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August 23, 1988

UD WELCOMES NEW MINORITY STUDENTS
AT ICE CREAM SOCIAL ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

As part of the University of Dayton's orientation program for new students, UD's Office of Minority Student Affairs will welcome freshman minority students to campus with an old-fashioned ice cream social and Greek forum on Friday, August 26 at 4 p.m. in the Virginia W. Kettering Residence Hall. The students will have an opportunity to get acquainted with their "peer mentors" (see below) as well as learn how to get involved in fraternities and sororities on campus.

For more information, contact Debra Moore, director of UD's Office of Minority Student Affairs, at 229-3635.

UD'S PEER MENTOR PROGRAM PROVIDES INCOMING MINORITY FRESHMEN WITH ROLE MODELS, STUDY TIPS

Following a summer-long pen pal relationship, UD's new freshman minority students finally meet their upperclassmen "mentors" this week as fall classes begin. UD's innovative peer mentor program, which assigns upperclass peer helpers to incoming freshmen to assist with social, cultural and academic adjustment to UD, is part of the University's comprehensive program to recruit and retain minority students.

"We don't want to put the mentors in the role of surrogate parents," said Jim Melko, director of UD's Learning Assistance Center, which is training the peer mentors in listening skills and problem-solving techniques. "We want them to be able to guide the incoming students and help with their adjustment to university life."

For media interviews about the peer mentor program, contact Debra Moore or Timothy Spraggins in the Office of Minority Student Affairs at 229-3635 or Jim Melko at 229-2066.

FOR ASSISTANCE IN SCHEDULING INTERVIEWS OR ADDITIONAL ANGLES TO STORIES, CONTACT EITHER TERI RIZVI OR PAM HUBER AT 229-3241.