). The goal of these celebrations was to foster connections between current students and alumni in order to cultivate school pride (Cramton).

Homecoming events both in 1910 and today frequently center around a football game. Other events typically include but are not limited to: rallies, speeches, parades, and dances (Cramton).

Homecoming weekend at the University of Delaware is much like any of the early homecoming celebrations. It centers around a football game. This year the Fighting Blue Hens will be taking on CAA rival James Madison University at 12 noon. The homecoming game draws many alumni back to Newark where they re-connect with the campus community and catch up with old friends. It's a time for new students to fully show their UD pride by going to the big game or other events occurring on campus.

Prior to the game, tailgating is permitted in the parking area by the stadium. Tailgating is a great time for current students to meet up with friends,



<http://www.humor matters.com/Humor%20files%20to%20add%20jackolant ern%20pumpkin%20drunk.jpg>

family, and alumni to celebrate being part of the UD community. Many arrive early to grill and socialize prior to the start of the game. The consumption of alcoholic beverages is allowed by those who are of age prior to the start of the game. The specifics of tailgating and alcohol are outlined in the box to the right of this column.

The alcohol that is available at the homecoming tailgate is a serious temptation for some students. They may think that because they are allowed to attend the tailgate where alcohol is present, they are allowed to drink. This is not the case as both University and Newark police uphold state alcohol laws and University officers also enforce the Code of Conduct.

You may or may not experience pressure to participate in the weekend. You alone have the choice to decide how you are going to spend your homecoming weekend. You decide if you're going to go to the game or any of the activities set up around campus during that celebratory weekend. You decide if you're going to participate in that weekend's intense school pride. You decide if you're going to participate in the tailgate event.

You also are the only one who can decide what is right for you in terms of alcohol consumption. Only you can decide if drinking on homecoming is the right choice for you. You also decide whether or not it's worth the potential consequences of drinking if you're underage as far as the law is concerned.

Be Smart, Be Safe!

Resource

Cramton, M. (2009). The history of homecoming. Accessed at: www.active.com/football/articles/the_history_of_homecoming.htm

Tailgating at Homecoming

Tailgating at Homecoming is one of the most anticipated events of the fall season for students and alumni. It's a time when Delaware pride is at its highest. It's a time when individuals can get together with old friends they haven't seen since graduation. It's a time when current students can gather their friends and go to the football stadium to meet new people.

All of this aside, the tailgate at homecoming does find people in precarious situations because they are unaware of Newark's alcohol laws and UD's tailgating policies.

1. During home varsity football games, alcohol is permitted in the stadium parking areas by those who have reached the legal age to drink. Those who are of legal age to drink (21 and over) are allowed to possess, use, and consume alcohol prior to the start of the football game. Alcohol is prohibited at all other times in the parking areas.

2. Tailgating is permitted up to four hours prior to the start of the game and up to two hours after the game ends.

3. Alcohol is never allowed in the stadium. At no time are any alcoholic beverages permitted in the stadium. If you are of legal age to consume, you're only allowed to consume before the start of the game and after the game ends in the stadium parking lots.

4. Apparatus used to facilitate the rapid consumption of alcohol are never permitted. Any alcohol-related games or activities are not allowed. Any alcohol apparatus such as beer pong tables, ice slides or luges, and beer funnels are prohibited at all times in the tailgating area.

5. Beer kegs are not allowed. Beer kegs contain large amount of alcohol. They lead to unregulated, rapid consumption. Kegs are prohibited in all university buildings, facilities, or property.

6. No alcohol is permitted after the start of the game. Once the game has started, individuals are not permitted to possess any open container containing spirits, wine, or beer. They are also not permitted to consume any spirits, wine, or beer in the stadium parking areas.

This information regarding alcohol use at the football stadium was adapted from UD's Student Code of Conduct:

<http://www.udel.edu/stuguide/09-10/code.html#stadium>

Homecoming

Homecoming weekend will be celebrated this year from October 30th through November 1st.

UD's Fighting Blue Hen varsity football team will be taking on CAA opponent James Madison University at 12 noon at the football stadium.



<http://www.udel.edu/udaily/2009/oct/images/YoUDEeYell.jpg>

University of Delaware .:. Office of Student Conduct

Events on Campus

- Wellspring V8 presents the First Friday Event
Friday, October 2nd, 2009 8-11:30pm on Harrington Beach
- Parents and Family Weekend
Friday, October 9-11th, 2009 Events can be found at <http://www.udel.edu/parents/>
- What's the Risk?: Alcohol, Gambling, & UD Students
Monday, October 19th, 2009 12:30-1:30pm in the Collins Room of the Perkins Student Center
- Think First: Alcohol & Injury Prevention
Tuesday, October 20th, 2009 6:30pm in the Williamson Room of the Perkins Student Center
- Did you 'Do' It?: Alcohol & Sex
Wednesday, October 21st, 2009 7pm in the Collins Room of the Perkins Student Center
- HERO Campaign: Promoting Designated Drivers
Thursday, October 22nd, 2009 11am-2pm in the Trabant Food Court
- Trivia, Prizes & Movies: Get Wacky Not Wasted (Presented by V8 and Alpha Kappa Psi)
Friday, October 23rd, 2009 8-11pm in Trabant Room 209
- Late Night Party hosted by The Caribbean Student Alliance
Saturday, October 24th, 2009 10pm-2am in the Trabant Multipurpose Rooms
- Homecoming/Halloween Party hosted by Alpha Kappa Alpha & NPHC
Saturday, October 31st, 2009 10pm-2am in the Carpenter Sports Building (the Little Bob)

*Wellspring events are part of National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week October 19th-23rd

*At any point during the year, lists of on campus student events can be found at:

<http://www.udel.edu/studentevents/>

Halloween

According to History.com, Halloween's origins go back to the Celts. They celebrated their New Year on November 1st so the preceding day was thought to be a day when spirits would return to cause trouble, damage crops, and facilitate the Druid priests in telling fortunes and the future all while dressed in animal skin and head costumes (History.com).

As immigrants from Western Europe came to the United States, they brought with them a varied set of Halloween customs. Halloween became nationally popularized by Irish immigrants fleeing the 1846 Potato Famine who brought their customs with them to the US (History.com). There was a push in the late 1800s and early 1900s for the celebration to be community and neighborly oriented which eventually resulted in today's door-to-door trick or treating traditions. History.com estimates that Americans spend approximately \$6.9

billion each year on Halloween activities, costumes, and candy making. It is the US's second largest commercial holiday.

Halloween at college is a time for students to have a good time! The Halloween season calls for students to get dressed up, go out in town, or go to a get together at a friend's house or apartment. It's a great time to step outside your box, be creative, and meet new people.

Halloween can also be dangerous. Being under the influence of alcohol impairs judgement and lowers inhibitions. Only you can decide how you're going to protect yourself on Halloween. If you're of age, be responsible about your consumption by consuming only one drink an hour to ensure that you'll be able to make responsible, coherent decisions about your own safety.

Things you can do to ensure that you have a safe holiday are:

- Go out in groups.
- Know your limits.
- Try to avoid driving or select a designated driver.
- Make sure that you're returning to your residence hall or apartment with everyone that went out.
- Walk on the sidewalk facing traffic.
- Cross streets at crosswalks only when you know it's safe and you have the signal.
- Don't carry a lot of money or expensive personal belongings with you.
- Be alert, aware, and ready to react if a situation occurs.
- Call **302.831.2222** to contact Public Safety. Call **911** for an emergency.
- Be prepared with contact information to make a call for directions if you're lost or in an unfamiliar area.

Office of Student Conduct

Contact Information

218 HULLIHEN HALL
NEWARK, DE 19716

TELEPHONE: 302.831.2117

WEBSITE:
WWW.UDEL.EDU/STUDENTCONDUCT/

EMAIL:
STUDENT-CONDUCT@UDEL.EDU

Halloween Safety Tips

Each year on October 31st, children and adults alike dress up and go out in search of candy or other types of celebration. Be sure not to jeopardize your safety by reviewing the following tips:

1. Don't open your door to random people.

Look out your peep hole in your residence hall or apartment door to see who is outside your door. Knowing who is knocking can help you protect yourself from individuals who are trying to take advantage of how willing people are to open their doors on Halloween.

2. Share your plans with your roommate.

By letting your roommate or friends know where you plan on going, what you're doing, and whom you will be with, you're providing them information that could help authorities find you if you don't return. Knowing your plan also helps them if they need to call 911. Make sure to update your roommate or friends if your plans change.

3. Make sure your costume is safe.

Make sure that your costume is not flammable. Check for parts that restrict your movement or that could potentially injure yourself or others. Also, make sure that your costume doesn't expose body parts that you do not wish to reveal. All these simple tips can help ensure that you're safe but also that you don't embarrass yourself unnecessarily during the course of the evening.

4. Plan to be out with people that you know.

Your friends can really be there to watch your back. They may notice things that you may not. Going places alone, at night, when others are drinking or out causing mischief simply isn't safe for anyone. Travel in groups!

5. Don't drive any place where you might get lost.

Go with friends who may know your destination better than you do if you're going out in an unfamiliar place. Always make sure that you have contact numbers so that if you get lost, you can call for directions instead of having to stop and ask for directions late at night.

Information taken from:

Benavides, I. (2007). Getting ready for Halloween night at college! Associated Content: Lifestyle.

http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/385535/getting_ready_for_halloween_night_at.html?cat=7

Resource

History of Halloween

<http://www.history.com/content/halloween>